



Home

- ▶ Cover Stories
- ▶ Features

Downtown Real Estate Agents Guide



## Daily Business Report

December 26, 2007

### NONPROFITS

The San Diego-based **International Community Foundation** will establish the **ICF Center for Cross-Border Philanthropy** in National City to help promote greater cross-cultural understanding. It will be located on the former property of **John Walton**, the late son of **Sam Walton** and heir to **Wal-Mart**, and his wife **Christy**. The property features organic gardens and an old Victorian home, originally built in 1896 for Oliver Noyes, the former postmaster of National City. After undergoing renovations in 1989 to preserve its structure and gardens, the house was gifted by the Walton family to ICF in 2006 for use in furthering international charitable deeds. The Waltons recently made a \$4 million endowment gift to ICF to protect and preserve the property in perpetuity.

"A gift of this significance to promote cross-border philanthropy should inspire other philanthropic organizations to not only expand charitable giving internationally, but also to do more to address the needs in border communities like National City," says **Mary L. Walshok**, chair of the board of governors, ICF. "This is the beginning of an exciting future for ICF, the border region and San Diego's South Bay."

International Community Foundation also will move its headquarters from North County to the National City house at 2525 N Ave.

A key focus area for the ICF Center for Cross-Border Philanthropy will be promoting health and nutrition because South Bay has a high rate of diabetes. Working with Chula Vista-based Los Niños International, the property's organic gardens will be used to engage San Diego- and Tijuana-area children, families and senior citizens to promote healthy eating and living.