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## THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SAN DIEGO ANNOUNCES THE 2015 PETER CHORTEK LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT: NOA EATON

**SAN DIEGO – May 23, 2016** – The Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego (JCF) is pleased to announce Noa Eaton as the 2015 recipient of the Peter Chortek Leadership Award.

Noa Eaton, a senior at Canyon Crest Academy in Del Mar, connected to her philanthropy in the 5th grade after participating in a Girl Scout house building project in Tijuana. Since then she has been committed to *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world), literally one nail at a time.

Noa is a head intern at Casas de Luz and has been involved with the organization for over five years. Casas de Luz is a non-profit organization that raises funds and builds homes for families in need located in Tijuana. Noa participated and expanded the reach of the program starting as a bat mitzvah project and through her senior year in high school. She has helped over 130 students get involved, planned fundraisers and participated in builds. In addition, she has encouraged three others to fundraise for builds of their own for at-risk families and has created personal experiences for people, allowing them to become invested in this important cause.

Casas de Luz (CDL) focuses on three main programs through which they hope to help build sustainable communities in Tijuana. They started in 2005, building one home per year. In 2015 alone, CDL built eleven homes and delivered over 75 truckloads of donations.

May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Noa accepted the prestigious Chortek Leadership Award and shared stories and accomplishments of the program to an engaged audience. This event took place during the Jewish Teen Foundation's check presentation ceremony at the San Diego Jewish Academy.

The Peter Chortek Leadership Award honors teen excellence in community service and leadership. It is supported by the Peter Chortek Youth Philanthropy Leadership Fund held at the Jewish Community Foundation, established by Peter (of blessed memory) and Elaine Chortek.

## About The Jewish Community Foundation

The Jewish Community Foundation partners with individuals, families and community organizations to help them achieve their philanthropic goals. During fiscal year 2014-15, the Foundation awarded and facilitated over \$107 million in 6,100 grants to more than 1,400 Jewish and general organizations in San Diego, Israel and around the world. The Foundation manages almost \$300 million in assets and has facilitated over \$1 billion in grants since 1967. The Foundation is a national model for its legacy endowment building and youth philanthropy programs. Visit the Jewish Community Foundation at <u>www.jcfsandiego.org</u> or call 858-279-2740.