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\$304,827 RAISED IN 24 HOURS TO SUPPORT NONPROFITS SERVING ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH, EXCEEDING ORIGINAL FUNDRAISING GOAL BY 244%

Hosted by the Orange County Community Foundation, 12 Local Nonprofits Came Together for Igniting Potential Giving Day

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (September 24, 2020) — On September 23, the Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF) hosted *Igniting Potential*, an online Giving Day to support nonprofits serving Orange County youth. This 24-hour online effort raised \$304,827 from 700 donors, whose contributions far exceeded the Giving Day’s original \$125,000 fundraising goal, in support of a population that has been deeply affected by the pandemic’s impact on education and extracurricular activities.

“In the midst of a public health crisis, we have found strength in collaboration,” said Shelley Hoss, president and CEO, OCCF. “By coming together as a community, we were able to raise \$304,827 in critical funding for the resources and services Orange County youth need to thrive.”

The 12 participating nonprofits included Assistance League Irvine; Helping Others Prepare for Eternity (H.O.P.E.); Irvine Public Schools Foundation; Kid Healthy; KidWorks; The Literacy Project; MOMS Orange County; Orange County Council, Boy Scouts of America; Pretend City Children’s Museum; Parentis Foundation; Scholar’s Hope and The Youth Center.

Now in its third year, *Igniting Potential* is the latest in a series of Collaborative Giving Days launched by OCCF to boost the capacity of local nonprofits, all of whom are striving to overcome the operational challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic so that they may continue their vital services to the community. These youth-focused nonprofits have been forced to close operations or turn to virtual alternatives for their communities—many who are at risk and in need of support and resources, especially in a time of crisis. For example, Parentis Foundation has collaborated with its after-school program partners by providing over 100 weekly online reading sessions and delivering over 150 book kits to tutors and students. Helping Others Prepare for Eternity (H.O.P.E.) in Garden Grove, which supports abandoned or abused women and children, has persisted with a drive-up emergency food distribution, which has doubled the amount of food distributed and the number of people served each month. Prenatal and parenting classes from MOMS Orange County have continued virtually to give parents support in their parenting journey and continue to build community. While its doors remain closed, Pretend City Children’s Museum’s “Play @ Home” series has given families purposeful play videos supporting health child development at home.

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.

For more information about collaborative Giving Days, 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 more than \$730 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](#).

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