PHILANTHROPY
By Kim Human | philanthropy@oczj.com

Welcome Aboard
(top row) Jason Lacamasana, senior program officer, St. Joseph’s; Terrie Dozak, program officer, Support Foundation; Joanna Kong, director of programs, Sun Family Foundation; (middle row) Tiffany Alva, director of partnerships and government affairs, First Five Orange County; Adriana Galdames, public affairs manager, Cox Communications; John Guastaferra, executive director, Anaheim Community Foundation; (bottom row) Ben Drutman, executive director, Simon Scholars; Nate Brown, SVP, Pimco; Cathleen Otero, VP, donor relations and programs, OCZF

Orange County Grantmakers (OCG) recently welcomed new members to its executive board. Known as Orange County Funders Roundtable until 2018, OCG, established in 2006, is a funder collaborative which, since its inception, has granted hundreds of millions of dollars in Orange County. OCG’s priority areas include housing, education, access to healthcare, jobs and skills, and food insecurity.

The new executive board members include leaders from a broad range of industry, nonprofit and governmental organizations. Among its duties, the executive board provides direction for the board and steers them toward helping address and prioritize important issues.

New members include Jason Lacamasana, senior program officer, St. Joseph’s; Terrie Dozak, program officer, Weingart Foundation; Joanna Kong, director of programs, Sun Family Foundation; Tiffany Alva, director of partnerships and government affairs, First Five Orange County; Adriana Galdames, public affairs manager, Cox Communications; John Guastaferra, executive director, Anaheim Community Foundation, Nate Brown, senior vice president, Pimco; Ben Drutman, executive director, Simon Scholars; and Cathleen Otero, vice president, donor relations and programs, Orange County Community Foundation.

Building the Future
▶ Ling Zhang, Charlie Zhang, founder, Pick Up Stix; principal founder, Zion Enterprises

In January, Charlie Zhang, founder, Pick Up Stix and principal founder, Zion Enterprises, and his wife, Ling, donated the $6.2 million building that houses the Pacific Symphony’s administrative headquarters to the organization. Because of this donation, the Symphony projects it will save at least $150,000 per year on rent for the 15,399-square-foot space.

“When on behalf of Ling and myself, we are pleased to be able to present this building as a gift to Pacific Symphony,” Zhang said. “The orchestra has meant so much to both of us, and we are proud to be able to support all the amazing artists of this wonderful orchestra.”

Pacific Symphony’s administrative offices are next to Orange County Music and Dance (OCMD), an adjacent parcel that was previously gifted by the Zhangs to OCMD, which Zhang co-founded with Doug Freeman, founder of National Philanthropy Day. John Forsyte, president, Pacific Symphony, sits on OCMD’s board of directors, helping create close coordination with the orchestra’s nationally recognized education and community engagement programs.

“Charlie Zhang is a visionary, both as a businessman and a philanthropist,” Forsyte said. “With his wife Ling, they have transformed the landscape of Orange County philanthropy.”

Rock Those Socks!
▶ Jeffrey Roos, regional president, Lerner Corp.; Wing Lam, founder, Wahoo’s Fish Taco; Charles Antis, founder and CEO, Antis Roofing & Waterproofing

Charles Antis, founder & CEO, Antis Roofing & Waterproofing; Wing Lam, owner, Wahoo’s Fish Taco; and Henry DiCarlo, meteorologist and sportscaster, KTLA 5 Morning News were among Ronald McDonald House Orange County (RMHOC) supporters who donned colorful striped socks on Feb. 10 to celebrate Rock the Socks Day.

Rock the Socks is both an ambassador program designed to increase community awareness about RMHOC and a fundraiser. Participants pledge to a $500 minimum annual give and commit to wearing RMHOC’s signature socks on special days and providing a picture to be uploaded to RMHOC’s social media accounts. The funds raised enables RMHOC to help families stay close to their children when they need treatment for a serious medical condition by providing a home-like setting, close to the region’s top hospitals, where families can stay free of charge for as long as necessary.

Addressing a Growing Need
▶ Barry Asuquo, CEO, MemorialCare; Marcia Manker, CEO, MemorialCare Orange Coast, Saddleback Medical Centers; Cathy Capaldi, SVP business development, MemorialCare; Marshall Moncrief, CEO, Be Well OC

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that more than 40% of U.S. adults are struggling with mental health or substance abuse because of the pandemic.

In response to the unprecedented need for mental health services during the pandemic, MemorialCare has opened its virtual mental health resource, SilverCloud, to all members of the public, whether or not they are MemorialCare members, at no cost. SilverCloud provides an on-demand, virtual mental health platform that offers digital behavioral healthcare via evidence-based content, programs and support. Anyone can sign up and customize their mental health program by joining the program directly through MemorialCare.

MemorialCare is also one of the key participants in the development of Be Well OC, a public-private partnership involving several government agencies, hospital systems, and non-profits designed to address the growing need for mental and behavioral health services. The flagship Be Well OC campus opened in January in Orange; it is the first of three planned campuses that will offer comprehensive crisis intervention to those in need. For more information, see the Jan. 25 print edition of the Business Journal.

Bits & Pieces
As the first-ever naming gift for the IVC Performing Arts Center, Masoud Rezaanor, Irvine resident and retired CPA, pledged $250,000 to Irvine Valley College and the Irvine Valley College Foundation to provide enrichment opportunities for the music department at the college, which will be acknowledged by renaming the Main Stage of the Performing Arts the “Rezaanor Stage.” ... Think Together and Orenda Education received a $100,000 grant from the Croul Foundation Family Foundation to support their equity-focused work at 13 schools in the Orange Unified School District by providing the district with a baseline for better understanding the systems and conditions that are producing current student outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable students including Black and Latino students. ... On Feb. 10, the Orange County Community Foundation hosted its third annual Love Is Giving Day, a 24-hour online effort to support healthy teen relationships in Orange County raising more than $113,000 from nearly 500 donors.