Coachella Valley Youth Grantmakers Wins Award

The Coachella Valley Youth Grantmakers were honored by the Desert Communities Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals with the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award at the National Philanthropy Day in the Desert Awards Luncheon in November. The students were recognized for awarding $14,600 to 14 nonprofits and the community service projects they participated in.

“Participating in Youth Grantmakers has opened my eyes to many different nonprofits, especially all the hard work and dedication that is put into making a big difference in our community,” said Melisa Oropeza, a student of Palm Springs High School.

“The Community Foundation is proud to work with the Inland Empire’s future leaders of philanthropy through our Youth Grantmakers,” said Denisha Shackelford, Youth Initiatives Manager of The Community Foundation. “We’re so grateful for the recognition of our students and what their efforts mean in the Coachella Valley.”

For more information on our Youth Grantmakers, please contact Denisha Shackelford, Youth Initiatives Manager at dshackelford@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.

The Results are In! Give BIG San Bernardino County Raises $239,203 for Local Nonprofits

Give BIG San Bernardino County raised $239,203 to support 107 San Bernardino County nonprofits in just 24 hours.

Designed to raise money and build capacity for nonprofits in the county, the 24-hour web-a-thon received a total of 4,682 donations from donors across the region and beyond. The largest gift was given to The Unforgettables Foundation in Redlands. Friends of Big Bear Valley received the greatest number of donations (1,014). Morongo Basin Humane Society raised the most money ($18,140).

SEE “GIVE BIG” ON PAGE 2
Youth Grantmakers Award $49,000 to Nonprofits

Working with The Community Foundation, local high school students identified the greatest needs in their community and awarded $49,000 to Riverside and San Bernardino County nonprofits. Youth Grantmakers began in 2009 in Riverside and most recently added a Native Youth Grantmakers group supported by the Pechanga Development Corporation. The group was added last school year to raise awareness of the needs in the Native youth population. Since its beginning, Youth Grantmakers have awarded over $306,000 to eligible nonprofit agencies.

"Participating in Youth Grantmakers has made me more aware of different obstacles that local youth face on a day to day basis," said Cameron Ceballos of the San Bernardino Youth Grantmakers Program. "It has also taught me the importance of philanthropy and the effect it has on the youth within our community."

With representatives from 23 high schools in both counties, 77 Youth Grantmakers made up the Riverside, San Bernardino, Coachella Valley, and Native groups this year. In 2017-2018, they made grants to these nonprofits:

- Assistance League of Temecula Valley ($4,000)
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Desert, Inc ($1,500)
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Empire ($4,000)
- Birth Choice of the Desert ($2,000)
- Boys & Girls Club of Coachella Valley ($2,500)
- Calicinto Ranch, Inc. ($2,500)
- Community Health Systems Inc. ($2,000)
- Habitat for Humanity Inland Valley ($1,435)
- Highlanders Boxing Club ($2,500)
- Love Riverside ($1,500)
- Oak Grove Institute Foundation ($1,200)
- Operation SafeHouse ($2,500)
- Riverside Medical Clinic Charitable Foundation ($2,500)
- San Bernardino Fatherhood ($2,150)
- The YouthHope Foundation ($2,500)
- and Variety – the Children’s Charity of the Desert ($1,500).

Once a month on Sunday, throughout the academic year, Youth Grantmakers strengthened their leadership skills as they explored the needs in the region and how philanthropy can help. Students learned to read and analyze a grant application, respectfully debate the most critical needs while learning to listen to others’ perspectives, and prioritize the many worthwhile requests.

In four closing ceremonies held in Coachella, Temecula, and Riverside, 16 nonprofits attended and received a total of $36,285. An additional $13,100 in grants was given to nonprofits by seniors who selected their “Charity of Choice,” a TCF-funded grant for graduating seniors.

“We are looking forward to building upon the program, possibly collaborating with other youth philanthropic programs, and expanding our reach in to even more nonprofits through our grantmaking opportunities,” said Denisha Shackelford, Youth Initiatives Manager of The Community Foundation. “We are looking forward to another great year of ‘Growing Philanthropy’ in the IE!”

