

# **GLOBAL EXCHANGE**

**Ventura County Supporters**

## **MICROFINANCE**

**Strategies to provide financial services to the poor will be discussed by three experts in a panel format.**

**Wednesday, December 16, 2009**

**7:00 P.M- 8:30 P.M.**

**Grant Brimhall Thousand Oaks Library  
1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA**

### **Our Panel:**

**Nancy Gallagher is Chair of the Middle East Studies Program and Professor of History at U. C. Santa Barbara. She visited Afghanistan in 2008 and will discuss the role of microfinance organizations in rebuilding the Afghan economy, including why some organizations are more effective than others.**

**Karon Wright is President and Co-founder of The Greater Contribution, a locally based nonprofit organization which helps women and their families work their way out of poverty using micro loans. Karon received national recognition as a “Vibrant Giver” for her work fighting poverty. She will discuss The Greater Contribution’s funding of micro loans, benefiting 10,500 people in the last eleven months in East Africa.**

**Kailash Narayan is President of India Friends Association (IFA) a non-profit organization based in the Conejo Valley. IFA’s project called Society for Rural Improvement has more than 12 years experience using the Grameen micro-credit banking model, and has regularly achieved a repayment rate of close to 100%.**

**A question and answer period will follow the presentation.  
The program is free and open to the public.**

**GLOBAL EXCHANGE Ventura County Supporters**

**[www.globalexchangeventuracountysupporters.org](http://www.globalexchangeventuracountysupporters.org)**

**For further Information, Contact: 805-405-7516**

**The Global Exchange Ventura County Supporters is a group of people - a community of conscience - dedicated to providing local monthly public forums, supporting and working with other local organizations committed to social and economic justice, human rights and ecological sustainability. Global Exchange, headquartered in San Francisco, is an international human rights organization dedicated to promoting environmental, political and social justice. Since our founding in 1988, we have increased the US public's global awareness while building partnerships worldwide.**

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