FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 23, 2015

Contact: Coral Itzcalli, (213) 321-7332, coral.itzcalli@seiu721.org

Mike Long, (213) 400-5533, mike.long@seiu721.org

San Bernardino Memorial and Victims Fund Launched as Part of Multiyear Effort to Support the Long-Term Needs of San Bernardino Victims and Families

LOS ANGELES, CA – As families gather to mark the Holiday Season, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 721, in collaboration with Labor Community Services, are launching a multiyear memorial fund to benefit the families of those killed on December 2, 2015, as well as to provide support to the San Bernardino County employees directly impacted by the tragedy. Contributions will come from SEIU, community organizations, and members of the general public. Donations can be made online by visiting: LaborCommunityServicesLA.org

"This senseless act of violence has forever changed the lives of these families, and because the financial and emotional needs of those impacted will remain long after this tragedy stops making headlines, we are launching a long-term effort," said Bob Schoonover, President of SEIU Local 721. "There is no better way to honor the lives of those who were lost than to ensure that their loved ones feel supported as they heal from this tragedy."

David Green, Treasurer for SEIU Local 721, will lead the process of establishing a committee to administer the fund. Comprised of SEIU Local 721 executive board members, (union-wide representatives, democratically selected by their peers) this committee will oversee fundraising, and produce guidelines for the distribution of funds.

"Our urgent task is to expeditiously provide these monies to those who need them," explained Green. "We are committed to the process laid out by Labor Community Services for the long-term, as this tragedy's impact will last well into the New Year, forever transforming day-to-day life, not just holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions."

To give, please click here http://www.laborcommunityservicesla.org.