“the hardest thing to give away is kindness: it always comes back to you”
People give to people. We’ve heard it before. Now take a look—at a handful of photos, here, from three decades of giving by people to people. The snaps here are from Orange County Community Foundation archives. OCCF is the largest local nonprofit with about $150 million in annual revenue.

President Shelley Hoss told the Business Journal the group grants about $80 million a year to 2,500 recipients—up from $4 million on about 750 grants 20 years ago. In that time, assets have grown from $40 million to $404 million.

Assets speak to endowment—“especially important for a community foundation”—and a 10-fold increase in assets speaks to OCCF’s connection to some of the savviest community leaders to grip a lectern or cut a ribbon in service of others.

30 Years of Foundation Philanthropy

A History of Community Giving in 6 Snapshots

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1989

OCCF founder Judy Swayne, her husband Keith Swayne; Judy died, 2014; Keith currently chairs OCCF board

1993

Judy Swayne, Kathy Dyer Southern, Henry Segerstrom, Harriet Wieder at conference to launch now-independent Arts Orange County

1999

Thomas and Marilyn Nielsen, Judy Swayne, Robert McKay, Ginny & Peter Ueberroth at OCCF annual meeting

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2014

Aaron Teats, Michael Colglazier, Shelley Hoss, Mark Merhab, Vicki Booth, Dennis Kuhl gather for launch of ACT Anaheim, initiated by Disneyland Resort, Angels Baseball and Anaheim Ducks; today: 22 funders awarding $6.8 million to date for 29,000 people

2015

Members of OCCF staff, Anaheim Ballet, and Chamber Music OC, at first ‘OC Giving Day,’ which has raised $6.7 million to date

2018

Mike Mussallem, keynote speaker at OCCF’s annual meeting, spoke of his and wife Linda’s giving in support of those with Down syndrome
Plug in to Accelerate Impact

BY SHELLEY HOSS, PRESIDENT

For 30 years, the Orange County Community Foundation has helped individuals and families discover their charitable passions, plug into their visions for change and accelerate positive impact in our county and beyond. We’ve seen single gifts set the stage for lifelong philanthropic commitment, ideas spark programs that change lives and collaboration transform communities.

Now, as we enter our 30th year and look to the future of philanthropy in Orange County, we’re sharing a few powerful stories of impact — of donors and partners working innovatively and collaboratively for the good of our community.

Accelerators of Impact

Reshma Block: From Early Challenges to Philanthropic Champion

Like many families in 2008, the economic downturn created very real challenges for Reshma Block and her husband, Ryan. But despite the hurdles and hardships of this downturn, they discovered an amazing opportunity. A friend introduced Reshma and Ryan to a simple concept: Give what you want to receive. The courageous couple was inspired, so they opened a fund at OCCF, made their first grants and saw their situation begin to change.

Today, Reshma is a highly engaged and results-oriented philanthropic leader and innovator. She is OCCF’s incoming Board Chair and has been instrumental in the formation of a new giving circle to amplify the vision and insights of Asian Pacific Islander (API) women in philanthropy. The API Women’s Giving Circle will explore the needs and challenges of the API community in Orange County and determine key opportunities for philanthropic investment.

“Effective and enduring philanthropy requires both passion and innovation,” says Reshma. “Rather than look to others to address our most important issues, we should be part of the discussion and part of the solution — even if it means starting small. Start with a little bit of time. A little bit of money. Start where you can. Start giving with passion and you’ll be amazed at the transformation.”

Robert Brunswick: Partnerships for the Sound of Success

Since 1990, Robert Brunswick has led Buchanan Street Partners — one of Orange County’s top real estate investment firms — with entrepreneurial creativity and heart. He used these same two traits when founding Buchanan Children’s Charities as the philanthropic arm of the business. Driven by a commitment to measurably improve the quality of life and education opportunities for children, Robert partnered with OCCF to bolster his Music Matters program, which restarts public school music programs across the county. He leveraged both music education fund and expertise to identify high-need school districts that needed help most. Together, Buchanan Children’s Charities and OCCF have granted $420,000 since 2015 to purchase instruments and provide music instruction to low-income students whose musical potential would otherwise be an unattainable dream.

“Buchanan Street Partners is committed to making a difference in the lives of children in our community,” says Robert Brunswick. “Our collaboration with OCCF helps us to be more innovative and impactful in our philanthropic efforts, ensuring thousands of students can benefit from public school music programs.”

Patrick Donahue: Joining Forces for OC Veterans

Orange County is home to more than 130,000 veterans, but for many navigating the transition from service to civilian life is the greatest challenge of their military career. To give them the welcome home they deserve, OCCF partnered with generous donors, community organizations and business leaders to create the Orange County Veterans Initiative (OCVI).

Under the leadership of Patrick Donahue, Chairman and CEO of Donahue Schriber, the real estate industry has been instrumental in accelerating the mission and positive impact of OCVI. This year, the 4th annual Orange County Real Estate Luncheon convened more than 600 top real estate and financial professionals to raise more than $700,000 for Orange County nonprofits serving the veteran community.

“Our luncheon is about so much more than just raising funds,” says Pat Donahue. “We want to demonstrate the power of collaborative, industry-wide action and make a tangible impact on veterans in our community. By partnering with OCCF, we know the proceeds are in the hands of the best nonprofits and our contributors are getting an excellent return on their charitable investment.”

To date, OCVI has granted over $3 million to nonprofits reaching more than 17,000 veterans and their families.

Want to Learn More? Join Us!

You’re invited to attend our 30th Anniversary Annual Meeting November 20 at Hotel Irvine. We’ll celebrate the power of philanthropy to fast forward change for good and hear from three inspirational speakers talking a personalized approach to charitable impact.

Visit oc-cf.org/2019AM to register. We hope to see you there!

30 YEARS OF ACCELERATING PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT

With more than $400MM in assets, OCCF ranks in the top 7 percent among more than 780 U.S. community foundations.

OCCF is home to more than 570 charitable funds benefiting a wide range of causes, including human services, education, health and wellness, arts and the environment, community development and scholarships.

OCCF ranks in the top one percent in grantmaking among community foundation peers. More than $60MM in grants and scholarships have been awarded since inception.

For more information, please contact OCCF at 949.553.4202 or visit oc-cf.org
ACCELERATING Impact

Fast Forward Change for Good

JOIN US for the Orange County Community Foundation’s 30th Anniversary Annual Meeting where we will celebrate the power and potential of philanthropy to fast forward change for good in Orange County and beyond.

DON’T MISS THE INSPIRATIONAL STORIES OF LEADERS TAKING A PERSONAL APPROACH TO PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT

Reshma Block, a tech entrepreneur and philanthropic innovator on the transformative power of giving to receive.

Ranney Draper, a leading real estate developer and entrepreneur, in conversation with his son Ranney Blake Draper on the rewards of family giving.

Jake Olson, former USC long snapper and first fully-blind collegiate football player, on turning a setback into his greatest set up for impact.

NOVEMBER
20
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Hotel Irvine
17900 Jamboree Road
Irvine, CA 92614

RSVP by November 8, 2019 online at oc-cf.org/2019AM

Tickets:
$75/each

Table of 10:
$750

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