

Media Contact

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

**ORANGE COUNTY COMES TOGETHER AMID PANDEMIC TO RAISE \$153,094 IN ONLY 24 HOURS FOR LOCAL VETERANS**

Hosted by the Orange County Community Foundation, Stand and Salute Giving Day Attracts 437 Donors

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (May 21, 2020) — On May 20, seven local nonprofit organizations partnered with the Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) to host the third annual *Stand and Salute*, a Giving Day to honor OC veterans and military families. The 24-hour effort raised \$153,094 with participation from 437 donors.

“We are thrilled with the success of this third annual *Stand and Salute* Giving Day. In the midst of a health and economic crisis, the Orange County community stepped up at a time they were needed most,” said Shelley Hoss, president and CEO, OCCF. “The funds raised will provide much-needed support to our military veterans and their families at the time it is needed most.”

Orange County is home to approximately 130,000 veterans—the third highest county-wide population in California. With new economic and health challenges arising from the pandemic, veterans are at a significantly increased risk of financial insecurity, among other needs. According to a new study by the researchers from the Economic Roundtable, 87% of positions in Orange County are in industries deemed “non-essential,” putting Southern Californians’ jobs in limbo due to stay-at-home mandates.

Together, the *Stand and Salute* Giving Day organizations are working to meet the needs of veterans and their families through a variety of support services including financial assistance, employment, healthcare and housing support, mental health support, mentorship, counseling and much more. The participating nonprofits included 211 Orange County, Bob Hope USO, Goodwill of Orange County, Strength in Support, Strong Families Strong Children, Support the Enlisted Project (STEP) and Working Wardrobes.

This Giving Day is the latest of a series that, to date, has raised more than \$10 million for Orange County nonprofits. OCCF first challenged Orange County residents to “give where their heart lives” during the inaugural i♥oc Giving Day in 2015, raising more than \$1.8 million for 347 participating nonprofits in just 30 hours. In 2018, OCCF restructured i♥oc as an expanded opportunity for nonprofits to connect with one another in support of their shared missions.

Additional collaborative Giving Days will be announced over the coming year. For more information, please visit oc-cf.org/iheartoc.

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 \$690 million in grants and scholarships and ranks in the top one 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 2019 annual report [here](#).

###