

Media Contact
Ranggin Hedayat
Reveille, Inc.
949.394.1454
ranggin@reveilleinc.com



**ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION MAKES \$150,000 LOAN TO
THE ECOLOGY CENTER'S FARM STAND**

*Funding Will Support The Ecology Center's Efforts to Bring Sustainable Living and
Local Produce to Orange County Families*

Newport Beach, Calif. (August 7, 2019) – The Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) has made a \$150,000 program-related investment in The Ecology Center to redesign its Farm Stand in San Juan Capistrano, building on a decade-long effort to bring sustainable living and locally grown, organic produce to Orange County families.

This support will allow The Ecology Center to remodel the Farm Stand's infrastructure to enhance customer service and traffic flow, incorporate dry goods and pantry products, and make other modifications required to provide the community with more seasonal ingredients. The Farm Stand is the cornerstone of The Ecology Center's plan to develop a 28-acre community farm intended to serve as an incubator for future farmers, chefs and educators while demonstrating the potential of the sustainable food movement.

"OCCF is proud to support The Ecology Center's efforts to provide healthy, organic produce and nutritional education to our community," said Shelley Hoss, president of OCCF. "By supporting organizations that benefit community health and well-being, we are not only meeting the current needs of Orange County residents, but positively impacting generations to come."

For the last 30 years, OCCF has facilitated innovative, impactful philanthropy supporting a wide range of causes including health and wellness as well as human services, education, the arts, the environment, community development and more.

Founded in 2008, The Ecology Center (TEC) has a mission to educate, inspire and empower people in the stewardship of ecological design and sustainability in the core areas of Water, Grow, Eat, and Make. Open seven days a week, the Farm Stand provides the community with organic, local, seasonal ingredients and tools to nourish families and support a thriving ecosystem. The Farm Stand, in its current iteration, has been in business since 1998, previously having been owned and operated by South Coast Farms. The Farm Stand, located at 32701 Alipaz Street in San Juan Capistrano, is open Mondays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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 more than \$600 million in grants and scholarships and ranks in the top two percent in grantmaking activity among more than 780 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 2018 annual report [here](#).

###