

BRANDED CONTENT
MARCH 30, 2026



LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL
NONPROFIT
+ CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP
Symposium & Awards 2026

THE 2026 AWARDS

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Los Angeles Chargers | Olive Crest | Puente Learning Center | Taking The Reins | Tierra del Sol | Think Together | UCLA Health | Yukevich | Cavanaugh



The Los Angeles Business Journal Presents the 2026 Nonprofit & Corporate Citizenship Awards

There are many important and meaningful organizations right here in Los Angeles County doing incredibly impactful work and the Los Angeles Business Journal team has taken the opportunity to thank and celebrate some of the very best of them with our Nonprofit & Corporate Citizenship Symposium & Awards for 2026.

Held on March 26th at the Biltmore Hotel, this very special event gave us a chance to shine a spotlight on the often heroic work performed by the nonprofit organizations, philanthropic companies, and individual leaders, volunteers and donors in the Greater Los Angeles community. These are the people and organizations that have made a difference and in many cases set new bars of excellence for corporate responsibility and impact.

The award honorees and finalists are all detailed in these pages, and as you'll see, it is an incredibly inspiring class. From the tireless work of nonprofit leaders, teams and programs, to the efforts of individuals and companies who donate their time, funds and efforts to improve the communities they serve – it was truly a pleasure to pay tribute to this unique Community of Business.

Another highlight of the event was the fascinating, spirited and insightful panel discussions bringing together some of Los Angeles' most insightful nonprofit decision-makers and experts. There were three thought-provoking panels featuring top nonprofit and corporate leaders, including Managing & Fundraising in Evolving Times, sharing strategies to navigate today's challenges; Corporate



Responsibility: Supporting Our Nonprofits, exploring how businesses drive social impact; and Collaboration in Action: Building Stronger Communities Together, showcasing partnerships making a real difference.

Then, attendees joined together to celebrate and honor organizations

and individuals shaping our region through nonprofit leadership and corporate citizenship.

Thanks are due to our event sponsors who make both the Awards event and this volume possible and many thanks to you, our readers who have taken the time to consider the needs of your community.



So more kids find their greatness.

Think Together partners with schools to provide academic and enrichment programs so that students have the opportunity to discover their talents, unleash their possibilities and envision their brightest future.

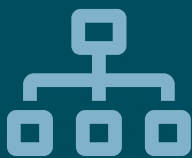
For more information on how Think Together supports local schools and students in California, visit thinktogether.org or scan the QR code



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ORGANIZATIONS



BANC OF CALIFORNIA



BUSINESS ANGEL OF THE YEAR HONOREE

BANC OF CALIFORNIA

Banc of California, the largest independent bank based in Los Angeles, donated \$1 million from its Wildfire Relief & Recovery fund to launch the Small Business Initiative with Steadfast LA, a nonprofit working to rebuild the region's economy after the devastating Eaton and Palisades fires of January 2025.

The gift was used to provide direct grants of up to \$50,000 to independent businesses — including retailers, restaurants, pharmacies, dentists and veterinary centers operating in Altadena, Malibu and the Pacific Palisades — areas that were hit hardest by the wildfires.

Some of these establishments were burned to the ground or experienced severe damage, while others faced steep declines in business as residents relocated. Through this initiative, eligible small businesses applied online for direct grants—administered by an independent third party — to provide the funds they needed to stay open, employ hard-working people, and serve the community.

“We know that small businesses are the foundation of our local economy,” said Jared Wolff, chairman and CEO of Banc of California. “Their success and sustainability are integral not just for jobs and the economy, but they provide the optimism and confidence that communities need to move forward. We’re proud to support small businesses that desperately need help right now, to stand with Steadfast LA, and to help turn our vision for a brighter future for Southern California into a reality.”

In addition to financial support, the initiative used social media to showcase the small businesses’ remarkable resilience, highlight their additional needs, and encourage consumers to support them.



ALLEN LUND COMPANY, LLC FINALIST

Since 2004, Allen Lund Company, LLC (ALC) has been a steadfast supporter of Navidad en el Barrio, an organization dedicated to helping communities around the Los Angeles area. This organization was founded by former NFL player Danny Villanueva, a local Hispanic radio host, and students from UCLA, with a mission to provide a robust Christmas dinner for families in Southern California. Navidad en el Barrio has succeeded, thanks in large part to the unwavering dedication of remarkable donors and volunteers, including the Allen Lund Company.

ALC’s unique platform serves as a bridge, connecting shippers with goods to transport to carriers nationwide. In the case of Navidad en el Barrio, ALC leveraged its extensive network of shippers and carriers to donate produce and ensure timely delivery to families in need.



