

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF PALMDALE

NEWS RELEASE

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City of Palmdale to Host “Gabriel’s House” Ribbon Cutting on March 1

PALMDALE – The City of Palmdale, in partnership with the Art Branch is inviting the public to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony “Gabriel’s House,” located at 38533 4th St. East in Palmdale, on Saturday, March 1.

The festivities will begin at 8 am with a complimentary pancake breakfast. An official ribbon cutting ceremony, led by Palmdale Mayor Jim Ledford will take place at 9:15.

Program information and demonstrations led by Jimmy and Kim Lu of The Art Branch will be held from 8 am to 12 noon.

“We’re inviting everyone to come and check out what is going to be a very positive and creative force in our community” said Palmdale’s Director of Neighborhood Services Mike Miller.

A generous \$20,000 donation by the Warnack Foundation provided for the musical instruments, sheet music, equipment and miscellaneous supplies needed for the start-up program.

“Gabriel's House will create opportunities for local youth to develop music and theater skills free of charge,” said Palmdale Mayor Jim Ledford. “Through the generosity of A.C and Shaughne Warnack, and the hard work of City staff and the Art Branch, this dream of creating something positive for our youth has become a reality.”

“Gabriel’s House” is the City of Palmdale’s third Neighborhood House. The Palmdale City Council voted unanimously to approve the dedication of the home in memory of eight-year-old Gabriel Fernandez who was tragically killed. Working with The Art Branch, “Gabriel’s House” will serve as a music and performing arts center to provide children in the area with the opportunity to develop their creative talents.

Background:

The City of Palmdale’s Neighborhood Improvement Program was developed by the Housing Division of the Economic Development Department to improve homes where low- to moderate- income families live in specifically targeted areas. The Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) selects targeted areas to assist low- to moderate-income families to rehabilitate their homes. Qualified residents living in a focus neighborhood can receive grants for exterior paint, landscape improvements, tool loan vouchers and trash dumpster service.

As part of the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) and to improve the appearance of the neighborhood, the Public Works Program Management Division repairs existing public improvements, and in some cases provides new public improvements such as sewers, curbs, driveways, sidewalks and landscaping.

For more information about volunteering, please call Trish Jones at 661/267-5473. For information about programs at Gabriel’s House, please contact Jimmy Lu at 310/806-8496.

About the Warnack Foundation

The Warnack Foundation’s charitable endeavors and activities shall be for the primary benefit of the people of the City of Palmdale California, and surrounding areas, with

special emphasis on the youth, senior citizens, job training, education, general welfare and health, recreation facilities, and/or parks.

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