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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**San Diego Regional Fire Foundation Announces 2013 Grants of \$185,000 to Volunteer Fire Departments**

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SAN DIEGO – On Nov. 7, 2013, the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation announced that it had provided \$185,000 in grants to 15 fire agencies in rural San Diego County, mostly volunteer fire agencies. Since it was formed in 1989, The San Diego Regional Fire Foundation has granted out \$4.3 million to support fire departments in San Diego County.

Today there are 27 fire stations staffed by volunteer firefighters, which protect over 60% of San Diego County. They respond to 6,000 emergency incidents each year. Limited government funding barely covers operating costs such as fuel, insurance, and utilities.

“These volunteer departments need about \$1 million annually for training and to replace equipment that gets worn out fighting fires or used up in medical emergencies. This includes everything from fire engines, ambulances, station upgrades, specialized firefighting equipment to fire hose, and keeping up with new technology” said Joan Jones, Executive Director of the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation. “The Fire Foundation has been able to raise about \$200,000 each year, leaving \$800,000 needed to meet the needs of our volunteer fire departments.”

Agencies that were awarded grants included: Alpine Fire Protection District; Boulevard Volunteer Fire Department; Campo Volunteer Fire Department; De Luz Volunteer Fire Department; Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Fire Department; Intermountain Volunteer Fire Department; Julian / Cuyamaca Fire Protection District; Mt. Laguna Volunteer Fire Department; Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department; Pine Valley Fire Protection District; Rainbow Volunteer Fire Department; San Diego County Fire Authority; San Pasqual Volunteer Fire Department; Shelter Valley Volunteer Fire Department; and Sunshine Summit Volunteer Fire Department.

These 2013 grants were made possible by donations from numerous individuals and from The San Diego Foundation, SDGE, The New Car Dealers Association of San Diego County, Southern California Edison, and WD40.

The San Diego Regional Fire Foundation was formed in 1989 to improve the system of fire and emergency services in San Diego County. For additional information, please visit [www.sdfirefoundation.org](http://www.sdfirefoundation.org) or call 619.814.1352.

<b>San Diego Regional Fire Foundation</b>		
<b>2013 Grant Summary</b>		
<b>Department Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Grant Description</b>
Alpine Fire Protection District	\$ 950	50 CO Monitors for Seniors
Boulevard Volunteer Fire Department	2,616	4 Beds for Firefighters
Campo Volunteer Fire Department	4,578	7 Beds for Firefighters
De Luz Volunteer Fire Department	31,620	Pick-up Truck and 24 cases of protective gel
Elfin Forest / Harmony Grove Fire Department	11,545	10 self-contained breathing apparatus tanks
Intermountain Volunteer Fire Department	5,388	Rescue ropes & equipment
Julian/Cuyamaca Fire Protection District	13,836	5 sets of firefighter protective clothing
Mt. Laguna Volunteer Fire Department	5,235	8 GPS receivers & folding rescue backboard
Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department	22,260	Respirator fit testing machine & training
Pine Valley Volunteer Fire Department	6,150	20 emergency medical service jackets
Rainbow Volunteer Fire Department	5,000	Fire hose, nozzles, protective gel
San Diego County Fire Authority	29,820	10 exhaust fans/blowers & 10 cut-off saws
San Pasqual Volunteer Fire Department	7,415	Fire station alerting system
Shelter Valley Volunteer Fire Department	29,881	Hose racks, lockers, fire shelters & training
Sunshine Summit Volunteer Fire Department	8,222	12 lockers, hose drying rack & storage
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 184,516</b>	