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The San Antonio Unity—December 2008 - January 2009

by Andrea Walker

Let the Savings Begin

October 22nd marked the launch of San Antonio Community Development Corporation's matching savings program, Acorns to Oaks. At OneCalifornia Bank in downtown Oakland, San Antonio families, community members, and staff gathered to celebrate the beginning of an innovative community program.

San Antonio Neighborhood Network has partnered with OneCalifornia Foundation, OneCalifornia Bank, San Antonio Community Development Corporation, and Making Connections Oakland to bring a unique children's savings program to the San Antonio Community. Parents of children in the local Head Start program have the opportunity to save for their children's future and will have up to \$450 of their savings matched by OneCalifornia Foundation.

In addition to having their savings matched, parents and children will also get invaluable financial literacy education from OneCalifornia Foundation. Over the next year they will attend workshops about basic banking services, creating budgets, understanding credit reports, and how to use credit. As families participate in the financial literacy program and make regular contributions to their savings accounts, they lead the entire community toward greater economic health.

As of October 22nd, eighteen families had committed to saving for their children's future through this program. OneCalifornia is eager to help them on this journey, and congratulates those families who have taken this step toward creating a better future for their children.