CREST REAL ESTATE FINALIST

In the wake of the devastating Los Angeles fires, Crest Real Estate, led by brothers Jason and Steven Somers, stepped forward as a force multiplier for recovery. By deploying capital, mobilizing leadership, expertise, and clear and creative strategies to get real help to fire victims facing the daunting process of rebuilding a home, Crest took on the rebuild at scale.

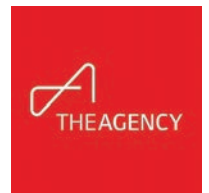
Today, Crest has more than 200 fire-rebuild permits in process across Los Angeles City and County, representing hundreds of households being guided through one of the most complex, emotionally charged, rebuilding efforts in California history. Reinventing what resilient housing could be, and Crest launched Case Study 2.0, a groundbreaking catalog of fire-resilient, architect-designed homes created in collaboration with some of the most respected architects in the world.



PAUL MITCHELL SCHOOLS FINALIST

Paul Mitchell Schools are deeply committed to service and philanthropy, with giving back embedded in the organization’s culture and day-to-day values. Each year, Future Professionals and staff across the nationwide network mobilize for the annual “FUNraising” campaign, an initiative designed to raise awareness and critical funding for nonprofits serving communities nationwide.

The campaign emphasizes grassroots participation, empowering students and teams to lead community-driven fundraising events such as cut-a-thons, hair shows, car washes, bake sales, and “Casual for a Cause” days, with typical donations averaging \$5 - \$10. This hands-on approach not only generates meaningful contributions but also builds a culture of leadership, service and civic engagement among future beauty professionals. To date, the FUNraising campaign has raised more than \$27 million for charitable organizations.



THE AGENCY FINALIST

The Agency has had a longstanding relationship with its philanthropic partner, Giveback Homes since becoming the first real estate brokerage to partner with this nonprofit dedicated to building homes for families in need. This longstanding partnership represents an unwavering commitment to turning the everyday act of buying and selling homes into opportunities for social change. Through consistent financial support, volunteer engagement, and operational leadership, The Agency has worked with Giveback Homes to exponentially expand its impact across communities.

In addition to continuing to allow agents to donate portions of their commissions from each transaction to build homes domestically and internationally as well as hosting numerous “Build Days” across the country, in 2025, The Agency served those in need due to the devastating wildfires in Los Angeles.


GIVING BACK TO THE CITY THAT GIVES MORE.

Our long-standing commitment to the people of Los Angeles is at the heart of everything we do. We're determined to help organizations make the most of every dollar while working with them to support those who need it the most. Combining the global reach of our parent company, RBC, with our local expertise allows us to continue to give back in meaningful, lasting ways.

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ORGANIZATIONS



NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR (LARGE) HONOREE

GOODWILL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Since 1916, Goodwill Southern California has operated with a clear and consistent purpose: to transform lives through the power of work. For more than a century, the organization has been preparing and placing veterans, people experiencing homelessness, individuals with disabilities, disconnected youth, and the justice-impacted families into meaningful, sustainable employment and brighter futures. With nine employment centers across Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, Goodwill SoCal is the region’s largest workforce development organization and an established Employment Social Enterprise, delivering innovative workforce solutions at a scale no other nonprofit can match.

Today, Goodwill Southern California operates as a nonprofit Employment Social Enterprise, combining earned revenue, workforce expertise, and regional partnerships to deliver measurable outcomes across Los Angeles County and the broader Southern California region.

Goodwill Southern California’s impact across Los Angeles County is rooted in direct, community-based service delivery that meets individuals where they are. Through City- and County-funded WorkSource Centers, YouthSource Centers, America’s Job Centers of California, and specialized employment and veteran service locations, the organization provides accessible workforce services throughout the region, ensuring residents can access support when they need it most. Looking ahead, Goodwill Southern California is focused on strengthening the systems that support long-term economic mobility in Los Angeles County. By modernizing workforce delivery, deepening cross-sector partnerships, and centering the voices of historically underrepresented communities, the organization is advancing a more inclusive and resilient regional workforce ecosystem. This work is grounded in decades of operational experience and informed by ongoing collaboration with employers, educators, policymakers and community partners.



CHILD CARE RESOURCE CENTER FINALIST

Child Care Resource Center (CCRC) serves Los Angeles through its unwavering commitment to strengthening families, supporting early childhood development, and fostering resilient communities across a vast diverse service area. Since its founding in 1976, CCRC has grown from a small group of volunteers to one of Southern California’s most impactful nonprofits – serving tens of thousands of children, parents, and child care professionals across more than 22,500 square miles across Northern Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

Currently, the agency has over 1,400 professional staff members working from more than 30 different locations. Under the leadership of Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Michael Olenick, CCRC has constantly demonstrated both vision and stewardship without compromising quality or reach.



