



MARIN SERVICES for Women

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Marin Services for Women Honors PG&E With Corporate Leadership Award

GREENBRAE, CA, SEPTEMBER 12, 2005 – Marin Services for Women, the only non-profit agency in Marin County established to provide a full continuum of alcohol and drug treatment programs specifically designed for women and their families, today announced that they will present Pacific Gas & Electric Company with the 2005 Corporate Leadership Award.

Each year, Marin Services for Women (MSW) presents a Corporate Leadership Award to a company in the Bay Area that understands the critical need for supporting the recovery of employees addicted to alcohol and/or drugs. The award recognizes the corporation's demonstrated commitment to assisting employees overcome addiction while protecting their jobs in the process. This year, MSW is proud to honor PG&E with this award for their unique approach to helping their employees gain treatment through a Peer Volunteer program.

The PG&E Peer Volunteer program is a collaborative effort between PG&E labor and management to assist employees who are dependent on alcohol and/or drugs facilitate their entry into treatment and provide ongoing support to ensure that the gains made through the treatment process are sustained. PG&E's visionary leaders believe that the benefits of the Peer Volunteer program, which include salvaging employee careers and arresting a potentially fatal disease, provides a return on investment to the company that more than justifies the expenditure.

Initially established in 2000 at their San Francisco location, the program has since expanded throughout the Bay Area and into Humboldt. Participation in the program is purely voluntary and totally confidential. PG&E employee Peer Volunteers are screened by union leadership and the PG&E EAP/Peer Volunteer Coordinator, then given a day of training, followed by monthly meetings. Then they receive their special Peer Volunteer cell phone, which they virtually carry around the clock. They take calls from employees looking for someone to

confide in, someone they can trust, someone who has been there. Peer Volunteers take calls at night, on weekends and during their regular work hours, but they're not paid anything extra for their efforts. They are individuals, volunteers, who've made the journey back to "clean and sober" and can offer a helping hand to others who want to make that same journey.

"The right thing for the company to do is to continue to fund and look for opportunities to expand the program," said PG&E's Senior Vice President and Chief of Utility Operations, Tom King. "This organization's support and aid through the Peer Volunteer program will contribute to employees' well-being for years to come."

The Corporate Leadership Award will be presented to PG&E at Marin Services for Women's Annual Benefit Dinner on September 29, 2005, at the Embassy Suites in San Rafael. MSW's Annual Benefit Dinner, themed "Weaving the Vision: Together We Build a Healing Community," will feature Actor/Author/Raconteur Carrie Fisher as keynote speaker. The event recognizes and celebrates the 16th annual observance of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, part of a national initiative supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "It's important that as a community we work toward providing people with the recovery services they need, despite social or economic circumstances. Once in recovery, people are able to build self esteem, and become empowered to maintain steady employment obtain stable housing, and sustain healthy relationships," said MSW Executive Director Ann Harrison. "This strengthens the fabric of our community as a whole. We all benefit from each individual's recovery."

Tickets for MSW's Annual Benefit dinner start at \$125 and \$250, and include many sponsorship opportunities. For more information about purchasing tickets or sponsoring the Dinner, please visit the Marin Services for Women Website at www.marinservicesforwomen.org or call (415) 924-5995.

For over 25 years, Marin Services for Women has advanced community health by providing a full continuum of superior quality chemical dependency recovery services for women and families in Marin County. Its philosophy links recovery from addiction with relational, social and economic empowerment. MSW is dedicated to meeting the community's need to understand the nature, treatment and prevention of alcohol and other drug abuse.