

Westpark Community Center receives a “Health Champion Award”

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01/27/2016

For Immediate Release

January 27, 2016

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Westpark Community Center receives a “Health Champion Award”

Ventura’s Westpark Community Center is named a “Health Champion Award” recipient for its “excellent programs that contribute to a healthier Ventura County”. The Partnership for a Health Ventura County (PHVC) bestows these annual awards on behalf of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, which will recognize all recipients during a TBD March meeting as part of National Nutrition Month.

Westpark Community Center staff will make a public presentation of their award-winning programs on Thursday, February 4, at 9 am, at the Ventura County Public Health Department, 2240 E Gonzales Road in Oxnard. Award winners are selected from the nominees each January by their related PHVC committees.

“Westpark Community Center is a true model for other organizations to follow in creating, supporting and sustaining a healthy environment for local Ventura residents,” said Eddie Munizich, Chair of the Healthy in Your Neighborhood and at Home Committee. “The center supports Westside Ventura residents by providing safe, educational and affordable services and activities to youth and families on the importance of a healthy lifestyle that is rich in good nutrition and regular physical activity.”

The Westpark Community Center, operated by the City of Ventura Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships, offers food/produce distributions, health screenings, nutrition workshops, Zumba® classes, community health fairs, homework and tutoring support, physical activity and recreation opportunities, enrichment classes, sports leagues and youth camps – all while teaching Westside youth about the importance of self-esteem, leadership, good character, responsibility and respect.

The Partnership for a Healthy Ventura County (PHVC) is a coalition of representatives from Ventura County Public Health, First 5 Ventura County, community organizations, direct health service providers, food security organizations, schools, local area businesses and government agencies who come together to share knowledge and resources that promote policies and services for the sake of a healthy Ventura County. The goals of PHVC are to educate, advocate and mobilize around issues related to healthy eating and active living in Ventura County and to foster wellness by supporting a culture of prevention. Through its five working committees PHVC hosts trainings and events throughout the year for health care professionals, employers, teachers, parents, community leaders and seniors to learn about select health and activity related topics. More info at <http://healthyventuracounty.org/>.

For more information contact: Mario Robinson, youth services supervisor for the City of Ventura Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Partnerships at (805) 654-7807 or mrobinson@cityofventura.net; or Westpark Center Coordinator Anita Diaz @ (805) 648-1895.

This release is available on the City of Ventura website www.cityofventura.net. --###--