HOPE THE MISSION FINALIST

Hope the Mission is the nation’s largest rescue mission serving Los Angeles. With more than 30 facilities and 2,700 beds, including interim shelters, tiny home communities, and family shelters, Hope the Mission delivers both immediate relief and long-term solutions to homelessness, hunger and poverty throughout Southern California. Its operational scale is matched by innovative fundraising and community engagement.

Signature events like the annual Drumstick Dash, the largest Thanksgiving Day 5K and 10K in Los Angeles County with approximately 8,000 participants and more than 250 volunteers, raise critical funds to provide an estimated three million hot meals to unsheltered families. The organization has also partnered with globally recognized artists to generate meaningful impact, including a special benefit concert with the Foo Fighters at the Kia Forum.



VALLEY COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE FINALIST

Valley Community Healthcare (VCH) has sustained impact, innovation, and unwavering commitment to improving community health across the San Fernando Valley and surrounding communities.

For more than 55 years, VCH has served as a trusted safety-net provider, delivering high-quality, comprehensive healthcare regardless of income, insurance status, or life circumstance. As a nonprofit and a Federally Qualified Health Center, VCH addresses some of Los Angeles County’s most persistent health challenges by ensuring that low-income children, families, seniors and individuals experiencing a variety of social determinants of health have access to dignified, coordinated care. Today, VCH serves more than 21,000 patients annually, the vast majority of whom live 200% below the Federal Poverty Line, making the organization a cornerstone of community well-being in the region.



YMCA OF THE FOOTHILLS FINALIST

For more than 68 years, the YMCA of the Foothills has served as a cornerstone of care, resilience, and community well-being across Sun Valley, Sunland Tujunga, Montrose, La Crescenta, La Cañada Flintridge, Northern Glendale, and portions of Unincorporated Los Angeles County. Founded in 1958, this nonprofit has consistently demonstrated its ability to evolve with community needs while remaining steadfast in its mission to strengthen families, support youth, and foster belonging for all.

The YMCA of the Foothills’ impact was most powerfully demonstrated in response to the Eaton Fire in January 2025. Beginning the evening of January 6, staff and volunteers mobilized immediately, dedicating countless hours to meet urgent, life-sustaining needs for families displaced or directly affected by the disaster, including 765 YMCA members living in Altadena and Pasadena.



Stepping Forward LA

Empower young adults aging out of foster care to transition successfully to adulthood and reach their fullest potential.



HOW WE SUPPORT FOSTER YOUTH

HOUSING SUPPORT →



SFLA APP

Online platform of resources
Developed by Foster Youth for Foster Youth



COMMUNITY

Building relationships through in-person events & support

PAID INTERNSHIPS →

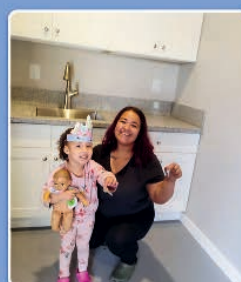


CO-MENTOR PROGRAM

Group mentorship opportunity

82% OF OUR TEAM ARE FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

OUR HOUSING CANDIDATES IN THEIR NEW HOMES



HANDS-ON PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



Beth Ryan

Executive Director & Founder

Stepping Forward LA

(310) 270 - 3466

Beth@steppingforwardla.org

Thank you to the Los Angeles Business Journal for the following Nominations

- Non-Profit Executive of the Year
- Non-Profit Team of the Year
- Non-Profit of the Year



ORGANIZATIONS



NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR (MID-SIZED) HONOREE

FOOD FORWARD

When wildfires ripped through Los Angeles neighborhoods last January, Food Forward's phone lines lit up. Growers across Southern California were already calling, asking how they could help. Within hours, farmers who had been partners for years redirected truckloads of citrus and leafy greens. Packers and shippers adjusted logistics. Volunteers arrived before dawn to sort and pack. Community partners like the YMCA opened their doors wider, creating new distribution points in evacuation zones and shelters where families showed up with nothing but what they could carry.

This wasn't emergency relief that disappeared in December. It's a long-term investment in community resilience, sustained through a network of over 250 hunger relief partners and the agricultural collaborators who make recovery possible every single day.

Over its history, Food Forward has recovered more than 550 million pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables, approximately 660 million servings redistributed across Southern California. The organization now provides enough produce annually to supply more than 300,000 people each day with recommended servings of fruits and vegetables.

This work also addresses the climate crisis directly. By keeping surplus produce out of landfills, Food Forward has prevented an estimated 489,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions. In a region where wildfires, heatwaves and drought are part of daily life, this model demonstrates that caring for people and protecting the planet go hand in hand.

