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Community Turns-Out for Clinic's Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

May 12, 2009 - Laguna Beach, CA - Community members who wanted to party with a purpose attended the Laguna Beach Community Clinic's "Cinco de Mayo Fiesta!" on May 2nd. The third annual "Fiesta!" was held at the tropical oceanfront gardens of Dr. and Mrs. Ray Contino.

Over 150 of the Clinic's friends and supporters were treated to panoramic ocean views of Laguna's "Twin Points", and served tasty Mexican food and frosty margaritas. Professional salsa dancers entertained the crowd and to the surprise of the audience, Dr. Bent, the Clinic's Medical Director and COO, announced all were welcome to Cha Cha with a professional dancer for \$20, tag a friend to dance for a \$100, and those "too Chicken" to dance could opt-out for a price.

Adding to the excitement, Chris Loidolt, Business Center Manager for the Montage Resort and long time Laguna Beach resident, announced that the Hearts of Montage would match funds raised at the event up to \$7,500. This is the second grant that the Montage has awarded to the Clinic.

"All of our supporters know that due to the economic downturn the Clinic is experiencing a significant increase in newly uninsured patients. They also know that despite the extra load this places on the Clinic, we're committed to providing a much needed safety net for our neighbors in need, regardless of their ability to pay," stated Dr. Tom Bent, Medical Director and COO, Laguna Beach Community Clinic.

The Clinic's event netted \$21,000, an increase from last year's event. "This is so encouraging, in a economy where many non-profits are seeing a decline in donations, the Clinic's supporters are sending a strong message that what we provide to our community is vital and deserving of their contribution," continued Dr. Bent.

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