

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Weingart Foundation donates \$150,000 to help local foster youth soar!**

Temecula, CA – July 14, 2017 – The Weingart Foundation recently gave \$150,000 to a Temecula-based nonprofit serving current and former foster youth. The two-year, unrestricted operating support grant was awarded to Rancho Damacitas Children & Family Services as they expand programs and services to address the increasing challenges facing this vulnerable population.

Rancho Damacitas CEO, Cal Winslow, says “We are so grateful to the Weingart Foundation for their investment in our continued work on behalf of Southern California’s foster youth. For nearly 35 years we have provided home, shelter and guidance for 100’s of challenged youth as they struggle to overcome a difficult start in life. Partnerships, such as those with Weingart, are crucial in allowing us to stay committed to meeting our children where they are in their treatment, and encouraging them to be the best that they can be.”

The Weingart Foundation provides grants to advance fairness, inclusion, and opportunity for all Southern Californians, especially those communities hit hardest by persistent poverty. The Foundation supports nonprofit organizations across six Southern California counties including Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, and Ventura. Over the past forty years, the Foundation has granted more than \$950 million to support a variety of Southern California social services, educational, and community programs.

Rancho Damacitas consists of a residential campus housing foster youth ages 6-18, therapeutic programs, transitional services for former foster youth over 18, and college scholarships. Over the past three years, Rancho Damacitas has expanded services to include community foster youth and young adults formerly living in foster care, continuing to bridge the gaps of support from dependency to adulthood. Transitional housing, financial management, employment readiness, and enrichment and educational scholarships are all expanded services offered. Rancho Damacitas plans to use the Weingart funds to continue building the infrastructure and organizational capacity necessary to continue serving this vulnerable population.

#### About the Weingart Foundation:

The mission of the Weingart Foundation is to build a better Southern California by supporting nonprofit organizations to more effectively serve the underserved. Weingart was founded in 1951. For more information: [www.weingartfnd.org](http://www.weingartfnd.org).

#### About Rancho Damacitas:

The mission of Rancho Damacitas Children & Family Services is to end the cycle of child abuse by providing comprehensive care and compassion for foster children and teens, challenged youth, and young adults through life-enriching opportunities and strength-based, solution-focused programs and services. The organization was founded in 1983. For more information: [www.4kidsfirst.org](http://www.4kidsfirst.org).

Contact: Kristi Piatkowski  
Organization: Rancho Damacitas Children & Family Services  
Phone: (714) 260-2699 cell  
Email: [Kristi@4kidsfirst.org](mailto:Kristi@4kidsfirst.org)  
Website: [www.4KIDSFIRST.org](http://www.4KIDSFIRST.org)

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