Food Forward has built something rare: a resilient, collaborative ecosystem where farmers, volunteers, community organizations, and families work together toward a shared belief that fresh food is a right, not a privilege.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE FINALIST

For three decades, Child Development Institute (CDI) has revolutionized how Los Angeles communities support children's development, transforming fragmented services into a comprehensive, research-based model that serves the region's most vulnerable families. Since its founding in 1995, CDI has grown from a single part-time clinic in Encino to a nationally-recognized leader in early childhood intervention, impacting over 300,000 children and families.

CDI's Pyramid of Care Model demonstrates extraordinary reach across all levels of intervention. The organization has provided over 17,000 children with therapeutic services, conducted 22,000 developmental screenings, delivered 38,000 workshops for parents and teachers, and trained 22,725 professionals. Most remarkably, CDI's Early Learning Centers have hosted more than 300,000 child and family visits, creating nurturing environments where development flourishes.



COALITION TO ABOLISH SLAVERY AND TRAFFICKING FINALIST

Cast (Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking) is a nonprofit known for its long-standing leadership, measurable results, and proven ability to address human trafficking, which is modern-day slavery, in the greater Los Angeles area.

Cast's work began in the aftermath of a defining Los Angeles tragedy: in 1995, 72 Thai workers were discovered living in slavery and debt bondage in El Monte. That moment catalyzed Cast's formation in 1998 and shaped a mission: to end human trafficking through education, advocacy, and survivor empowerment, especially in Los Angeles. Cast has consistently pioneered "first-in-the-nation" approaches that have strengthened the entire anti-trafficking field. In 2003, Cast opened the first shelter in the United States dedicated exclusively to trafficking survivors, setting a new standard for survivor safety, trauma-informed care, and long-term stability.



OLIVE CREST LOS ANGELES FINALIST

As an organization, Olive Crest Los Angeles not only serves 5000 children and families a day, but provides services for transitional age youth who are at risk for homelessness and trafficking. In addition, in 2025 ground was broken for an apartment house to provide housing and social services for these youths in Bellflower. A drop in center was established with wrap around services as well. This organization has met the needs of communities when services have been reduced. Olive Crest deserves this recognition because of the passion with which they serve the community.

Olive Crest serves as the family for families and children in crisis, when there is no other family. Especially single moms and aged out youth. It prevents homelessness and despair for many children.



PUENTE LEARNING CENTER FINALIST

The mission of PUENTE Learning Center is "people united to enrich the neighborhood through education." PUENTE is also the Spanish word for "bridge," and the educational services are seeking to build bridges to high-impact learning and opportunity in Boyle Heights and beyond. As an established nonprofit presence in the underserved East Los Angeles community since 1985, PUENTE has empowered over 120,000 individuals to realize their achievement goals by accessing tuition-free resources, leading to self-sufficiency for themselves and their families.

PUENTE's record of high-performing educational outcomes and targeted wrap-around services matches the vibrant and culturally rich community it serves. With a distinct, multi-generational approach to education, PUENTE offers comprehensive services for children, youth and adults. PUENTE delivers educational, youth development, and family support services to underserved communities in Los Angeles.



ALS Is Relentless. Our Response Is Relentless.

The ALS Network leads with a focused, integrated mission:

- Drive breakthrough research.
- Expand access to specialized care.
- Advance legislation that improves lives.

Each priority strengthens the others.
Together, they move faster.

With a top Charity Navigator rating, we are recognized for disciplined stewardship and meaningful impact. For business leaders who believe progress should be measurable — and urgent — the ALS Network delivers both.

Accelerating care. Accelerating cures.
Accelerating progress.

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ORGANIZATIONS



NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR (EMERGING) HONOREE

BRESEE FOUNDATION

For 43 years, Bresee has been a beacon of hope in the Central Los Angeles community, addressing systemic poverty through education, relationships, and comprehensive family support. In partnership with dedicated community stakeholders, Bresee has consistently delivered programs that empower youth from low-income households to develop strong habits in middle school, persist through college and career pathways, and graduate equipped with the skills, resources and networks needed to thrive long term.

Bresee’s holistic approach removes barriers to educational success while increasing future income potential for participating youth. Programming is intentionally designed to support not only students, but also their families, recognizing that when a family is in crisis, a youth is in crisis. Through homelessness prevention, economic mobility initiatives, and skills development, Bresee provides critical stabilization and opportunity for families considered low-income or very low-income. Guided by core values of integrity, compassion, community, resilience, and life-long learning, Bresee’s impact is evident in the meaningful relationships staff build, the determination of its youth and families, and their shared pursuit of a better future. Beyond Bresee’s daily services of caring for more than 6,000 individuals annually, it was on the frontlines providing critical assistance, even as members of our own staff and Board were personally affected.

The impact of Bresee’s collaborative efforts last year includes: a) assisting 318 families with access to \$300,000 in wildfire relief funds in partnership with the County and JVS; and b) increasing bi-weekly food distributions to weekly during the government shut-down to ensure continued access to food.



