



SMC Recovery

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

November 11, 2009

Contact: Amanda Kim (650) 802-6433
Celina Shands Gradijan (858) 735-2883

County Event Launches Economic Recovery Programs *San Mateo families and businesses reap benefits of recession recovery plan*

Belmont, CA - - Since the recession began, San Mateo County families have struggled to make ends meet. According to the County's Human Services Agency (HSA) the number of applications for Food Stamps, Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, emergency housing and emergency food has risen dramatically by 35%.

The HSA is using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding to provide relief to San Mateo County families through a range of critical services, from rental assistance to emergency food and subsidized employment. The program called San Mateo County Works (**SMC Works**) offers subsidized employment and short-term benefits to families who reside in San Mateo County and have a family income under the 200% poverty level (including CalWORKs recipients). Families with one dependent child making less than \$35,000 per year qualify for short-term benefits.

HSA Director Beverly Johnson states, "SMC Works is designed to assist families, jobseekers and businesses during these economic downturns. We opted to launch these programs with a community event, to push out the funding and assistance quickly and efficiently."

The **SMC Works: Family Resource Event** will be held on **November 18th** at 555 Marshall Street in Redwood City from 10am to 3pm. The County's Human Services teams have established various stations at the event to get attendees' questions answered and funding expedited. Attendees will be assessed onsite for qualification for an emergency \$100 gift card from Target, Safeway and Kmart; the goal is to assess 1,000 needy families and to provide on-site referral and information for safety net services from community organizations that will join the County at this event.

For more information about the event, go to www.GetSupportNow.org or call the event hotline at (650) 802-WORKS.

###