



MEDIA ALERT:

ST. JUDE'S RANCH RECEIVES \$36,000 GRANT FROM LOCAL WAL-MART AND SAM'S CLUB STORES

WHAT: St. Jude's Ranch for Children received thirty-six separate grants, one from each local Wal-Mart and Sam's Club store in the Las Vegas Valley, totalling \$36,000. The grant program is a part of Wal-Mart's Local Community Contribution program (LCC). The stores in the Las Vegas region consolidate their grants to make a larger impact on one local non-profit and on the community to improve the lives of their associates, customers and neighbors.

Walmart believes in *operating globally and giving back locally*. Through financial contributions, in-kind donations and volunteerism, the Walmart Foundation supports initiatives focused on enhancing opportunities in four main focus areas: Education, Workforce Development / Economic Opportunity, Environmental Sustainability, Health and Wellness.

St. Jude's Ranch applied for the grant under the Workforce Development / Economic Opportunity category to support its **Recycled Greeting Card Program (RGC)**, which is run and managed by its older teenagers through a job training program called **KIDS' CORP**. This program also provides Education for its youth and is Environmentally Sustainable.

"This much needed grant helps support the Recycled Greeting Card Program and KIDS' Corp., which teaches our kids job skills, helping prepare them to become productive, wage-earning members of the community when they leave our care", says Sarah Sheehan, Director of Community Relations.

WHO: St. Jude's Ranch for Children - Foster Care agency in Boulder City who serves up to sixty abused, abandoned and neglected children and families creating new chances, new choices and new hope in a safe homelike environment.

WHY: A National statistic shows that 7 out of 10 young adults who age out of the foster care system will become homeless within 18 months. With a horrific statistic like that, it is critical that we set our children up for success! The RGC Program provides employment opportunities to develop these job skills and to provide them with an income. Thus, the RGC Program has the potential to reinforce many of St. Jude's Ranch core values including being trustworthy, having integrity, being professional and fiscally responsible and being able to function in and contribute to society.

WHEN: TODAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2011 – 10:00AM

WHERE: St. Jude's Ranch for Children, 100 St. Jude's St. Boulder City, NV 89005

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