A SENSE OF HOME FINALIST

A Sense of Home (ASOH) is a first-of-its-kind nonprofit that prevents homelessness by creating homes for former foster youth, vulnerable communities, and people affected by natural disasters. Over the past ten years, ASOH has created 1,600 homes, grounded in the belief that people cannot thrive without stable, functional spaces.

ASOH is uniquely qualified for Nonprofit of the Year due to its extraordinary leadership and management agility in addressing the intersection of Los Angeles’ housing and environmental crises. Over the past decade, ASOH has evolved from a grassroots initiative into the gold standard for foster youth housing retention, achieving an unprecedented 85% housing retention over three years for its foster youth program -- a direct result of its belief that a functional home is the foundation for a successful life.



GAMERS OUTREACH FINALIST

Gamers Outreach is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving quality of life for hospitalized children through therapeutic recreation. In Los Angeles, its most significant and long-standing partnership is with Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), where it has worked for more than a decade to integrate video game-based play into pediatric care.

Today, Gamers Outreach maintains more than 60 portable video game kiosks (GO Karts) deployed throughout the hospital - the largest at any single hospital in the organization’s global network of over 500 facilities. Based on hospital usage patterns, each device benefits an estimated six to eight pediatric patients per day. This equates to tens of thousands of patient interactions daily at CHLA alone. Gamers Outreach also provides continued technical stewardship and remains responsive to CHLA child life specialists.



LA GALAXY FOUNDATION FINALIST

The LA Galaxy has set the standard for community impact through innovative programs and measurable outcomes. In 2025, the club contributed \$2 million in monetary and in-kind donations, supported 56 nonprofits, and dedicated more than 800 volunteer hours from players, staff and alumni.

The Galaxy’s wildfire relief efforts alone collected 5,000+ essential items, and distributed \$3 million worth of merchandise to displaced families, in addition to the \$1 million donation from their ownership group, AEG. Beyond emergency response, the club hosts signature events like the LA Galaxy Foundation Golf Tournament, which raises funds for youth sports and inclusion initiatives, the Thanksgiving Feast, where players and staff serve hundreds of meals to families in need, and more. Environmental efforts like Greener Goals further showcase the Galaxy’s commitment to sustainability and education.



POLK INSTITUTE FOUNDATION FINALIST

In July 2020, Gary L. Polk, Sr., a businessman, CEO, business consultant, university professor and author, decided to finish the job that was started with his Innovation Incubator at CSUDH, but on a much grander scale, by creating the Polk Institute Foundation (Pi), a 501(c)(3). The organization’s five overarching goals are: to create a welfare withdrawal paradigm; to teach them how to fish; to teach them what they do not know about business; to create fundable CEOs who are ethical and possess great character; and to create leaders who believe that people, planet and profit is not zero sum.

Under Polk’s visionary leadership, the Polk Institute Foundation has become one of the most innovative, mission-driven, and community-focused organizations.



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**

OF GREATER LOS ANGELES



Little Brother Arnold

Big Brother Charlie

The Most Cost-Effective Workforce Investment in LA

Backed by a 30-year Harvard-led study in partnership with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Big Brothers Big Sisters mentorship programs delivers measurable gains in education, earnings, and long-term economic mobility.¹

WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE SUCCEED COMMUNITIES FLOURISH

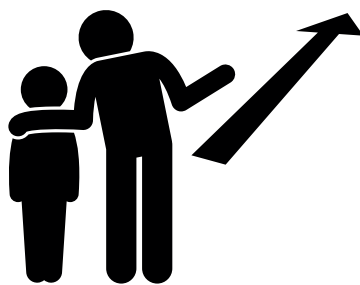
BBBS Littles are:

20% MORE LIKELY TO ATTEND COLLEGE
→ Fueling a skilled workforce.

BBBS Littles earn:

15% MORE OVER THEIR LIFETIMES
→ Strengthening financial independence and consumer spending.

BBBS Littles' incomes as adults more closely align with their mentors' income than with their families', helping break the cycle of generational poverty.



Being a BBBS Little:

CLOSES 2/3 OF THE OPPORTUNITY GAP

Enhancing economic mobility.



RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Every dollar invested in BBBS supports brighter futures, healthier communities and a stronger, more prepared workforce, while also returning the investment to society within just **seven years**.

With a program cost of ~\$2,500 per mentee per year and remarkable outcomes for youth, society and the economy, *"the program's relatively low costs and substantial benefits place it among the most cost-effective interventions of its type to be evaluated."*



PROUDLY SUPPORTS

Big Brothers Big Sisters
OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

BBBSLA.ORG

SCALING PROVEN SOLUTIONS LIKE BBBS MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS WILL ENSURE THAT MORE YOUNG PEOPLE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ECONOMY AND SOCIETY IN MEANINGFUL WAYS.

