

SAN BRUNO

Community Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Leslie Hatamiya

Executive Director

O: (650) 763-0775 / M: (650) 922-1223

lhatamiya-sbcf@sanbruno.ca.gov

**SAN BRUNO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LAUNCHES
2021 CRESTMOOR SCHOLARSHIP WITH SUPPORT
FROM THE JOSEPH W WELCH JR FOUNDATION AND
THE SAN MATEO COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® FOUNDATION**

***Community-Minded San Bruno Students
Will Receive College Scholarships Totaling \$190,000***

San Bruno, California, December 8, 2020 – For the sixth year, the San Bruno Community Foundation will offer multi-year college scholarships to outstanding San Bruno students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the San Bruno community through the Crestmoor Neighborhood Memorial Scholarship. With support from the Joseph W Welch Jr Foundation and the San Mateo County Association of REALTORS® Foundation, SBCF plans to award scholarships totaling \$190,000 to students planning to enroll in community college or four-year institutions in the fall of 2021.

SBCF primarily funds the Crestmoor Scholarship using investment proceeds from the restitution funds that resulted from the City of San Bruno’s settlement with Pacific Gas & Electric Company following the 2010 gas pipeline explosion that devastated San Bruno’s Crestmoor neighborhood. For the second year, the Joseph W Welch Jr Foundation is generously donating

\$70,000 to SBCF to support the Crestmoor Scholarship program, while the SAMCAR Foundation is contributing \$7,349 to the program this year. After the 2010 explosion, SAMCAR member Anne Oliva organized a fundraiser that collected supplies for affected families as well as monetary donations, which the SAMCAR Foundation has decided to earmark for the Crestmoor Scholarship.

“The Welch family is proud to partner with the San Bruno Community Foundation to support young people in our community and invest in their education,” said Whitney Welch. “So many families are struggling financially as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, and we know the Crestmoor Scholarship will help deserving students pursue their dreams of a college education. We appreciate this opportunity to give back to the community, while also honoring our grandfather, Joseph W. Welch, Jr.”

“By supporting the Crestmoor Scholarship, the SAMCAR Foundation is investing in San Bruno students who have been actively engaged in the community,” said Alane Gilbrech, Executive Director and Office Manager of the San Mateo County Association of REALTORS®. “Upon the tenth anniversary of the tragic gas pipeline explosion, the SAMCAR Foundation is grateful for this opportunity to give back to the San Bruno community.”

The goals of the Crestmoor Scholarship are two-fold: to invest in San Bruno students who have been actively engaged in the community as well as to honor the community members who most directly endured the destruction of the 2010 gas pipeline explosion, especially the eight San Bruno residents who lost their lives in the disaster. The Scholarship Program ensures that the tragedy of September 9, 2010, is not forgotten and that the resiliency, teamwork, leadership, and commitment to community displayed throughout San Bruno in the aftermath of the explosion and fire are honored in the annual recipients of the Scholarship. Since 2016, SBCF has awarded Crestmoor Scholarships totaling \$650,000 to 46 inspiring San Bruno students.

SBCF offers three categories of Crestmoor Scholarships:

- For graduating high school seniors who will enroll at a four-year college or university: \$20,000 scholarship (\$5,000 per year for up to four years)
- For graduating high school seniors who will enroll at a community college: \$5,000 scholarship (\$2,500 per year for up to two years)
- For community college students transferring to a four-year college or university: \$10,000 scholarship (\$5,000 per year for up to two years)

Applicants must currently live in San Bruno or attend a high school or community college located in San Bruno.

The Scholarship Program seeks applicants who, first and foremost, demonstrate deep engagement and involvement in the San Bruno community through exemplary leadership, teamwork, and collaboration. An applicant's financial need, academic record, and extracurricular activities will also be considered in the selection process.

"The Crestmoor Scholarship continues to serve as a living tribute to the Crestmoor neighborhood and the community members who suffered through that devastating explosion ten years ago," said Emily Roberts, the Foundation's President. "With donations from the Joseph W Welch Jr Foundation and the SAMCAR Foundation, we will continue to help engaged San Bruno students obtain a college education, and we appreciate both foundations' generous support in this effort."

San Bruno students can apply for the Crestmoor Scholarship through an online application, which is posted at www.sbcf.org. The Scholarship deadline is Tuesday, March 2, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. SBCF will recognize the 2021 Crestmoor Scholars at its June 2, 2021, Board meeting.

Additional information about the Scholarship Program can be found on the SBCF website at www.sbcf.org.

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, the SBCF assists and enables the community to maximize shared investments and realize their subsequent enhancements and benefits. For more information, visit www.sbcf.org.

#