



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JAMES T. HAAS IS AWARDED HIS THIRD PG&E MIELKE AWARD

The \$5,000 grant award has been donated to Transitions-Mental Health Association.

San Luis Obispo, CA – Transitions-Mental Health Association (TMHA) Board President James T. Haas – long-time community volunteer and industrial power engineer for Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) – has received his third Frederick W. Mielke, Jr. Award for Outstanding Community Service.

Haas was awarded this accolade by a vote of his peers for his on-going perseverance to provide permanent housing to those disabled by mental illness – a key component of TMHA's mission.

Established by the company in 1986, The Frederick W. Mielke, Jr. Award for Outstanding Community Service recognizes and honors PG&E employees whose volunteer efforts have made a significant impact in the communities where they live and work.

Haas volunteers extensively for TMHA; conducting meetings, reading grant proposals, working on housing projects such as Nipomo Street Studios in SLO, fundraising and more. He also volunteers on behalf of Best Buddies, local schools and individuals and families in need. He remains an active visionary, promoting a philosophy of partnerships with other nonprofits in programming, fundraising and cooperative ventures such as permanent, supported housing projects such as Nipomo Street Studios and TMHA's latest undertaking, former orphanage, Bishop Street Studios and expanding work at Growing Grounds Downtown retail store.

Mielke award winners are presented a trophy plus a \$5,000 grant to the non-profit organization for which they volunteer. "JT's third Mielke Award reiterates the significance of his outstanding character and contributions, and TMHA recognizes our good fortune in having him as Board President," said Jill Bolster-White, Executive Director of TMHA.

To learn more about Transitions-Mental Health Association, visit www.T-MHA.org.

ABOUT TMHA

Transitions-Mental Health Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating stigma and promoting recovery and wellness for people with mental illness through work, housing, community and family support services. TMHA operates 30 programs at over 35 locations that reach over 2,000 people and 1,500 families in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. The emphasis of TMHA's many services is to teach vital independent living skills, and build a framework for community re-entry through personal empowerment and hands on experience. For over 30 years, TMHA has been dedicated to providing housing, employment, case management and life-skills support to teens and adults with mental illness; and support, resources and education for their loved ones. For more information, visit www.T-MHA.org.

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Caption: TMHA Board Members Carol Armstrong, Jill Bolster-White (Executive Director), Darryl Elliott, Dave Bernhardt, James (JT) Haas, Reese Davies, and Cindy Johnson.