For more information on our Youth Grantmakers, please contact Denisha Shackelford, Youth Initiatives Manager at dshackelford@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.

Give BIG from page 1

Now in its fifth year, Give BIG San Bernardino County – organized by The Community Foundation – has raised more than $1.5 million for local organizations in every nonprofit sector, from the arts, environment, veterans services, health, seniors, education, and so much more.

Thanks to funding and support from the County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors and our nonprofit partners, Give BIG has also provided valuable training to help nonprofits increase their capacity to serve the community.


Thank you to all who participated in Give BIG! Your generosity is inspiring and will make a difference in the lives of so many.
As the new gal in town, I am often asked what I think about the Inland Empire. It’s an interesting question to me. On the one hand, it’s simple – people want to know how I’m settling in and if I’m sticking around. On the other hand, it’s a question people ask because they want some reassurance that things are good here, that problems are being solved, and that opportunity exists for everyone in the Inland Empire.

My short answer is, “Yes to all the above!” I have met incredible donors who give their time, smarts, and money to their communities. I’ve met public leaders who have done incredible things for the region and local communities – from building infrastructure, helping small businesses, educating and training young people and workers, keeping our streets safe – you name it, someone in your county or local government is doing it. And I’ve met amazing nonprofits, including some partnerships and collaborations that are really impressive. Back in Appalachian Ohio, people started working together because there weren’t enough resources and we had to collaborate. But over the years, we just learned it’s the right way to get things done. Same here. Where nonprofits, government, business, and everyday citizens are meeting up, talking about the issues, and working on plans and efforts to solve them, you’ve got good things happening. There are collaborations for building an arts economy and supporting music education in schools, for community organizing and getting out the vote, for making sure we have an accurate Census 2020 count, for transforming education, for giving power to young people, for building housing, and so much more. Every community that I’ve been in has at least one, often more than one, very bright spot of local change and investment.

The more people I meet, the more excited I get about the possibilities for doing great things in the Inland Empire!

So what comes next for TCF? We’re revamping our brand to create a name that elevates the Inland Empire and lets everyone know that we are here, in, and for the Inland Empire. We’re revamping our technology to gather more donors and expand scholarships and grant making. We’re redesigning our strategy to support college attainment across the Inland Empire, and doing it with an eye to building the capacity of the partners who do the work everyday, coaching and supporting young people to go for their dreams. We’re planning to help a group of partners gain resources to expand good paying jobs that support a middle class through the logistics and advanced manufacturing sectors. And the staff and Board at TCF have a big year of learning together, about Diversity, Inclusion and Equity, about economic trends and demographic shifts, and about our environment and climate – learning about the big issues that will affect us for the coming decades.

I’m genuinely excited to be here, to work with the staff and Board to make The Community Foundation a valued partner in the work of building our communities and promoting justice. If you see me out and about, please say hello. The more people I meet, the more excited I get about the possibilities for doing great things in the Inland Empire!

In Memoriam: Henry J. Coil

This Philanthropy Matters issue is dedicated to our former Board Chair & fundholder, Henry W. Coil Jr., who passed on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 85 years old.

Our dear friend Henry has a long history of guiding TCF. In addition to serving on the Board, he established the Henry W. Coil and Alice Edna Coil Donor Advised Fund of The Community Foundation. For his innumerable contributions to the community, we recognized him as the honoree of the “Pride of Place: Leading by Example Award” in 2015.

He will be dearly missed, but his legacy will continue to impact the Inland Empire for many years to come.
Dr. Kathy Wright and Dwight Tate are longtime residents of Riverside. In fact, they have lived in Riverside in the same house for 41 years! In that time, they have served on many committees and nonprofit boards of directors and provided hundreds of volunteer hours as well as financial support to the community.