¹ The Long-Term Impacts of Mentors: Evidence from Experimental & Administrative Data, Alex Bell and Neviana Petkova (2024)



ORGANIZATIONS



NONPROFIT TEAM OF THE YEAR HONOREE

ADL LOS ANGELES

The ADL Los Angeles Regional Operations team represents the essential truth that sustained impact is powered by those working behind the scenes. This six-person team is the operational backbone, the “engine of continuity” that ensured ADL Los Angeles not only endured but advanced its mission during a period of heightened antisemitism and an internal leadership transition.

In 2025, ADL Los Angeles navigated a multi-month leadership transition, working with interim leadership from June through October before welcoming a new senior regional director, David Englin who hit the ground running upon his arrival, seamlessly integrating with the team. Prior to his joining, the Regional Operations team ensured there was no slowdown in programming, partnerships, fundraising, or community response. Grounded in deep institutional knowledge and a highly collaborative operating model, the team maintained continuity across all regional functions: from governance and finance to external partnerships, events, and crisis response. Leadership transitions often cause operational pauses; this team refused to let that happen.

One of the team’s most significant accomplishments is its leadership of ADL’s Helene and Joseph Sherwood Family Prize for Combating Hate, a cornerstone event honoring exemplary law enforcement professionals who demonstrate innovative approaches to preventing and responding to hate. Planned and executed entirely by the Regional Operations team under the leadership of Deputy Regional Director Ariella Loewenstein, who deftly maintains strong relations with law enforcement agencies across Southern California for her 20-year tenure at ADL, the 300-person event has surpassed fundraising goals in recent years, reflecting both strong community support and exceptional operational coordination.



of Los Angeles

GIRLS INC. OF LOS ANGELES FINALIST

The partnership between the Girls Inc. of Los Angeles team and APM Terminals Los Angeles demonstrates how a business and nonprofit can align their core strengths to create meaningful, place-based impact. Grounded in a shared commitment to underserved communities, women’s leadership and long-term opportunity, the collaboration brings together Girls Inc. LA’s deep expertise serving girls in LAUSD elementary, middle and high schools with APM Terminals’ resources, workforce and presence at the Port of Los Angeles.

The partnership is intentionally structured as an ongoing collaboration, with APM Terminals supporting both school-based initiatives and Girls Inc.’s broader community convenings, including LA GIRLS RISE and the Women’s Leadership Breakfast, events that bring together leaders across business, labor and community to invest in the next generation.



L.A. WORKS FINALIST

Each year, the L.A. Works MLK Volunteer Festival transforms Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day from a day off into a day on, mobilizing Angelenos to serve, reflect and build community together. In 2026, the MLK Volunteer Festival Team delivered one of Los Angeles’ most ambitious civic activations, bringing 3,000 volunteers together at the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and three community partner sites (HOPICS, Para Los Niños, and the Pasadena Educational Foundation) for a shared day of service, learning and belonging.

Behind this large-scale experience was a highly coordinated leadership and logistics effort. The MLK Volunteer Festival Team oversaw volunteer recruitment, partner engagement, project design, supply procurement, site operations, accessibility planning, and cross-sector collaboration, delivering a seamless experience for volunteers and partners alike.



LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES FINALIST

For more than 95 years, the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) has served as a trusted champion for communities facing systemic barriers to justice – benefiting over 100,000 people each year through free legal services, community education, and systemic advocacy. LAFLA is equipped with expert staff, language justice tools, and culturally intelligent services to address the critical legal needs of low-income Angelenos, especially related to housing, economic stability, and safety.

In response to the 2025 wildfires, LAFLA swiftly launched its Pro Bono Disaster Response project (PBDR) to meet the rapidly arising legal needs of survivors. In just one year, the PBDR has raised over \$1.4 million for its disaster work; opened 1,437 disaster-related cases; and provided 2,035 survivors with legal information and education.



STEPPING FORWARD LA FINALIST

Stepping Forward LA (SFLA) has been around for more than 10 years supporting young adults that have aged out of the foster care system. On average, 1,200 young adults age out every year at 18 or 21 and they are left with little resources, guidance and life skills to transition to adulthood.

Remarkably, 82% of the SFLA staff have lived experience and have gone through the internship program which is one of SFLA’s signature programs. SFLA boasts a small but mighty staff of 11. The team brings incredible care and spirit to the work they do supporting youth that have been in foster care. The team meets weekly to come up with solutions for our housing candidates who are often in crisis.



LOGOS

DEVELOPMENT

At Logos, we are committed to serving our communities by creating dignified housing for all that combats spiritual and community isolation, and empowers our residents through economic and personal development programs.

Through our partnerships with churches, we develop affordable housing at scale while also ensuring residents have access to programs focused on economic and educational empowerment such as a path to careers in the construction trades, in depth financial literacy programs, and in-unit essentials like beds, TVs, couches, and microwaves.

