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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate release

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Fresno West Coalition for Economic Development celebrates those who dared to make a difference

The 2nd Annual *Risk Takers, Dream Makers* Award Luncheon honors those who have taken the extra step to cultivate opportunity in southwest Fresno

Fresno, CA- In an on-going effort to facilitate the vision for the development of southwest Fresno, FWCED is proud to announce the honorees of the 2nd annual *Risk Takers, Dream Makers* Awards Luncheon to be held November 16, 2006 at 11:30 am at the Cornerstone Conference Center in Downtown Fresno.

The luncheon will honor those who have asked, “why not” and therefore taken the extra step to grow successful opportunities in what would ultimately benefit our southwest Fresno community, and our city, as a whole. “These are the people who took risks to make dreams come true” states Keith Kelley, FWCED CEO & President. He continues, “their efforts contributed to the double bottom line of the community, even when the resources didn’t pencil out.

FWCED seeks to recognize those who have invested the money, time and technical resources to make a difference in Fresno. It is because of their efforts, West Fresno will continue to grow and prosper. FWCED will continue to partner with organizations and individuals such as these in an on-going effort to battle the problems of poverty. FWCED will proudly honor the following:

- **George Finley** is an educator and advocate for West Fresno neighborhoods
- **John Carbray** brought projects such as Fresno Grizzlies stadium and led the \$1 million revitalization of the West Fresno Boys & Girl Club sponsored by the Fresno Rotary Club
- **Countrywide Building Materials** is a long-time business in southwest Fresno
- **Fresno County Federal Credit Union** was the first to bring access to a financial institution west of Highway 99 in the City of Fresno
- **Fresno County EOC Local Conservation Corps.** has provided workforce training to hundreds of young men & women and service to the entire community
- **Assembly member Juan Arambula** will receive the President’s Award for being a champion for the Valley and communities of need at the economic policy table

If you are interested in supporting the event and our honorees by purchasing a program booklet advertisement or through sponsorship, please contact the event coordinator, Collinda Myers at 559-485-1273. For more information about the event, current and past honorees, or to download a reservation form visit our website- www.fwced.org .

Fresno West Coalition for Economic Development (FWCED) is a nonprofit community development corporation striving to improve the physical and socio-economic conditions of southwest Fresno. This is achieved through advocacy and with programs in housing, employment and business development.

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