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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate release

October 23, 2007

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

The 3rd Annual *Risk Takers, Dream Makers* Award Luncheon honors those who have taken the extra step to cultivate opportunities in 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 3rd annual *Risk Takers, Dream Makers* Awards Luncheon to be held on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 11:30 am at the International Trade Center Ballroom, 1401 Fulton Street in Downtown Fresno.

It is with great honor to announce the 2007 Risk Takers, Dream Makers Awardees. They are as follows:

Individual - West Fresno: Mary Curry, former President of Fresno Unified School District Board of Trustee

Individual - At-Large: Vurdell Newsome, retired educator and visionary of Edison Computech

Business - West Fresno: Central Cities Properties, Thomas Beggs, owner of Kearney Palms Shopping Center

Business - At-Large: Valley Small Business Development Corporation

Non-Profit Organization: Cornerstone Church & Cornerstone Foundation, Pastor Jim Franklin

President's Award: Ken Quenzer, Boys and Girls Club of Fresno County

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. Their efforts contributed to the double bottom line of the community, even when the resources didn't pencil out," states Keith Kelley, FWCED CEO & President.

To purchase your tickets, please call Mary Jackson at (559) 485-1273. Don't delay, tickets are going fast! Prices are **\$35 per ticket or \$280 per table**. 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 non-profit 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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