



A grassroots 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and California public benefit corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 3/12/08

## **Spring Into Action Fundraiser and Social**

### **Girls Think Tank, Recent Recipient of Channel 10 Leadership Award, Gears up for Another Successful and Socially-Conscious Year.**

**San Diego, California** --- The Girls Think Tank was recently honored on Channel 10 as the recipient of a 2008 Leadership Award for its outreach and advocacy on behalf of San Diego's homeless population. A grassroots organization of women and men, the Girls Think Tank came up with the idea to distribute Winter Survival Backpacks to San Diego's homeless community and, last fall, held a Community Picnic in Balboa Park to "put a face on homelessness" by inviting community members to sit down with our homeless neighbors to enjoy a warm meal, entertainment and an open mic to express their concerns. Channel 10's leadership award spot aired on March 6, featuring founders Rachel Jensen and Alreen Haeggquist, along with other dedicated Think Tankers who were distributing much-needed goods at the temporary winter homeless shelter run by the Alpha Project.

**Come celebrate the Girls Think Tank's Leadership Award at their "Spring into Action" fundraiser on Thursday, March 20, 2008, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Mellow Wine Bar**, located in the new Liberty Station complex at 2556 Laning Road, San Diego. Mellow will provide complimentary hors d'oeuvres with 50% off selected wines and beers. The Girls Think Tank will raffle off donations of artwork and other fun prizes to support its mission. A suggested donation of \$10 is greatly appreciated, and guests who donate \$25 or more will receive an annual membership in the GTT. Guests are also encouraged to bring donations of raincoats, blankets, sleeping bags, socks, clothes, and toiletries.

Building on the momentum of people gathering together toward a common goal, the Girls Think Tank looks forward to pursuing other socially-conscious projects this year such as creating street survival packs for new mothers with infants, a Girls Leadership Academy in partnership with Lincoln High School, a Speaker Series and a project shedding light on the issue of human trafficking. "There's strength in numbers," says Ms. Jensen, co-founder and President of the Girls Think Tank, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. "Together we overcome the feeling that we are helpless to make a difference in our community." Come spring into action with the Girls Think Tank on March 20th!

The Girls Think Tank provides a forum for community, collaboration, creativity and hands-on public service. They are a diverse group of mothers, lawyers, teachers, organizers, artists, planners, and doers of various ages and points of view. Whether it's homelessness, trafficking of women, gang violence, or carbon emissions, Girls Think Tank members put their heads, hearts, and hands together to provide solutions that both provide a public service for the community and a sense of pride.

For more information about the GTT or the March 20<sup>th</sup> event at the Mellow Wine Bar, contact [girlsthinktank@gmail.com](mailto:girlsthinktank@gmail.com) or visit us at [www.girlsthinktank.org](http://www.girlsthinktank.org).

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**PLEASE INCLUDE IN THE CALENDAR SECTION – MEDIA ALERT!**

## **GTT Spring Into Action Fundraiser and Social**

### **Celebration of Channel 10 Leadership Award**

**WHO:** THE GIRLS THINK TANK

**WHAT:** “Spring Into Action” Fundraiser and Social. For \$10, you can come mingle with a great group of people and learn all about the Girls Think Tank’s new projects. For \$25, you receive a complimentary annual membership. Artwork and other fun prizes will be raffled off. Discounts on food and drinks graciously offered by Mellow Wine Bar. In-kind donations of ponchos and blankets are greatly appreciated.

**WHERE:** Mellow Wine Bar, 2556 Laning Road, San Diego, CA 92106.

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 20, 2008, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Suggested donation at the door is only \$10 (and tax-deductible!).

**MORE INFO:** Rachel Jensen, [rachelj@csgr.com](mailto:rachelj@csgr.com), 619/228-1686 (President)  
Virginia S. Loh, [virginialoh@cs.com](mailto:virginialoh@cs.com), 619/602-2384 (Vice-President)

**FEATURED SPEAKERS:**

Rachel Jensen, President of Girls Think Tank  
David Ross, San Diego’s “Water Man”

**ABOUT THE GIRLS THINK TANK:**

The Girls Think Tank was started last year by a group of local women who wanted to do more than just complain about the issues that concerned them: homelessness, gang violence, global warming. “Together we overcome the feeling that we are helpless to make a difference.” With a dozen or so core members, the Girls Think Tank has taken on the issue of homelessness in San Diego as its first issue and has been assessing the needs (both on a personal and advocacy level) of that community. One of the most effective things the Girls Think Tank is doing is putting a human face on the issue – the group goes out and meets homeless residents of San Diego, hands out survival packs (blankets, clothes, water, toiletries) that they get donated; circulates the stories of these seemingly invisible people to personalize their plight; and figures out what is most urgently needed. The Girls Think Tank’s strategy is two-fold: hands-on activism and advocating for services for this community. “We are starting to meet with our local representative for support on these basic necessities for the homeless in our community and are also asking people to come out and help provide basic necessities for these people. What is a small donation to you, buys a meal for someone in need.”

For more information about the GTT and our current projects, contact us by email at [girlsthinktank@gmail.com](mailto:girlsthinktank@gmail.com) or visit us at [www.girlsthinktank.org](http://www.girlsthinktank.org).