

SAN BRUNO

Community Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Leslie Hatamiya
Executive Director
M: (650) 922-1223
lhatamiya-sbcf@sanbruno.ca.gov

**SAN BRUNO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PROVIDES \$157,000 TO
SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO
SUPPORT SAN BRUNO SMALL BUSINESSES STRUGGLING TO
OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES OF COVID-19**

***Second Set of Grant Funds Will Enable the Bay Area Entrepreneur Center of
Skyline College to Continue to Provide Technical Support, Business Coaching,
and Micro Grants Through 2021***

San Bruno, California, April 15, 2021 – The San Bruno Community Foundation awarded a second COVID-19 relief grant funding the San Bruno Small Business Recovery and Assistance Program (SBRAP) run by the Bay Area Entrepreneur Center of Skyline College (BAEC). The \$157,000 grant to the San Mateo County Community College District continues the Foundation’s assistance to struggling San Bruno small businesses as they recover from the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The BAEC launched the Small Business Recovery and Assistance Program with an initial \$100,000 grant from the Foundation in 2020. Leveraging the BAEC’s partnerships with the San Bruno Chamber of Commerce, Skyline College’s Accounting Department, the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, and the Small Business Development Center, the program has offered

no-cost financial advising, business consulting, tax preparation support, translation services, valuable business tools, and a host of virtual workshops, to assist small businesses with navigating funding programs, pivoting areas of their business, managing their new financial picture and with exploring and understanding their options going forward in the face of COVID-19 impacts.

In the fall, the BAEC added a new component to the SBRAP program – micro grants of about \$4,000 each to San Bruno businesses participating in the program to help them with their recovery plans. In December, the BAEC announced 16 micro grant recipients, who were acknowledged in a January 28, 2021, virtual awards ceremony.

With the Foundation’s latest grant, the BAEC will continue to provide its workshops and coaching opportunities to a broad range of San Bruno small businesses through 2021, support a second cohort of 15 businesses with micro grants (\$7,000 each), and provide supplementary micro grants (\$3,000 each) to the 16 businesses in the first cohort.

“Small businesses are the backbone of San Bruno’s local economy, and the San Bruno Community Foundation is dedicated to helping economically distressed small businesses overcome the tumult caused by COVID-19,” said Emily Roberts, President of the Foundation’s Board of Directors. “As our local small business resource center, the BAEC is uniquely positioned to assist these businesses through a combination of business coaching, access to online tools and resources, ongoing mentorship, and funding support – all in San Bruno. The magic of the Small Business Recovery and Assistance Program is its ability to meet the emergent, short-term needs of participants and to provide them with a network of resources and partners, strengthening their ties to the San Bruno business community for the long term.”

“Our Small Business Recovery and Assistance Program connects San Bruno’s business owners with a valuable support system that goes beyond providing grant funding, said Pcyeta Stroud, BAEC Director. “With SBCF’s generous financial backing, the Small Business Recovery

Assistance Program will continue to offer a valuable mix of funding and tools to develop business recovery plans. Outreach for this program to the small business community will begin immediately.”

San Bruno small business owners interested in applying for the Small Business Recovery and Assistance Program may contact the BAEC at baec@smccd.edu or fill out the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/SBRecovery.

Over the past year, the Foundation has awarded a total of \$757,000 in COVID-19 relief grants to aid San Bruno’s small businesses and public schools. In addition to the \$257,000 supporting the Small Business Recovery and Assistance Program, the Foundation provided grants of \$150,000 to the San Mateo County Strong Small Business Grant Program (funding \$10,000 grants to 15 San Bruno businesses), \$100,000 to the San Mateo County Child Care Relief Fund (funding grants to seven San Bruno child care providers), \$240,000 to the San Bruno Education Foundation (to purchase new laptops for all San Bruno Park School District teachers, as well as critical management software for both teacher and student devices, to support distance learning), and \$10,000 to the City of San Bruno (to provide home internet access to low-income San Bruno students through San Bruno CityNet Services).

The San Bruno Community Foundation is the nonprofit organization created by the City of San Bruno to administer the \$70 million in restitution funds received from PG&E after the devastating 2010 gas pipeline explosion in San Bruno’s Crestmoor neighborhood. The Foundation serves the San Bruno community by investing in projects, programs, services, and facilities that have significant and lasting benefits. Through making grants, leveraging partnerships, and taking advantage of other resources, SBCF assists and enables the community to maximize shared investments and realize their subsequent enhancements and benefits.

#