From her early years growing up as a Girl Scout and Rainbow Girl, Kathy learned from her parents and family to make community service and involvement a way of life. Similarly, Dwight recalls, “One of the earliest memories I have was my mother bringing me along to the March of Dimes. I would go around the neighborhood to collect dimes to fight polio.” Dwight shared, “You do things for other people. It’s just what we did.”

Kathy and Dwight have different motivations for giving. Kathy was the first in her family to graduate from college and is a strong advocate for education. She volunteers her time to Greater Riverside Dollars for Scholars, an organization that gives on average $50,000 per year in scholarships to students. She has been with the organization in different capacities since its establishment in 1994. After the passing of his mother, Dwight decided that the best way to honor her was to establish a fund to support the library she loved. Today, the Maxine Tate Library Fund of The Community Foundation supports the Casa Blanca Branch and its programs designed for the education of girls and young women. Though both give in different ways, their commitment to bettering the community remains the same.

Together, Dwight and Kathy are a powerhouse couple that exemplify generosity and a love for community. We at TCF are grateful for their service.

For information on how to give through The Community Foundation, please contact Jose Marquez, Vice President of Charitable Giving at jmarquez@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.

Year-End Giving: Options to Consider

The new Tax and Jobs Act enacted in late 2017 may significantly impact how people give to charity this year and the next few years. So as you begin to think about your own year-end charitable giving, there are numerous strategies you should consider that may help you.

First and foremost, we recommend that you talk with your CPA, financial advisor or estate planning attorney about your particular income and tax situation as it pertains to your charitable giving.

There are a number of areas in the new law that may impact you as a donor. For example, there is a new standard deduction, which was doubled from $6,000 to $12,000 for single filers, and increased to $24,000 for married joint filers. There were also changes in income tax rates/brackets and exclusions, state and local taxes, mortgage interest deductions, and the estate tax, to name a few.

With these tax changes and others, it is important to know how these new changes may possibly affect your charitable giving.

There are three options we would recommend you consider this year:

1) IRA Rollover – If you are 70 ½ or older and you own an IRA and need to take your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), you can direct up to $100,000 annually to a qualified charity, like The Community Foundation. If your spouse or partner is 70½ and has their own IRA, they can also make a gift of up to $100,000 from their IRA RMD and you will have a “double impact” with your gifts. Your IRA Rollover gift will not be included in your taxable income and will qualify for your minimum distribution.

2) Outright Gift of An Asset – Another option is to make a gift of appreciated assets such as securities, real estate or business interests. It may be more advantageous to make this type of gift than an outright cash gift. This type of gift may provide you with significant income and capital gains tax savings, which may exceed the benefits of a cash gift.

3) Donor Advised Funds (DAF) – A third option is a DAF, which offers a flexible and easy-to-establish vehicle for your charitable giving. It’s as easy as 1,2,3!

   1. First, you make a gift of cash or appreciated assets (stocks and bonds, real estate, etc.) to The Community Foundation to establish an endowed DAF. If you itemize your deductions, you will receive a charitable deduction in the year of the gift.

   2. Next, you give your DAF a name and purpose.

   3. Finally, on an annual basis you can recommend grants from your fund to support one or more nonprofit organizations or causes you care about.

A DAF is also a great option if you are interested in charitable giving, but unsure which nonprofit organization(s) to support.

You can establish your DAF this year at the Foundation and then work with our grant staff to identify those nonprofit organizations or causes that you are most passionate about, and then direct your giving to that cause or organization.

Again, before you may any decisions on your giving please check with your financial advisor or attorney.

If you are interested in talking with someone about year-end giving at The Community Foundation or want more information on giving options, please contact Jose Marquez, Vice President of Charitable Giving at jmarquez@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.
Women's Giving Circle Awards $15,000 to Purple Hearts

In April 2018, the Women’s Giving Circle awarded its inaugural grant of $15,000 to Purple Hearts, an organization helping abused women get the support they need to ensure they don’t return to their abuser. This approach is rare and a model for other shelters around the U.S.

