



Rancho Santa Fe  
FOUNDATION  
PROMOTING PHILANTHROPY SINCE 1981

## **The Stability of a Community Foundation in Times of Economic Crisis**

**The Rancho Santa Fe Foundation “holds” nearly 225 separate funds.** We co-mingle these funds for investment purposes to realize returns that the usual charitable organization could not achieve on its own.

### **We invest our funds for long-term growth –**

- They are diversified and can “weather the storm” better as a result
- Our philosophy is to preserve capital
- Our goal is to attain sufficient growth of capital to offset the effects of inflation and provide for future needs
- The dollars that are granted out are determined on market performance over a 36 month (12 quarter) rolling average, mitigating the wild fluctuations of the market.
- While the S&P is down more than 35% for the year (as of the time this article was written), our investments did not fare as poorly, being down only 11.4% for the same time period.

### **One solution, but a good one –**

- Data tells us that our country will see an unprecedented amount of charitable giving as babyboomers pass down their wealth to subsequent generations
- RSF Foundation is working with both donors and nonprofits so they realize the opportunity that is NOW.
- Beginning or growing an endowment will create security to mitigate the impact of future economic cycles.
- We are “the community’s endowment” as we provide support to numerous nonprofits in this region on behalf of donor recommendations.

### **The needs of the smaller nonprofit have increased.**

- There are more than 9,000 non-profits in San Diego County
- Many of the smaller organizations are living hand-to-mouth through Annual Fund contributions
- Grant requests have increased significantly over preceding years.
- For those who are concerned about being able to support the needs of nonprofits in perpetuity, endowment building is the answer.

### **What Can You do?**

- Continue to support the organizations that you believe in
- Consider volunteering with your family – non-profits need your time as well as your treasure
- If you qualify, consider using a distribution from your IRA or a qualified retirement plan to a charity of choice (the provision has been extended through December 2009)

- Consider gifting appreciated securities to a non-profit organization – this option can still make sense!
- Open a donor advised fund at RSF Foundation – this allows donors to set aside funds in the “good times” that can be used to perpetuate their charitable giving at any time in the future
- Contribute to the endowment of your favorite organization – it is a gift that keeps on giving.

We at the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation are committed to continue our community support. We have positioned ourselves to do so, through prudent investment management and our belief that building endowments for our non-profits and the region, is the only solution for the future.