

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Partners Come Together to Host Diaper Distribution Day in City Heights amongst Coronavirus Pandemic

SAN DIEGO, June 8, 2020 — On Tuesday, June 9, 2020, La Maestra Family Clinic, Inc. and the Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC) will be distributing over 1,000 boxes of diapers to various community partners in City Heights as part of Diaper Distribution Day. Diaper Distribution Day is an event put in place by the San Diego Food Bank and Price Philanthropies to meet the overwhelming need of diapers expressed by individuals in the City Heights community. Diapers will be provided to community-based organizations, which will then be distributed to clients throughout City Heights at no cost.

City Heights is a diverse urban community of approximately 95,000 individuals and families living within approximately 6.5 square-miles in central San Diego. The community faces a multitude of socioeconomic and public health issues, including poverty, unemployment, child obesity, asthma, and violence. The novel 2019 coronavirus has only exacerbated these issues, leaving over 5.5 million individuals' unemployed in California alone since mid-March. Unemployment rates in City Heights are expected to be much higher, as they are normally twice the percentage of San Diego County. Furthermore, the average annual income for a family of four in City Heights is between \$19,393 and \$24,400, leaving families without basic necessities.

Knowing that many families are struggling to make end meet, the San Diego Food Bank (SDFB) has leveraged their membership in the National Diaper Bank to provide a truckload of diapers specifically for distribution within the City Heights region. Price Philanthropies Foundation coordinated partnerships between various community-based organizations to make Diaper Distribution Day possible. La Maestra and UPAC will act as day-of distribution sites for 18 other nonprofit organizations that have requested approximately 1,100 boxes of diapers. Families in need of diaper assistance are asked to call the social services hotline 2-1-1 for a diaper distribution hub in near their residence. The San Diego Food Bank supplies diapers to 55 diaper distribution hubs throughout San Diego County.

City of San Diego Council President Georgette Gómez, the elected representative of City Council District Nine, which includes City Heights, will assist with the distribution. "City Heights is a vibrant, diverse community that welcomes immigrants and refugees. However, as we have seen, the COVID pandemic crisis is also hitting communities like City Heights harder than other areas. I want to thank all the organizations who have come together to provide the diapers the community needs and for their continued commitment to a thriving City Heights."

The Jacob & Cushman San Diego Food Bank, Price Philanthropies, La Maestra, and the Union of Pan Asian Communities are proud to be providing essential resources for those in the City Heights community during this global health pandemic. Working together towards the same goal, this team of nonprofit organizations is dedicated to serving low-income individuals in central San Diego. To stay up-to-date on upcoming distribution efforts to fight hunger and health inequality in San Diego, follow San Diego Food Bank's social media channels, and follow news and updates at sandiegofoodbank.org.

High resolution images and B-roll video from both distribution sites will be available following the event. For more information, please contact Corinne Hanson at chanson@lamaestra.org or Brittany Bachmann at bbachmann@upacsd.com.

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About La Maestra Family Clinic, Inc(LMFC):

La Maestra Family Clinic, Inc. is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) and a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). For more than 30 years, the organization has served immigrant, refugee, uninsured, and underinsured populations living in the communities of central, east, and south San Diego County, California. Today, La Maestra operates five medical clinics, ten dental suites, three school-based sites, and a mobile medical and dental unit. La Maestra serves more than 45,000 patients annually. La Maestra employs a holistic, solutions-based approach to health care through the organization's La Maestra *Circle of Care*[™] services, which provides primary, specialty care and social services including job training, eligibility and enrollment assistance, microcredit, translation, interpretation, transportation, legal advocacy, a community garden, food pantry, after-school and summer programs, and transitional housing.

About San Diego Food Bank (SDFB):

The Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank (SDFB) is the largest hunger-relief organization in San Diego County with a mission to provide nutritious people to food in need, advocate for the hungry, and educate the public about hunger-related issues. Last year, the Food Bank distributed 32 million pounds of food, and the Food Bank serves, on average, 350,000 people per month in San Diego County. The Food Bank works to acquire, store, organize, and distribute food through a network of 500 nonprofit partner organizations that include food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless and residential shelters, youth programs, senior centers, and low-income daycare centers in communities throughout San Diego County. The SDFB is continuing its food distribution programs during the COVID-19 crisis. The Food Bank is committed to providing food assistance and resources to the people served every month and those affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Please note that the Food Bank's 200 food distribution sites throughout San Diego County are continuing to operate for families and seniors to receive food assistance during this crisis. SDFB is a 501(c)3, and relies on your continued support to end hunger in San Diego County. Learn more at www.sandiegofoodbank.org.

About Price Philanthropies:

The Price Philanthropies Foundation was founded by retail entrepreneur and philanthropist Sol Price and his wife Helen in 1982. Today, Sol and Helen Price's son and daughter in law, Robert and Allison Price, continue the family's legacy through their leadership of the foundation. Since its inception, Price Philanthropies Foundation has supported a number of initiatives, youth programs, and partnerships that strive to transform the lives of youth and families. As part of this work, Price Philanthropies launched the City Heights Initiative to strengthen partnerships between community members, local schools, and private and public agencies to provide opportunities for City Heights youth and families to prosper. For more information, visit www.pricephilanthropies.org.

About the Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC):

The Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC) provides health and human services focused on improving the overall well-being of underserved diverse populations. Providing assistance in over 30 languages at 15 locations across the county, they recognize and celebrate the diversity of our region and strive to strengthen these communities to achieve self-sufficiency. Programs focus on mental health counseling, community engagement and business development, addiction treatment & recovery, housing counseling, health promotion and cultural competency education. For more information, visit www.upacsd.com

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