

For Immediate Release

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Carried on the Wings of Angels Miracles in Chula Vista

Chula Vista, California – For many of us the word miracles brings to mind winning the lottery, a cure for cancer, or even walking on water – big, grandiose events.

But for Dianna Woodley, Founder of Angel Harps, and a woman who spent two years of her life in a wheelchair, the word miracle brings visions of children with disabilities grinning from ear to ear as they play their very own, custom-made harp.

In August of 2001, Dianna’s life was drastically altered when she was diagnosed with chronic plantar fasciitis, a debilitating condition that altered her active life to one of constant pain and confinement to a wheelchair.

Dianna’s story might have ended there, but she learned of a therapy that used harp music to heal.

Though she could only afford a small portion of the therapy, the results were astounding. She began playing the harp and experienced the miracle of total recovery. “I’m a walking example of what healing music can do.”

Dianna says, “It’s not about me; it’s about the kids.” This motivated woman has always given to her community and in 1998 she received a Channel 10 Leadership Award for her work.

During her recovery process using sound healing with harps, Dianna dreamed of sharing her healing experience with disabled children. So in 2003, she established a non-profit organization called Angel Harps, whose mission is to distribute free healing harps to children with disabilities.

With the help of her harp maker Dwight Blevins of Colorado, Dianna makes available a specially designed “angel lap harp” that physically challenged children can easily use; and, through its healing tones, hasten their recovery to a full life without disability.

As Dianna prepares for the Annual Angel Harp’s Benefit Concert each May, she reflects on the other miracles surrounding the Angel Harps organization.

The compassionate, caring and generosity of her community is a miracle she experienced while still in a wheel chair.

As she rolled herself through more than 200 homes in Chula Vista asking for donations to get Angel Harps off the ground, almost every single family gave something.

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Local businesses support the cause and the generosity of huge companies such as Kohl's Department Stores amaze her. Miraculously these same groups donate regularly and sponsor the Annual Benefit Concert with money, advertising, and with products and services for the silent auction.

But one of the most delightful miracles is the pure joy on the faces of those who receive the harps. The most memorable of these to date was that on the face of the first recipient of an Angel Harp, Rosemarie Hernandez.

Dianna says, "Rosie, a child with Down's syndrome, received her harp in 2005 and it's the smile I saw on her face that day that keeps me doing what I do."

Rosie's mother wrote Dianna another note of thanks, "Rosie loves her harp. She still plays it everyday, and plays it from her heart. It has helped her in so many ways. I can't tell you how much I appreciate everything you've done for my daughter."

Providence stepped in and has brought some amazing people forward to help make the Angel Harps Mission a reality. World renowned harpists, harp makers, and others immersed in the "harp culture" believe in the mission and vision of Angel Harps.

Dwight Blevins, of Blevins Harps in Colorado believed and provides his specially designed lap harp that is easy for children with disabilities to play. As Dianna says, "You only need to strum it to play the tone and heal."

It has been a long road with many challenges; but now with the support of friends, community and businesses, Angel Harp's Annual Sound Healing Benefit Concert is now a regular event.

Little miracles are everywhere and Dianna is looking to create more everyday – not just in San Diego but all over the country. "I had to start somewhere and I can use all the help I can get to share these harps with special children everywhere. Even if all someone can do is bring a disabled child to the concert, that's a miracle, too."

The next fundraising concert will be held on Sunday, May 16, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church in Chula Vista (760 First Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910). Featured concert performers include harpist Kathleen Hartshorne and Elivia Melodey of Crystal Vibrations Music.

For more information about Angel Harps, to buy tickets for the concert, or become a sponsor, please call Dianna Woodley at (619) 518-6160 or visit www.angelharps.org. All proceeds will go to purchase harps for disabled children.

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For photos, interviews, or more information about Angel Harps, please call Dianna Woodley at 619-518-6160 or visit the online pressroom at <http://www.angelharps.org>