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## Day of Caring Serves South Ukiah

(Ukiah, CA) – September 10, 2014: On Wednesday September 10, 2014, FIRST 5 Mendocino teamed with United Way of the Wine Country, Ukiah Unified School District, the City of Ukiah, and the Boys and Girls Club to make a difference in Mendocino County for the United Way Day of Caring. This year’s event focused on serving children in south Ukiah at the Alex Rorabaugh Center and Grace Hudson Elementary School. The 50+ volunteers in Mendocino County joined the efforts of over 1,000 volunteers in Sonoma County to make a big splash for community service for the 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance.

Volunteers from Savings Bank of Mendocino County, students from Ukiah Junior Academy and FIRST 5 Mendocino AmeriCorps service members helped spruce up the Alex Rorabaugh Center, complete projects for the Boys and Girls Club, and painting projects at Grace Hudson Elementary. Students from the Ukiah Junior Academy worked with the FIRST 5 AmeriCorps members to paint shapes, a cake walk circle, a hopscotch grid and an alphabet spiral on the kindergarten patio. Additionally, they painted a multiplication chart on the playground. The projects completed will offer educational and recreational opportunities for children in south Ukiah.

“By narrowly focusing our efforts on the ARC and Grace Hudson we were able to make a bigger impact on that one place,” said Anne Molgaard, executive director of FIRST 5 Mendocino and United Way board member. “It is a great example of what happens when we work together to make a difference in our community.”

Day of Caring offers a way to recognize 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance. Congress authorized September 11 as a national day of service in 2009 as a way to pay tribute to 9/11 victims, survivors, and those who stepped up to contribute in the aftermath. Other national days of service include Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The last United Way Day of Caring in Mendocino County was held in 2012. For more information or to participate in the 2015 Day of Caring contact United Way of the Wine Country at 707-528-4485.

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Volunteers from AmeriCorps and Ukiah Junior Academy at the Day of Caring

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