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ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S "PRESERVING DIGNITY" GIVING DAY RAISES $389,684

Funds Help Seven Local Nonprofits Provide Resources to Older Adults in Need

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (July 15, 2021) — On July 14, the Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) hosted *Preserving Dignity* – a collaborative Giving Day for seven nonprofits serving OC's older adults in need. During the 24-hours online effort, 364 donors helped raise $389,684 for these organizations.

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the lives of millions of Americans, especially older adults. In Orange County, there are more than 450,000 adults aged 65 and older, which accounts for 14.3% of the population.[1] By 2045, this number is projected to increase to 17.3%.[2] According to the Orange County Strategic Plan for Aging, adults will face a new set of economic, social, health, and lifestyle challenges associated with aging, and Orange County is not able to provide adequate support of this growing population.

The $389,684 raised during *Preserving Dignity* will allow the seven nonprofits to provide a range of resources, including meals, housing, domestic violence services, hospice care, engagement opportunities, caregiver support, and more. The participating organizations included Alzheimer's Orange County, Council on Aging – Southern California, Human Options, Inc., Meals on Wheels Orange County, SoulRapha, Southern California Hospice Foundation, and St. Francis Home of the Franciscan Missionary Sister of the I C Inc.

"We are so grateful to everyone who supported the *Preserving Dignity* Giving Day and the organizations working tirelessly to ensure Orange County's older adults have the resources they need to live high-quality, independent lives," said Shelley Hoss, president and CEO, OCCF. "We are continuously amazed by the generosity of our local Orange County community, which united to help support our most vulnerable neighbors."

Preserving Dignity is part of OCCF's iheartOC Collaborative Giving Days, an annual initiative that designates cause-specific giving days focused on critical community issues. The online giving model

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[1] https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/orangecountycalifornia
[2] https://www.ocagingplan.org/agingreport/

matches OC nonprofits with shared missions – from homelessness and workforce development to preserving ecosystems and supporting local veterans – to create momentum on one shared day and leverage a combined outreach effort for collective success. In 2020, the 10 days secured support from nearly 6,500 donors and raised a record $3.2 million for 98 nonprofits. Since its start in 2015, OCCF's Collaborative Giving Days have raised more than $13 million for Orange County nonprofits.

For more information about Orange County Community Foundation Collaborative Giving Days, please visit oc-cf.org/givingdays.

About Orange County Community Foundation
Founded in 1989, the Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) works with donors, strengthens the local nonprofit sector and works to find solutions to community needs. Since its inception, OCCF has awarded nearly $780 million in grants and scholarships, placing the organization in the top two percent in grantmaking among U.S. community foundations. For more information, visit oc-cf.org or call 949-553-4202. Be a part of our conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. View OCCF's 2020 annual report here.

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