Purple Hearts is a community service program that partners with local domestic violence shelters to provide women additional services that rebuild self-esteem, find permanent housing, and develop financial literacy. The organization offers monthly workshops in Fontana. Since its inception in 2000, it has also transitioned hundreds of families from shelters into new homes, completely furnishing their apartments and providing household items.

Last year, The Community Foundation launched the Women's Giving Circle and is building a community of women philanthropists and creating lasting impact to address the needs of women and their families in the Inland region.

Through collective giving and fundraising, WGC has an ambitious goal of doubling its membership this year. Members commit $1,000 a year to be used as funding for the grants and all have a vote in the grant awardees. As WGC grows, there will be more opportunities for social events and perhaps seminars on hot topics relating to philanthropy and economic security for women. Membership will have input on the activities they feel will be most enriching. Celia Cudiamat, Senior Vice President of Grants and Community Impact, stated that there will also be opportunities for members to get to know the organizations receiving the awards, which can be rewarding and inspiring.

Women in the Inland Empire need a way to express their philanthropic priorities and be inspired by the great examples of change being accomplished by women-led nonprofits and businesses. The Women’s Giving Circle is a terrific model for doing that and we welcome each new member and her passions into this effort,” said TCF President and CEO Michelle Decker.

To learn more or join the Women’s Giving Circle, please contact Kim Potter at kpotter@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.

Agency Spotlight: Mizell Senior Center

Mizell Senior Center in Palm Springs provides dynamic programming and relevant services that are responsive to the adult community. By enhancing the lives of adults through enrichment and engagement, they make a difference. Their Meals On Wheels program provides an average of 450 meals each day to home-bound seniors from Whitewater to the north shore of the Salton Sea. They also provided 54,516 congregate meals at nine sites across the valley. Within the Mizell Senior Center, the majority of their 2,200 members come from Palm Springs and Cathedral City.

In 2006, Mizell Senior Center established its agency fund, The Mizell Senior Center Endowment Fund, to provide long-term, sustained income to the organization. “Given our focus on serving older adults, it is our duty to be aware and prepared for the exponential growth in that population over the coming decades. It is projected that by 2040 the California population over the age of 55 will grow by 172% with the fastest growth in those over the age of 85,” said Stacy Maddux, Special Events and Development Manager. “The endowment enables organizational growth and sustainability for the future and helps to fund unique and innovative programs and services to meet the growing migration of people over 55 coming into the Coachella Valley.”

Mizell Senior Center has many innovative programs and services. This includes their falls prevention program, which helps to keep seniors independent and is available valley-wide. They also offer a free Farmer’s Market, more than 100 classes, experiences and counseling sessions of interest to those over the age of 55 and are the primary Meals On Wheels source for the Coachella Valley.

To learn more about establishing an Agency Endowment Fund, please contact Jose Marquez, Vice President of Charitable Giving at jmarquez@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.
40 Students Receive Graduate Success Program Scholarships

TCF’s Graduate Success Program awarded its first round of strategic, needs-based scholarships to 40 students from Riverside and San Bernardino school districts to pursue their college dreams.

In 2017, TCF collaborated with the College Futures Foundation to address low graduation rates in the Inland Empire. The result of this collaboration was Graduate Success, a strategy and fund designed to increase a student’s potential to access, thrive, and succeed in higher education by providing need-based scholarships and college preparation services.

Raylyna Aguiar, one of this year’s Graduate Success scholarship recipients, knows that access to education is important. “Personally, I knew that going to a big university would overwhelm me and that private school would best benefit me to get a better education,” says Aguiar. “Private schools are extremely expensive, but this scholarship is helping me by reducing the total loan amount I would have to pay back.” Raylyna will attend California Baptist University and is planning to major in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology.

Research shows that students awarded scholarships based on financial need stay in college and graduate at rates similar to other students in the same institutions. “Everyone deserves a chance to attend college, but many lack the means to do so,” said Celia Cudiamat, Senior Vice President of Grants and Community Impact. “This strategy enables us to strengthen our commitment to providing more need-based scholarships to low-income students, many of who will be the first in their families to attend college.”