With drive, faith, and focus we are committed to providing housing that builds connection and a quality of life that enables our residents to say "we have lives worth living and a future worth fighting for!"



INFORMATION

310 465 8001

www.logosfaithdevelopment.com

6060 Center Dr. Fl. 10, Los Angeles, CA 90045



ORGANIZATIONS

Blood Cancer United Light The Night



MOST IMPACTFUL FUNDRAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR **HONOREE**

BLOOD CANCER UNITED LIGHT THE NIGHT

Despite a challenging fundraising year, the Blood Cancer United Light The Night raised over \$1.2 million this year to support blood cancer patients and their families across the Greater Los Angeles community. Blood Cancer United hosts two Light The Night events, free community events that provide a powerful opportunity to celebrate, honor and remember those impacted by blood cancers. Together, more than 3,500 attendees participated across both events.

Each event is marked by a moving lantern lighting ceremony and heartfelt stories, creating an emotional and deeply meaningful experience for participants. The impact is strengthened through collaboration with major healthcare systems, pharmaceutical partners, schools, and local community groups, expanding both reach and resources for patients.

This year was particularly exciting as the organization launched the rebrand to Blood Cancer United Light The Night, marking the evolution of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) while honoring its legacy. This transition reflects the organization's continued commitment to unity, innovation, and community-driven support for those facing blood cancer.

The Light The Night event makes a meaningful impact across Los Angeles by creating inclusive, community-centered experiences while directly supporting blood cancer patients and their families. With no registration fees or fundraising requirements, we ensure there is no barrier to participating in Light The Night. These events are open to everyone, bringing people together in powerful moments of unity, hope and remembrance. These gatherings shine light in the midst of difficult diagnoses, offering a supportive space where survivors feel empowered and families feel seen.



EVENING FROM THE HEART to Benefit THE JOHN RITTER FOUNDATION FOR AORTIC HEALTH FINALIST

The John Ritter Foundation for Aortic Health (JRF)'s fundraising event raises awareness of thoracic aortic disease and supports research, education and advocacy on aortic health. The 2025 fundraiser, Evening From the Heart, held in Hollywood and inspired by the cultural legacy of JRF's namesake, the beloved late actor John Ritter, was a resounding success.

On September 12th, the JRF's small but mighty team of four staff members, led by CEO Meredith Ford O'Neal (herself an aortic dissection survivor) transformed the Sunset Room into a throwback to the glory days of the 1970s and Ritter's iconic series Three's Company, featuring a star-studded live reading of an iconic episode. Evening From the Heart ultimately made more than \$500,000 to support JRF's crucial mission.



FOO FIGHTERS CONCERT to Benefit HOPE THE MISSION FINALIST

The Foo Fighters benefit concert at the Kia Forum stands out as a truly exceptional fundraising event for its creativity, scale, and measurable impact on the Los Angeles community. Held on January 14 at the Kia Forum, the concert brought together music, philanthropy and direct service in a way that meaningfully advanced support for Angelenos experiencing homelessness. The event raised enough funds to provide approximately 100,000 meals, directly supporting Hope the Mission and Los Angeles Mission (Hope United) in their efforts to deliver food, shelter, and essential services to unhoused and food-insecure individuals and families.

The in-person-only pre-sale and donation drive in early December 2025 required fans to show up, give back, and engage with Hope the Mission and LA Mission.



RACE FOR THE RESCUES FINALIST

Race For The Rescues is dedicated to saving Los Angeles' most vulnerable animals while supporting local animal welfare organizations and highlighting the essential role animals play in our lives and communities.

In 2025, Race For The Rescues celebrated its 20th anniversary at the Rose Bowl, uniting 15 Los Angeles-based animal welfare nonprofits under one shared mission: to rescue and rehome animals, reduce shelter overcrowding and euthanasia, and provide critical resources to pet owners in need. On the morning of race day, Los Angeles was hit by an unexpected atmospheric river. What followed was a powerful demonstration of community resilience. More than 200 participants showed up in torrential rain. Despite fears of significant financial loss, Race For The Rescues exceeded its fundraising goal, raising over \$382,000 for animals in need.



"TOUR DE PIER" to Benefit THE HIRSHBERG FOUNDATION FOR PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH FINALIST

Tour de Pier is a signature community fundraising event that uniquely combines innovation, collaboration, and measurable impact. Held annually on the Manhattan Beach Pier, Tour de Pier is an outdoor stationary cycling event that brings together cancer survivors, patients, caregivers, corporate partners, and community members for a powerful day of purpose and connection. Riders participate side-by-side on stationary bikes, allowing individuals of all fitness levels and abilities to take part.

