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**\$113,312 RAISED IN 24 HOURS TO SUPPORT 10 NONPROFITS DURING  
"PROTECT & PRESERVE" GIVING DAY**

**Hosted by the Orange County Community Foundation, the funds raised  
will help support and sustain Orange County's natural ecosystems**

**NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (Sept. 8, 2022)** — On September 7, 2022, the [Orange County Community Foundation](#) (OCCF) hosted [Protect & Preserve](#) – a collaborative online Giving Day to support Orange County's open spaces and marine protected areas that enrich 52 miles of California's coastline. OCCF announced that 264 donors contributed \$113,312 to participating nonprofits in support of their vital missions to protect Orange County's natural ecosystems.

The local donor community rallied to provide vital funds to protect the county's natural habitats, including its Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). MPAs are discrete geographic marine or estuarine areas designed to protect or conserve marine life and habitat, which cover [26% of U.S. waters](#). The National Marine Protected Areas Center aims to preserve 30% of the nation's land and waters by 2030. In Orange County, [approximately 12](#) miles of Orange County's stunning 44-mile coastline are designated as an MPA – including Bolsa Bay and Laguna Beach.

Participating organizations for *Protect & Preserve* included [Bolsa Chica Conservancy](#), [Bolsa Chica Land Trust](#), [Crystal Cove Conservancy](#), [Environmental Nature Center](#), [Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks](#), [Laguna Canyon Foundation](#), [Laguna Ocean Foundation](#), [OC Habitats](#), [Pacific Marine Mammal Center](#), and [The Ecology Center](#).

"We thank the Orange County community for supporting these local nonprofits that help protect and conserve our beautiful coastlines and distinctive ecosystems," said Shelley Hoss, president and CEO of the Orange County Community Foundation. "OCCF is proud to host *Protect & Preserve* as an ongoing commitment to ensure Orange County's natural resources continue to flourish."

*Protect & Preserve* is 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 OC 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, the 10 days secured support from 8,485 donors and raised a record \$4.5 million for 112 local nonprofits. Since its start in 2015, OCCF's Collaborative Giving Days have raised nearly \$18 million for Orange County nonprofits.

For more information about Orange County Community Foundation Collaborative Giving Days, please visit [oc-cf.org/givingdays](https://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 \$900 million in grants and scholarships, ranking the organization as the 3<sup>rd</sup> most active grantmaker among all U.S. community foundations. For more information, visit [oc-cf.org](https://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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