



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

# MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2, 2011

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## FOSTER SIBLINGS REUNITE AT CAMP CONNECT

- WHAT:** More than 80 foster youth will gather to meet their siblings and board a bus bound for Camp Connect San Diego, which takes place at a campground in Julian. The four-day camp gives foster youth siblings who are unable to be placed in the same household an opportunity to strengthen their family bonds. They will participate in activities such as rock wall climbing, swimming, hiking, scrap booking, a talent show, dance, and a mud pit.
- WHO:** Chairman Bill Horn, San Diego County Board of Supervisors  
Nick Macchione, Director, San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS)A  
More than 80 foster youth  
Community volunteers
- WHEN:** Thursday, August 4, 2011  
11:30 a.m.
- WHERE:** National University  
9388 Lightwave Ave  
San Diego, CA 92123
- WHY:** It's a constant challenge and important priority for HHS)A to place siblings in the same foster home. Unfortunately, this is not always possible. Camp Connect is a four-day bonding experience for siblings who have been placed apart in foster care and provides them with an opportunity to spend quality time with their brothers and sisters in a fun, carefree atmosphere.
- HHS)A is always in need of foster homes, especially those that can accommodate siblings. Research shows that siblings in foster care who remain connected have improved outcomes in school along with increased feelings of self worth, identity and confidence.
- The camp is made possible through a partnership between HHS)A, United Way of San Diego and the non-profit Promises2Kids. For more information regarding Camp Connect San Diego, please contact Margo Fudge, at (858) 616-5810.
- VISUALS:** Foster youth boarding the bus to camp, dozens of volunteers, face painting by a clown, balloons and a festive atmosphere for their camp send-off.

***PLEASE NOTE: Foster youth participating in the camp have court clearance to be photographed and there will be foster children available for on-camera interviews. You will also be able to get video and/or photos of the campers boarding the bus.***

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