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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Samaritan House to Honor Community Participation at Volunteer Recognition Event in Foster City on September 20, 2012**

**San Mateo, California, September 14, 2012** - Volunteers who participate in all aspects of service at Samaritan House will be honored at the annual Samaritan House Volunteer Recognition Event on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Crown Plaza Hotel Magellan Ballroom located at 1221 Chess Drive, Foster City, CA.

With the motto “Neighbor Helping Neighbor,” Samaritan House’s 2,000 annual volunteers represent caring individuals who are dedicated to helping their community. The wide variety of services donated by volunteers include delivering food, providing translation services to clients, and free medical and dental care provided by area professionals. “Generous people who donate their time are our greatest treasure,” says Michele Canning, director of volunteers at Samaritan House. “We simply could not accomplish all that we do without the talent, compassion, and energy of our volunteers!”

At the Volunteer Recognition Event, Sammy Awards in 30 categories will honor volunteers who have shown exemplary effort in support of Samaritan House programs. Recipients of the 2012 Sammy Awards include:

Travis Bennett, *Administration*  
Detzaira Macias, *Client Services*  
Genette Yogi-Kornfield, *Development*  
Miriam Counts, *Finance*  
Jon Froomin, *Holiday*  
Maria Nadel, *Kids Closet*  
Dr. Brian Sheppard, *San Mateo Dental Clinic*  
Andrea Haynes, RDH, *San Mateo Dental Clinic*  
Ness Morales, *San Mateo Dental Clinic*  
Dr. Linda Lee, *Redwood City Dental Clinic*  
Trish Ballard, RDH, *Redwood City Dental Clinic*  
Mario Nunura, *Redwood City Dental Clinic*

Michaelian Endodontics, *Redwood City & San Mateo Dental Clinics*  
Dr. Pardis Kelly, *San Mateo Medical Clinic*  
Dr. Michael Drinnan, *San Mateo Medical Clinic*  
Norma Berliner-Salz, *San Mateo Medical Clinic*  
Beverly Gaines, *San Mateo Medical Clinic*  
Ed Miller, *San Mateo Medical Clinic*  
Dr. Celso Ravelo, *Redwood City Medical Clinic*  
Claudia Schinn, *Redwood City Medical Clinic*  
Hillside Church, *Safe Harbor*  
Walter Mlynar, *Safe Harbor*  
Brad Ferris, *Safe Harbor*  
Richelle Gibson, *Safe Harbor*  
Lily Ryan, *Breadbasket*  
Helping Hands, *Breadbasket*  
Wendi Ellis, *Dining Room*  
Ed Flank, *Food Pantry*  
Kathryn Taylor, *Kitchen*  
Temple Beth El, *Kitchen Weekend*  
Chris Panos, *Mobile Meals*  
St. Bartholomew Church, *Mobile Meals*  
Hillsborough North, *Wee Care*  
Hillsborough West, *Wee Care*  
Shoreview United Methodist Church, *Worker Resource Center*  
Elena Chiong, *Special Programs*

Samaritan House will present its highest honor, the Kelly Award, to long-time volunteer Betty Johnson in recognition of the many hours of extraordinary service and considerable expertise that she has given to the organization and community.

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**SAMARITAN HOUSE – NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR (Tax ID 23-7416272)**

**4031 Pacific Boulevard, San Mateo, CA 94403**

Since 1974, Samaritan House has been helping families regain self-sufficiency. Working with city and county governments, civic, religious, and school organizations, and over 2,000 volunteers, we provide bilingual counseling and case management, food, clothing for children, healthcare, rental assistance, shelter for the homeless, worker resources, and holiday assistance, all free of charge.

[www.samaritanhouse.com](http://www.samaritanhouse.com)