



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PathPoint Celebrates 45th Anniversary

Ventura, CA ----To celebrate its 45th Anniversary and its adoption of a new organization name, PathPoint (formerly *Work Training Programs, Inc.*) is hosting an Open House on May 20, 2009 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm at its Ventura branch located at 2587 Teller Road in Newbury Park. Founded in 1964, PathPoint is a local nonprofit organization that provides comprehensive training and support services that empower people with disabilities to live and work as valued members of our communities.

According to Marielle DeFazio, PathPoint's Ventura County Vice-President/Director, many of PathPoint's program participants, family members, employer partners, supporters, and funders will be on hand to celebrate the notable occasion. "We look forward to coming together to celebrate our new agency name, and the many successes we have achieved over the past 45 years."

Bob Voorhees, Senior Vice President of Pacific Capital Bancorp, an employer of PathPoint participants for the past nine years, will speak at the event. Voorhees strongly believes in PathPoint's mission to give adults with developmental disabilities the opportunity to work and give back to their community. He sees the positive results in his workplace on a daily basis. After six years serving as chair of the PathPoint Board of Directors, Voorhees notes: "It is so satisfying to be a part of making these opportunities available to so many determined and dedicated individuals."

Other enthusiastic supporters of PathPoint's services in the area include Board Members, Jeff Dodds of TWIW Insurance Services, LLC and Steve Fedde of Sares Regis Group, both Ventura County residents.

PathPoint employer partner and Conejo Recreation & Park District Superintendent, Matt Kouba, knows first hand the benefits of hiring PathPoint trainees to work at Conejo Recreation & Park District throughout the Conejo Valley. "As Park Superintendent I endorse PathPoint services. We have developed a positive working relationship; and as a result, I have had great successes in participating in a mutually meaningful program that meets our needs as an employer as well as encourages positive employment opportunities for adults with disabilities", stated Kouba.

Program participants appreciate that PathPoint helps to create a community where people with disabilities have opportunities to lead full and productive lives. "Thank you for supporting my life's journey since 1990. I am proud of the accomplishments I have made and the things I have done," noted Sheryl Moore whose success story, along with others, will be featured at the Open House.

Helping PathPoint celebrate its 45th anniversary with certificates of recognition will be Matt Kouba, Park Superintendent of Conejo Recreation & Park District, Elizabeth Perez of The City of Thousand Oaks and a representative of the County of Ventura's Workforce Administration staff.

To participate in the Open House, Please RSVP by Friday May 13, 2009 at (805) 520-8744, ext. 200 or email renee.wolcott@pathpoint.org. PathPoint is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, federal tax ID # 95-2371668. To support the festivities, any "celebratory" tax-deductible donations are welcomed. If you would like to make a contribution, please visit www.pathpoint.org or send your donation to 1463 East Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065.

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Connecting people, purpose and communities since 1964, PathPoint (formerly known as Work Training Programs, Inc.) is a non profit organization providing comprehensive training and support services that empower people with disabilities or disadvantages to live and work as valued community members. PathPoint serves 2,300 people in the communities of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern and Los Angeles.