To learn how you can support students with financial needs to attend college through TCF’s Graduate Success Fund, contact Celia Cudiamat, Senior Vice President of Grants and Community Impact at ccudiamat@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.

TCF Grants $133,077 for Programs Aiding Women and Children and Individuals with Special Needs

The Community Foundation recently awarded $133,077 in grants to 15 nonprofits in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The grants were made possible by the Field of Interest Funds at The Community Foundation. Field of Interest Funds support nonprofits that are making an impact in specific program and geographic areas.

The Field of Interest Funds are: Seraphim Fund which aids women and children; Fred and Eva V. Stebler Fund which provides for the treatment and care of indigent children in Riverside County with an emphasis on children with special needs; James Bernard and Mildred Jordan Tucker Fund which benefits wheelchair users; and the Irene S. Rockwell Fund which benefits the city of Perris.

The 2018 Field of Interest Funds grantees are: Assistance League of Riverside ($10,000); Cedar House Life Change Center ($10,000); Community Access Center ($10,000); Corona Norco Settlement House Inc. ($10,000); Desert Arc ($10,000); Dora Nelson African American Art & History Museum ($8,000); Family Service Association of Redlands ($10,000); Habitat for Humanity International, Inc. ($2,000); Jewish Family Service of the Desert ($10,000); North County Health Services ($9,764); Operation Safe House Inc. ($10,000); Peppermint Ridge ($8,236); US Adaptive Recreation Center ($8,631); Variety – the Children’s Charities of the Desert ($10,000); and Walden Environment ($10,000).

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, The Foundation is able to continually support the programs of nonprofits serving our two-county region.

To learn more about Field of Interest Funds, contact Celia Cudiamat, Senior Vice President of Grants and Community Impact at ccudiamat@thecommunityfoundation.net or 951.241.7777.

Irvine Foundation Strengthens Commitment to IE, Partners with TCF

Investing in organizations serving Riverside and San Bernardino counties is a priority of The James Irvine Foundation. As part of Irvine’s ongoing work in the Inland Empire, The Community Foundation received a $300,000 grant for support of our operation functions.

“We’re grateful for Irvine’s generosity and their partnership to support this region for the long-term,” said Michelle Decker, President and CEO of The Community Foundation.

“The IE is home to more than 4 million residents and within our communities are many challenges as well as opportunities and dynamic initiatives we can build on.”

Monies granted will be used for increased charitable giving staff in San Bernardino, expanded work to support nonprofit capacity building and collaborations, revamped technology, and a rebranding initiative to help us amplify our philanthropic leadership, and the many opportunities to give in the Inland Empire. “If we are strategic, these funds will give the Inland Empire a more robust Community Foundation, ready for the challenges ahead and ready to partner for the long haul,” said Michelle. “We look forward to working with the Irvine Foundation to expand giving in the region and support our nonprofit sector.”

“Long-term, “ said Michelle Decker, President and CEO of The Community Foundation. “We’re grateful for Irvine’s generosity and their partnership to support this region for the long haul, “ said Michelle. “We look forward to working with the Irvine Foundation to expand giving in the region and support our nonprofit sector.”
Board & Staff News: TCF Welcomes New Board and Staff Members

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

**Dr. Dora Barilla**
Dr. Dora Barilla, of Rancho Cucamonga, is the Executive Leader of Community Investment for Providence St. Joseph Health, President of HC2 Strategies, and Senior Fellow for the Institute for Health Policy and Fellowship at Loma Linda University Health. She is also the Founder and Chair for a not-for-profit organization, Partners for Better Health, promoting health initiatives in communities. Dr. Barilla has spent the last two decades putting healthcare plans in place that are strategic, effective, and creative.

**Dr. Tomás Morales**
Dr. Tomás Morales, of Claremont, is the president of California State University, San Bernardino and the university’s fourth president since it opened in 1965. Previously, Morales was president of the College of Staten Island, The City University of New York (CUNY), since 2007. He currently serves as chair of the Governing Board of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and on the Executive Committee of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities. His lifelong dedication to improving the access and quality of public higher education has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Distinguished Leader in Education award from Education Update and the Latino Trendsetter Award at the United Nations, among others.

