



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 9, 2005

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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH SPOTLIGHTS SUCCESS AND NEED

*More Than 100 Families Honored at 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Foster Parent Appreciation Banquet*

- WHO:** Greg Cox, County Supervisor, District 1  
Bill Horn, County Supervisor, District 5  
Foster Care Staff from the County's Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)  
Hundreds of local foster parents
- WHAT:** As part of National Foster Care Month, HHSA will host the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Foster Parent Appreciation Banquet, to honor local foster parents. Awards include, *Foster Parent of the Year*, the *Above and Beyond Service Award*, and *Long Term Service Awards*, which will be recognizing foster parents who have given from five years up to 35 years of service with foster children in their homes. Additionally, a proclamation from the County Board of Supervisors will be co-presented by Supervisors Cox and Horn to four local foster parent associations.
- WHEN:** Friday, May 13, 2005  
5:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** 1936 Quivira Way, San Diego 92109  
Marina Village (in the Seaside Room) at Quivira Basin
- WHY:** May is National Foster Care Month, which provides an opportunity not only to express appreciation for the dedication of foster families and those who work in the foster care system, but also to get more people involved, whether as foster parents, volunteers, mentors, employers or in other ways.
- There is a shortage of foster homes in San Diego County and throughout the nation. There are nearly 6,000 children in the County's foster care system and although there are more than 1,600 licensed foster homes, more loving foster parents are always needed.
- By recognizing the foster parents who currently serve our county's abused and neglected children, we show how important they are to all of us, and that their efforts do not go unappreciated.

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