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**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **San Antonio Area Foundation Announces Gift of Santikos Theatres, Real Estate Developments**

***More than \$6M to be distributed this year from the John L. Santikos Charitable Foundation Fund***

**SAN ANTONIO (Wednesday, April 15, 2015)** – The [San Antonio Area Foundation](#) announced today a gift from Mr. John L. Santikos of the ownership interests in the Santikos companies, which includes multiple theatres and real estate developments. The Area Foundation has established the John L. Santikos Charitable Foundation, a fund of the Area Foundation, which will hold the gifts. The companies will remain in operation under the Area Foundation. Cash flow generated will be used for charitable purposes according to the guidelines left by Mr. Santikos. The Area Foundation anticipates that this legacy gift will increase our impact, but does not have a valuation at this time.

More than \$6 million will be distributed this year from the John L. Santikos Charitable Foundation Fund. This includes a \$255,000 matching contribution to [The Big Give S.A.](#), \$200,000 to United Way initiatives and more than \$2 million to the Area Foundation's annual competitive grants program. The Area Foundation is currently evaluating the most impactful ways to grant additional funds in a manner that benefits both the community and honors the legacy of Mr. Santikos. Additional funds will be granted at the end of 2015. His desire was to support a wide range of charitable programs in the areas of:

- People in need (seniors, individuals with special needs, victims of child abuse and disaster relief)
- Youth and education (K-12 and higher education)
- Public libraries, parks and museums
- Arts and culture
- Health and wellness

Mr. Santikos also named two specific organizations that will receive annual support from the fund: International Orthodox Christian Charities and Doctors Without Borders. The Area Foundation has been in contact with both organizations.

The Area Foundation is working closely with the Santikos leadership team to develop a set of guiding principles based on the values that Mr. Santikos lived out in his daily life. The Area Foundation will work hard to fully integrate Mr. Santikos' principles through the Area Foundation's annual grants program and its relationship with Santikos Theatres and its affiliated real estate companies in order to achieve a lasting legacy for Mr. Santikos.

**ABOUT THE SAN ANTONIO AREA FOUNDATION:** The San Antonio Area Foundation, established in 1964, is San Antonio's community foundation, which makes grants from funds established by individuals, families, businesses or other entities to support charitable causes in our community. The Area Foundation manages nearly \$280 million in assets and has distributed more than \$240 million in grants and scholarships to educate youth, preserve the environment, protect animals, fund research and provide services that enhance the quality of life for people living in and around San Antonio. To learn more, visit [saafdn.org](http://saafdn.org).

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