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## ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HOLDS *LOVE IS GIVING* DAY TO SUPPORT HEALTHY TEEN RELATIONSHIPS

**24-hour fundraiser seeks to raise \$100K for nonprofits committed to supporting, educating and empowering Orange County teens**

**NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (Jan. 26, 2022)** — On February 9, 2022, the [Orange County Community Foundation](#) (OCCF) will host the fourth annual *Love Is Giving Day*, a 24-hour collaborative giving day to encourage healthy teen relationships in Orange County. The Giving Day aims to raise \$100,000 for local nonprofits committed to supporting, educating and empowering local teens.

Upticks in self-harm, suicide, [domestic abuse](#) and [hate crime](#) cases in Orange County persist as the pandemic maintains its grip on communities. Depression and anxiety in youth have doubled compared to pre-pandemic levels with one in four adolescents experiencing clinically elevated depression symptoms. A sense of normalcy and stability in schools have yet to return, causing stress and instability in children, a top predictor of [suicide ideation](#). The participating nonprofits in the *Love Is Giving Day* have also seen increased calls and need for supportive services, including Laura's House, a domestic violence shelter in Orange County, which [reported 435 calls](#) in May 2021 compared to 229 calls a year prior.

After nearly two years of school closures or social distancing requirements cutting off primary sources of psychological support and social connection for many teens, the *Love Is Giving Day* is an opportunity for donors to deliver life-changing assistance to those who need it most. The partnering nonprofits – focused in mental health support, domestic violence prevention, and LGBTQ+ advocacy – share the joint mission of helping Orange County teens achieve well-being.

"The past two years have taken a staggering toll on the mental health and stability of our youth. With the sharp increase in teen self-harm and domestic violence throughout the pandemic, the support of our community is needed now more than ever," said Shelley Hoss, president and CEO of the Orange County Community Foundation. "We are honored to help facilitate the *Love Is Giving Day* to eradicate cycles of hate and abuse and build an Orange County that helps all our residents to thrive."

During the 24-hour online campaign, funds will be raised for: [Crittenton Services](#); [Laura's House](#); [LGBTQ Center Orange County](#); [OC Pride](#); [Planned Parenthood – Orange & San Bernardino Counties, Inc.](#); [The Priority Center](#); [UCI Law](#); and [Women's Transitional Living Center, Inc.](#)

(more)

OCCF hopes the campaign will shed light on some prevalent issues facing Orange County teens and raise awareness for available resources. Held during Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month and with Valentine’s Day around the corner, the Giving Day challenges Orange County to redefine what *Love Is* and inspires individuals to recognize their unique value.

*Love Is* remains part of OCCF’s iheartOC Collaborative Giving Days, an annual initiative that designates cause-specific giving days focused on critical community issues. The online giving model matches local nonprofits with shared missions – from homelessness and workforce development to preserving ecosystems and supporting local veterans – to create momentum on one shared day and leverage a combined outreach effort for collective success. In 2021, OCCF Giving Days raised \$4.5 million from 8,485 donors in support of 112 local nonprofits. Since its start in 2015, OCCF Giving Days have raised nearly \$15 million for Orange County nonprofits.

OCCF is recognized as the center of gravity for Orange County philanthropy, acting as an unparalleled resource for local philanthropists and their families for more than 30 years. In addition to the organization’s cause-specific giving days, it offers unique insights, deep knowledge, and a diverse array of tools to support both lifetime and legacy giving – making OCCF home to more than \$500 million in assets through 600 charitable funds benefiting a wide range of causes.

To donate during the *Love Is* Giving Day and give back to local teens, visit: <https://love-is-giving-day.ocnonprofitcentral.org/>. For more information about Orange County Community Foundation Collaborative Giving Days, please visit [oc-cf.org/givingdays](http://oc-cf.org/givingdays).

### **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 \$850 million in grants and scholarships, placing the organization in the top two percent in grantmaking among U.S. community foundations. For more information, visit [oc-cf.org](http://oc-cf.org) or call 949-553-4202. Be a part of our conversation on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). View OCCF's 2021 annual report [here](#).

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