



RANCHO SANTIAGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

# # # # NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Santa Ana College Foundation Receives \$10,000 Gift from U.S. Bank Donation to Fund Financial Literacy Program for Veteran Students**

(Santa Ana)—The Santa Ana College (SAC) Foundation has received a \$10,000 donation from U.S. Bank. This charitable gift will provide resources to train, educate, and conduct one-on-one counseling in financial literacy for returning military veteran students.

“We are excited about this partnership with U.S. Bank,” said Kristin Crellin, president, SAC Foundation Board of Directors and executive director, school and community relations at SchoolsFirst FCU. “Returning veterans need financial literacy education to adjust to civilian life. They need to learn how to manage the cost of living, including covering the costs of rent, mortgage payments, food, utilities, transportation, insurance and medical coverage—all things that the military provided for them.”

The financial literacy program will teach veteran students basic skills such as balancing a checkbook, understanding a credit score and its effects on future loans, understanding credit card APR’s, how various loans work, and how to anticipate time gaps in GI benefits funding and civilian employment paychecks.

“U.S. Bank is delighted to partner with the Santa Ana College Foundation and the Veterans Resource Center to play a part in easing veterans’ transition from combat to classroom. We believe it is vitally important that returning veterans learn to make informed and effective decisions about their finances to better plan how to attain their ultimate educational objectives,” said Eric M. Alderete, member of SAC Foundation Board of Directors and vice president and senior corporate counsel at U.S. Bank.

Santa Ana College serves nearly 400 veteran students through its Veterans Resource Center (VRC). The college’s VRC provides the following services:

- Access to a Certifying Official to assist veterans with accessing Veterans Assistance (VA) educational benefits,
- Specialized academic counseling to develop educational plans to meet VA benefit requirements,
- Customized orientation and academic skills workshops for veterans, and
- Quiet study area with access to computers, the Internet and a printer.

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**About the Rancho Santiago Community College District**

*The mission of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) is to respond to the educational needs of an ever-changing community and to provide programs and services that reflect academic excellence. Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College are public community colleges of RSCCD, which serve the residents of Anaheim Hills, East Garden Grove, Irvine, Orange, Santa Ana, Tustin and Villa Park. Both colleges provide education for academic transfer and careers, courses for personal and professional development, customized training for business and industry, and programs to train nurses, firefighters and law enforcement personnel.*

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