**Jacob Mejia**
Jacob Mejia, of Temecula, is currently the Vice President of Public and External Affairs for the Pechanga Development Corporation where he oversees media relations, government affairs, charitable giving, community relations, and communications. Since 2004, Jacob has also served as executive director of the Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations (TASIN), an intergovernmental association of federally recognized tribal governments in Southern California. Since that time he has helped to position TASIN as a leading voice in California for the rights of Indian Tribes.

**Aztec Crinte**
Aztec Crinte, is the president of the Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations (TASIN), an intergovernmental association of federally recognized tribal governments in Southern California. Since that time he has helped to position TASIN as a leading voice in California for the rights of Indian Tribes.

**Angelica Nicolas**
Angelica Nicolas is TCF’s Marketing Coordinator, a newly created position in the Marketing Department. Angelica is responsible for working closely with the Marketing and Communications Director to promote the Marketing Activities of The Community Foundation and lead our efforts to engage Millennial donors. Angelica joined TCF in 2017 and is a graduate of UC Berkeley.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

**Joy Gould**
Joy Gould joined TCF as the Family Philanthropy Coordinator, working specifically with the S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund. Her career has spanned 40 years of senior level nonprofit work. Joy has led three nonprofit organizations serving communities in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino – most recently at the Inland AIDS Project. Prior to joining TCF, she provided consulting services to the nonprofit sector nationwide. Joy is excited to assist with the grant making side of the Foundation.

**Marco Robles**
Marco Robles, of San Bernardino, is the Public Affairs Director for Cardenas Markets where he is responsible for all corporate public communications and community benefit activities. Mr. Robles also serves as Chairman of the Inland Empire Economic Partnership, Member of the Hispanic Advisory Council for Coca Cola of North America, Board Member of the Chaffey College Foundation, and President Advisory Committee Member to University of La Verne. Prior to joining Cardenas Markets, he served 14 years as Council Member and Interim Mayor in the City of Pomona, California.

**Joseph Romano**
Joseph Romano, of Coachella Valley, is President, Chief Operating Officer and a Founding Partner of Fortem Financial in Palm Springs. A well-regarded financial planner, Joseph works with individuals and business owners to develop financial planning strategies, asset allocation solutions and investment plans. Joseph is also an active member of the prestigious Young Presidents’ Organization (YPO) and has championed several board ladder positions for his local chapter. He is also an enthusiastic board member for the Patrick Warburton Golf for Kids Celebrity Tournament that benefits St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

**Angelica Nicolas**
Angelica Nicolas is TCF’s Marketing Coordinator, a newly created position in the Marketing Department. Angelica is responsible for working closely with the Marketing and Communications Director to promote the Marketing Activities of The Community Foundation and lead our efforts to engage Millennial donors. Angelica joined TCF in 2017 and is a graduate of UC Berkeley.
New Board Chair: J. Sergio Bohon

With much excitement, we are pleased to announce that Sergio Bohon will be serving as the new Chair of The Community Foundation's Board of Directors, beginning in January.

Mr. Bohon has served on The Community Foundation Board since 2013 and has volunteered his expertise on several of the Foundation's Board committees including investment, grants and board development. For the past three years, he has held the positions of Secretary and Vice Chair of the Board.

As Senior Vice President of Wells Fargo Advisors, Mr. Bohon helps manage assets for individuals, trusts, retirement plans, charitable organizations and businesses. Mr. Bohon previously worked with U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management before joining Wells Fargo Advisors. He holds a Bachelor degree from Cal Poly, Pomona and Masters in Personal Financial Planning and earned the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ (CFP®) practitioner designation from the College for Financial Planning.

In addition to The Community Foundation, Mr. Bohon participates in many civic and community organizations, including the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center, Riverside County Philharmonic, and Angel Flight West.

Thank you to our outgoing Board Chair, Sean Varner, for his vision and leadership.