



For Immediate Release

Contact: Michelle Hunter,
Senior Vice President of Marketing and Development
Direct: (714) 671.2746
Mhunter@CUSoCal.org

Southern California's Helping Hands (SCHH) holds 4th Annual Food Distribution

Whittier, Calif., April 28, 2008 – While the economy continues to show signs of slowing and more families find themselves in need, Members and employees of Credit Union of Southern California (CU SoCal) and employees of several other credit unions opened their hearts to help more than 3,000 local residents.

On Saturday, April 19, 2008, Southern California's Helping Hands (SCHH), in conjunction with Heart of Compassion, held its 4th Annual Food Distribution Day at CU SoCal's Whittier branch. The branch was closed for the event and more than 2,000 people were given lunch while they waited for groceries. For the children waiting with their parents, there were games and coloring sheets. More than 50,000 pounds of food valued at \$100,000 was donated to local residents during the all day event.

"This is a great help!" said recipient, Silvia Avila, "I work 2 or 3 days and it's not sufficient to pay for gas, lights, telephone and all that. It's very expensive! Life is very hard."

A CU SoCal Member for nearly 25 years volunteered her time to help pass out dried foods at the event, "It was wonderful and so nice to be included. I delight in helping others and find that when you're around 'givers,' the atmosphere is wonderful. The whole day made for such a good feeling!"

"We're proud to be a part of the Whittier community. It's our privilege to put the credit union philosophy of 'People Helping People' into action to help our local residents in need," said CU SoCal Executive Vice President/COO, Ed Fox.

Dave Gunderson, CU SoCal President/CEO, recognized the generosity of more than 200 volunteers, "Putting together an event of this magnitude requires the help of many caring individuals. It's heart-warming to see the compassion and care of so many. A simple thank you cannot describe the gratitude I feel for those who generously gave their time and financial support to this worthwhile cause. The volunteers were fantastic."

About Southern California's Helping Hands (SCHH)

Founded in 1997 by CU SoCal employees, SCHH's vision is to provide Southern California's poor and needy families with the basic necessities of life, treating them with dignity and respect. Our program provides food, clothing and financial assistance to families in need, and supports other charitable organizations in Southern California. For more information, visit www.CUSoCal.org/SCHH.htm, or call 866 CU SoCal.

About Credit Union of Southern California (CU SoCal)

With over \$500 million in assets, CU SoCal is ranked the 19th largest credit union in Los Angeles County. Founded in 1954, CU SoCal lives the credit union motto of "People Helping People". CU SoCal is dedicated to providing its more than 43,000 Member-Owners with World-Class service, competitive products and convenience. Membership is available to those who live, work, attend school or worship in the San Gabriel Valley, all of Orange County and the cities in between. Visit www.CUSoCal.org or call 866 CU SoCal for more information.

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Photos Attached

■ PO Box 200 Whittier, CA 90608 ■ 866 CU SoCal ■ www.CUSoCal.org ■