



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

Boys Club Director Melinda Brown shows Sentinel Publisher Fred McPherson III quake damage.

Earthquake-book proceeds help Boys Club, care home

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SANTA CRUZ — The Boys Club and Rose Acres residential care home will be among the first to receive disaster-relief money from sales of the earthquake book, "The Great Quake of 1989." The commemorative collection of photos and news stories is published by the Sentinel.

The Boys Club of Santa Cruz will get \$15,000 and Rose Acres is set to receive \$20,000 of the \$350,000 raised by book sales. Both establishments sustained heavy damage during the Oct. 17 earthquake.

After hearing of the award, Boys Club executive director Melinda Brown said, "I was really surprised and very happy — I'm overwhelmed by the support of the community."

Brown said the Boys Club's downtown clubhouse suffered \$25,000 in quake damages. The quake-book donation will go to repair a damaged indoor swimming pool. The 21-year-old organization sponsors athletics, crafts, and community service activities for boys and girls age 8 to 18 years.

Rose Acres, a Felton home for 25 mentally ill patients, risked losing its license if it failed to repair an estimated \$20,000 in quake damage. Owner Dominga Valera said she was flooded with offers of support from the community after the Sentinel carried the story of Rose Acres. With the quake-book grant assured, Valera said repairs should be under way next week.

"I can't believe it — this is wonderful," she said.

Sentinel Publisher Fred McPherson III said, that the Boys Club, with more than 1000 young members, was chosen because of its "broad reach" in the community.

The awards are meant to provide for people not covered by FEMA or other aid and loan agencies. The awards "are for people who have fallen between the cracks," McPherson said. "Rose Acres is a perfect example." One federal agency, according to Valera, said it couldn't help Rose Acres because it is a business and not a non-profit

organization. Another denied her a loan, she said, because the business doesn't make enough money.

McPherson called the situation a "classic Catch-22," and said that as more people find out that they can't quite qualify for federal money or loans, quake-book proceeds, unbound by red tape, would be available to them.

"We've got the money in the bank so we can write a check right now," said McPherson, "A lot of people need money right now."

Meals on Wheels, the first recipients of quake-book money, received \$12,000 earlier this month. The award covers the cost of providing

meals in January to additional home-bound seniors who needed meals after the earthquake.

"The Great Quake of 1989" features photography, and articles written and edited by Sentinel staff. At \$10.95 a copy, sales have already generated \$350,000. Two printings of 25,000 copies have sold out, and another 35,000 books are on the way.

In disbursing proceeds from the book, The Sentinel will consider written requests for aid from organizations left in need by the quake, and place emphasis on those ineligible for FEMA money or loans.

REFERENCE

SANTA CRUZ LIBRARY
Aptos, California