

**For Immediate Release
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PRESS RELEASE

VCCDC WILL HOST 2ND ANNUAL HOMEOWNERSHIP FAIR & HOME OWNERSHIP CENTER GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

Oxnard, CA – In celebration of National Homeownership Month, Ventura County Community Development Corporation (VCCDC) and the City of Oxnard Affordable Housing and Rehabilitation Division will be hosting its 2nd Annual Homeownership Fair on Saturday, June 28th, 2014 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. The Homeownership Fair will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of VCCDC's new Home Ownership Center located at 2231 Sturgis Road, Suite A in Oxnard, CA. The celebration is part of VCCDC's continued efforts to promote the benefits that homeownership has on families and on the community as a whole.

**Event Details:
Saturday, June 28th, 2014
11:00am to 3:00pm
VCCDC Home Ownership Center
2231 Sturgis Road, Suite A, Oxnard, CA 93030**

In honor of its founder, Rodney E. Fernandez, VCCDC will be dedicating the Home Ownership Center in his memory. Rodney founded Ventura County Community Development Corporation (VCCDC) in 2001 as an independent 501(c) 3 to fulfill his broad vision of strengthening and sustaining prosperous communities through homebuyer education, pre-purchase counseling, financial coaching, financing mortgage loans, and post-homeownership counseling services.

“Rodney was our founder, friend, teacher, and mentor. He proved that one person can make a lasting difference in the world. He inspired us by sharing his vision. He motivated us through leadership by example. He empowered us by focusing our energy on meaningful work,” says Shane Saunders, VCCDC Board President.

The event will feature VIP speakers, free lunch, live music, kid's activities, and giveaways for the public to enjoy. The public will also have the opportunity to tour VCCDC's Home Ownership Center and attend a workshop to learn about VCCDC's free education services, including workshops and counseling as well as mortgage lending and realty services, including down payment assistance.

“VCCDC is made up of people with a deep, personal desire to make the world a better place to live,” says Bertha Garcia, VCCDC Executive Director. “We surround ourselves with people willing and ready to take on this challenge, and that's a major reason we have been successful.”

The elected officials scheduled to attend the event, include: City of Oxnard Mayor, Tim Flynn and City of Oxnard Mayor Pro Tem, Carmen Ramirez, Esq.; and Representatives from the offices of California State Assembly Member Das Williams and Ventura County Supervisor John Zaragoza.

VCCDC's Homeownership Fair will include 15+ resource booths that will provide prospective homebuyers with valuable information about the benefits of homeownership and will also give them the opportunity to get answers to their questions directly from local lenders, realtors, homeownership counselors and other industry experts in the community.

The event is made possible with support from: Pacific Oaks Federal Credit Union, Pacific Western Bank, Rabobank, US Bank, Boston Private Bank & Trust Company, Union Bank, California Bank & Trust, and MJP Technologies, Inc. The aforementioned sponsors will also have representatives available to distribute information and answer questions during the resource fair. The following local businesses & community partners will also be part of the resource fair: Express Employment Professionals, Fidelity National Title, JDA Home Inspections, City of Oxnard Affordable Housing and Rehabilitation Division, Ventura Center for Dispute Settlement, and Women's Economic Ventures.

For the families & individuals that VCCDC serves, homeownership provides stability, security, and a sense of pride. For the communities that VCCDC works in homeownership often means safer and more family oriented neighborhoods. VCCDC is excited about its continuing growth and expanding ability to help Ventura County families find a new way home.

About VCCDC

Founded in 2001, as a local non-profit organization, VCCDC has worked to increase homeownership and economic stability to the underserved communities of Ventura County. Since 2007, VCCDC has helped 644 families achieve their dream of homeownership through its education, counseling, lending and/or realty services. It has also assisted 1,800 prospective homebuyers through homebuyer education and provided credit and budget pre-purchase counseling to 1,574 families. It originated \$89 million dollars in first and second mortgage loans, and assisted with over 166 families with \$5.6 million in down payment assistance. In addition, it has helped 4,245 troubled home owners to avoid foreclosure or to develop and implement strategies for addressing delinquency or foreclosure issues. Of this group, 1,680 families were documented to have avoided foreclosure.

For more information about VCCDC visit www.vccdc.org. Visit our event page at www.facebook.com/vccdc.