



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
*Turning Passion into Action*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 21, 2010**

**Contact: Shannon McOuat, Marketing Coordinator  
Transitions-Mental Health Association  
805.550.7692, Shannon@t-mha.org**

### **TRANSITIONS MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION RECEIVES GRANT FROM SLO COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION Grant will help support homeless housing program**

San Luis Obispo, CA – Transitions Mental Health Association has received a \$10,000 grant from the Dunin Opportunity Fund at the San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation (SLOCCF). This grant will buy household goods such as beds, linens, kitchenware, phones, cleaning supplies and utility connections for formerly-homeless residents who are transitioning to their permanent home.

“The homeless folks who enter our programs often come with nothing; this grant supplies graduates of our Transitional Housing for Homeless Program (THH) the basics so when they move into their own home they do not arrive empty-handed,” said Denise Rea, Division Director of Housing and Support Services. “Plus, the federally-funded Permanent Housing with Supports program has given us more housing options than we’ve had before.”

The THH program serves disabled adult residents of San Luis Obispo County who are currently homeless. The goal for all program residents is successful independent living within 24 months. At completion of the program, residents may be eligible for Section 8 housing assistance.

This year's Opportunity Fund grantmaking program is made possible through the generous support of the Helen and Ronald Dunin Memorial Endowment. Through a testamentary gift, former Mayor of the City of San Luis Obispo, Ron Dunin, and his wife Helen established an endowment to help people who are attempting to help themselves. As immigrants, the Dunins were fortunate to receive help and support during critical times in their lives. Their goal by creating the fund was to give back to the community and assist San Luis Obispo county residents in need.

In only eleven years, the SLOCCF has given out more than \$14 million in grants to assist nonprofit agencies. For more information on the SLOCCF or any funds, call 543-2323 or log onto [www.sloccf.org](http://www.sloccf.org).

#### **ABOUT T-MHA**

Transitions-Mental Health Association is a non-profit organization that helps children and adults live, work and grow in our community. TMHA operates 27 programs at over 35 locations that reach over 2,000 people and 1,500 families in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. The emphasis of TMHA's many services is to teach vital independent living skills, and build a framework for community re-entry through personal empowerment and hands on experience. For over 30 years, T-MHA has been

dedicated to providing housing, employment, case management and life-skills support to mentally ill adults, at-risk youth and homeless adults. For more information, visit [www.T-MHA.org](http://www.T-MHA.org).

# # #