

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The LIME Foundation RECEIVES \$100,000 GRANT FROM IMPACT 100 REDWOOD CIRCLE**

**Grant to be used to expand the Nonprofit's NextGen Trades Academy Cohorts**

**November 15, 2021 – Santa Rosa, CA –** Impact 100 Redwood Circle, a Sonoma County women's giving circle, has awarded its sixth \$100,000 grant to The LIME Foundation. The Santa Rosa-based nonprofit will use the award to expand offerings by their NextGen Trades Academy.

The LIME Foundation's NextGen Trades Academy serves disconnected and vulnerable youth, ages 16-24, by providing 18-months of mentorship, vocational construction training, personal skill development and sustainable career opportunities in Sonoma County. By training and empowering students in the program, economic barriers are reduced as graduates become employed and fulfill essential construction workforce demands across our community.

“Awarding our 2021 Impact Grant of \$100,000 to The LIME Foundation is inspirational for our membership. This nonprofit is changing lives every day through their NextGen Trades Academy, offering long-term solutions needed to help local youth achieve economic stability and become greater contributors to themselves, their families, and their community,” said Suzy Marzalek, Co-President, Impact 100 Redwood Circle. “We are honored to be supporting their important work in Sonoma County.”

The 2021 Impact Grant from Impact 100 Redwood Circle will improve the futures of 60 underserved youth in Sonoma County by expanding the NextGen Trades Academy to four additional local cohorts over a two-year period beginning in 2022. The grant funding will support integral workforce training combined with social skill development as part of the long-term solution needed to help local youth achieve economic stability and become greater contributors to themselves, their families, and their community.

“We are extremely grateful for the recognition and support received by Impact 100 Redwood Circle,” said Letitia Hanke, Executive Director, The LIME Foundation. With this grant, we will be able to positively impact underrepresented youth across Sonoma County by helping them navigate a new career in construction along with the everyday stressors of life. To all the philanthropic women of Impact 100 Redwood Circle: through our collective efforts, we will uplift our community!”

Two Merit Grants of \$12,500 each were also awarded Impact 100 Redwood Circle to 2021 finalists, Legal Aid of Sonoma County and Santa Rosa Community Health. The awards were announced at Impact 100 Redwood Circle’s Fall General Membership meeting on November 6, 2021 at Sonoma Country Day School. The announcement was the culmination of members participating in nominating Sonoma County nonprofits, Committee review of submitted Letters of Intent, and the selection of three finalists for a final membership vote.

In addition to the recently announced 2021 Impact and Merit Grants, Impact 100 Redwood Circle also awarded eight Community Grants of \$12,500 each earlier in the year. The organization's 2021 grants totalled \$225,000.

### **About The LIME Foundation**

The LIME Foundation provides educational resources, mentorship and career exploration in order to develop sustainable empowerment among our diverse communities. As a program of The LIME Foundation, The NextGen Trades Academy provides diverse vocational construction training and work/life skills to disadvantaged youth ages 16-24 within Sonoma County. Additional information is available at [www.thelimefoundation.org](http://www.thelimefoundation.org)

### **About Impact 100 Redwood Circle**

Impact 100 Redwood Circle is a giving circle that welcomes women of ages and experiences who are passionate about making their community a better place. Since 2016, the 249 members have granted \$990,000 to nonprofits throughout Sonoma County. All Impact 100 Redwood Circle funds are managed by the Community Foundation of Sonoma County, a 501(c)(3) organization. Additional information is available at [www.impact100redwoodcircle.org](http://www.impact100redwoodcircle.org)

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