OC COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND AWARDS TOTAL OF $4.18 MILLION TO 162 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS SERVING THOSE MOST IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Funds Raised and Distributed in Just Two Months Have Improved Access to Medical Care, Food and Shelter for Residents in Need

Newport Beach, Calif. (June 15, 2020) – With $1.9M awarded to 87 nonprofits in its third round of granting, the OC Community Resilience Fund has now awarded a total of $4.18M to 162 nonprofits, community health clinics and support for individuals. The Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF), St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund, Charitable Ventures and regional funding partners launched the OC Community Resilience Fund in March.

“The significant funds raised and awarded through the OC Community Resilience Fund in such a short amount of time shows Orange County at its best: Compassion in action,” said Shelley Hoss, President and CEO, OCCF. “Although the original purpose of emergency rapid-response funding is complete, the Fund remains open as a ready resource for individual and foundation funders looking to provide highest and best use for philanthropic resources.”

The Fund’s coordinated philanthropic effort to support nonprofit organizations working to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on Orange County’s most vulnerable residents allowed the region’s foundations and donors to focus resources, share infrastructure, streamline efforts, support innovative response and maximize impact in areas of greatest need.

The most pressing needs are basic and critical, such as food, shelter, health care and other urgent services. These immediate challenges have been compounded by increased costs as nonprofits reconfigure programs and service delivery to ensure physical distancing, secure personal protective equipment and intensify hygiene protocols. Funding decisions were guided by several factors, including the immediate and current provision of essential services to vulnerable residents; the ability to distribute emergency funding to vulnerable individuals; organizational capacity to reach the most underserved; and an opportunity to leverage other streams of revenue and coordinated support efforts.

"Urgent needs have skyrocketed in the past few months; our program operations and sustainability have been significantly impacted. In-language resources for COVID-19 relief remain crucially lacking for our Cambodian community, while MediCal and CalFresh enrollments have increased over 50% and unemployment application assistance has increased over 500%,” said Vattana Peong, Executive Director of The Cambodian Family Community Center (TCF). “Despite these challenges, TCF has connected more than 3,100 individuals with housing assistance, food access, tele-mental health counseling, unemployment assistance and other basic needs since March 16, 2020. The OC Community Resilience Fund has allowed us to expeditiously and directly meet the increasing needs of our diverse, underserved communities in Orange County.”
Grants awarded to Orange County nonprofits provided much-needed assistance at just the right time. Community clinics used the grants they received to purchase PPE and cover increases in equipment costs as they dispose of instruments under COVID-19 protocols. Other organizations were able to restructure their set-ups to provide safe childcare for essential workers. Still others providing basic need items such as food, hygiene supplies and more, quickly created drive-through or alternative delivery methods to get these necessary items safely into their clients’ hands.

“The OC Community Resilience Fund has enabled the Delhi Center to continue serving our most vulnerable residents, allowing us to remain open as an essential service provider and continue to offer food to more than 200 resident per week,” said Jenny Rios, CEO, Delhi Center. “We continue to help residents apply for financial resources, reduce phone and utility costs, prevent utility shut-offs and evictions, and to link families to other resources in addition to providing food as a result of the OC Community Resilience Fund.”

To learn more about the OC Community Resilience Fund and view a complete list of grant recipients, visit: https://charitableventuresoc.org/resiliencefund/

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 $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.

About St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund
The St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund makes strategic investments in the health and well-being of communities across the Western United States. The Fund works to reduce health disparities and promote equity by investing in systems-level impacts on community health issues, and strengthening partnerships and collaboration. Our investments fall into the following four categories: building capacity and partnerships, promoting justice and community leaders, investing in best practices and new ideas, and caring for the vulnerable. For more information, please visit: http://stjosehcpf.org/

About Charitable Ventures
Charitable Ventures was launched in 2007 to encourage the growth of innovative regional nonprofits and to build the capacity of the nonprofit sector. As a regional incubator, Charitable Ventures has fiscally sponsored more than 60 community projects and regional initiatives since inception. In 2020, Charitable Ventures anticipates sponsoring more than 35 active projects on track to raise between $14 and $16 million, and is the region’s Administrative Community Based Organization for the 2020 Census. Visit charitableventuresoc.org for more information.

About Orange County Grantmakers
Orange County Grantmakers is a community of philanthropists committed to improving outcomes for Orange County and beyond. Our mission is to advance social impact by supporting, strengthening and building adaptive leadership across our nonprofit and philanthropic community.

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