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Pictured: Wes Walker, Rotary Club of Santa Cruz presents \$32,310 donation to Cynthia Druley, Lyndsey Marks, and Mary Alsip of CASA of Santa Cruz County. CASA donors to match funds for a total contribution of \$64,620 to CASA.

ROTARY CLUB OF SANTA CRUZ RAISES \$32,310 FOR CASA OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Dollars raised to be matched by CASA donors for a total contribution of \$64,620

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. - Through its Annual Fundraiser Committee, the Rotary Club of Santa Cruz awarded \$32,310 to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Santa Cruz County on Friday, June 15. The dollars were raised through the Santa Cruz Rotary Round Up fundraiser on May 18.

To increase the impact these funds will have locally, CASA worked with their supporters to match the donation. This grew the total amount designated to the organization to \$64,620.

CASA trains and supervises volunteers who work one-on-one with children in foster care. Annually, they serve more than 200 children, working with schools, therapists, social workers, and the courts. Judges rely on Advocates' recommendations about how to best meet the children's needs until they are in safe, permanent homes. Since its inception in 1992, CASA has trained more than 1,300 volunteers and served almost 2,000 children.

An additional \$122,000 raised by the Round Up will be used to support the efforts of the Santa Cruz Rotary Club's Benevolence and Grants Committee. The committee is charged with awarding grants quarterly to qualifying area 501C3 organizations. Local nonprofits are encouraged to apply and can find details at santacruzrotary.com/downloads and click on Guidelines for Making Donation Requests.

Rotary International is one of the world's largest community service organizations, with more than 35,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary clubs work to improve lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world.

The Rotary Club of Santa Cruz meets every Friday from noon - 1:30 p.m. at Back Nine Grill at Pasatiempo Inn. For more information visit <u>santacruzrotary.com</u>.

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