In 2025, Tour de Pier raised over \$1.5 million, with 100% of participant-raised funds directly supporting cancer research and patient services. Proceeds benefit three nonprofit partners: the Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research, the Uncle Kory Foundation, and Cancer Support Community South Bay. Since its inception, the event has raised more than \$15 million for these organizations.

IN A CHILD'S WORLD, PLAY IS PART OF HEALING.

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ORGANIZATIONS



OUTSTANDING COLLABORATION BETWEEN A BUSINESS AND A NONPROFIT **HONOREES**

THE FARMLINK PROJECT / INTUIT

Since 2022, Intuit has collaborated with The Farmlink Project, an Intuit customer and student-founded nonprofit dedicated to eradicating food waste through innovation. Together, over the course of the last three years, they have provided the necessary logistics to connect high-quality surplus food from hundreds of farms across the United States to food banks, helping communities in need and avoiding methane from unnecessary food waste.

For the past three years, Farmlink and Intuit's partnership has been tackling one of the most significant but often overlooked drivers of climate change – food waste. The global food system contributes more planet-warming emissions than the entire transportation sector, with one-third of all food ultimately going to waste. Intuit was the first donor to approach Farmlink to specifically address and fund the climate impact of this work.

Farmlink's approach is elegantly simple but powerfully effective: working with farmers who have millions of pounds of excess fresh produce that would otherwise rot in landfills, creating harmful methane emissions. Instead, Farmlink redirects this farm-fresh food to families in need, simultaneously avoiding greenhouse gas emissions while addressing food insecurity. Although a seemingly obvious solution, there is currently no system in place to capture the tens of billions of pounds of excess food throughout our supply chain which goes to landfill before it even reaches the grocery store. Today, with Intuit's support, Farmlink continues to provide fresh food and resources to food banks facing unprecedented demand. They have moved 13 million pounds of food into Los Angeles area communities, translating to roughly 11 million meals and counting.



KPMG / OLIVE CREST / AUSTIN EKELER FOUNDATION
FINALIST

On August 5, 2025, KPMG hosted an impactful end-of-summer celebration for 150 Olive Crest youth and their families, designed to address essential needs while fostering long-term inspiration. The event directly tackled food and clothing insecurity by providing nutritious meals and a creative tie-dye workshop where youth produced brand-new apparel.

To empower attendees, the program featured a motivational session with a former foster youth turned successful entrepreneur and nonprofit founder, who shared her journey of resilience. This was followed by a strategic goal-setting workshop, where youth created vision boards to map out their aspirations. The event's impact was further amplified by Washington Commanders running back Austin Ekeler, who donated \$10,000 in Adidas merchandise to further alleviate clothing insecurity.



NIKE USA INC. / L.A. PARKS FOUNDATION / DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
FINALIST

Nike's collaboration with the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks through Coach LA and Women Coach LA represents an outstanding example of how a business / nonprofit partnership can directly address systemic inequities in youth sports and recreation. Through targeted investment and strategic alignment with LA Recreation and Parks, Nike helped expand access to high-quality coaching education – particularly for women and individuals from historically underrepresented communities.

Nike's support established and strengthened Coach LA's mission to build a skilled, diverse coaching workforce by funding training opportunities, coaching certifications, and leadership development for community members who might otherwise face financial or structural barriers to entry. Through Women Coach LA, Nike invested in increasing the number of women coaches across local recreation programs, addressing long-standing gender gaps in coaching.



Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center



UCLA HEALTH / AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
FINALIST

UCLA Health is distinguished by transformational investment, mission-driven innovations, and remarkable collaboration with the American Cancer Society (ACS). Their system-wide commitment spans every pillar of the ACS mission – patient support, advocacy, and research.

In July 2025, UCLA Health renewed its ACS partnership contract for \$805,000 for 2025-2028, the largest ACS partnership with a health system outside of Hope Lodge. This long-term commitment underscores UCLA Health's belief in the value of ACS programs and solidifies their role as a national leader in cancer partnership and philanthropy. UCLA Health leadership, employees, researchers, and clinicians also contributed significantly to ACS fundraising through multiple high-impact Relay For Life events. The UCLA ACS CARES program has also grown into a highly effective, deeply integrated model of patient support.



WARNER RECORDS / CITY OF HOPE
FINALIST

City of Hope prides itself on building lasting relationships that align its donors' values with bold ideas that accelerate progress. It's this chemistry – between supporters and science – that makes real, life-changing work possible. Nowhere is the power of partnership more evident than in City of Hope's 50-year collaboration with Warner Records.

For half a century, Warner Records executives have actively supported City of Hope's Music, Film and Entertainment Industry (MFEI) group. The MFEI, comprised of 150+ executives, has raised \$170 million for cancer research and care since 1973. Over the years, Warner Records has helped City of Hope meet the community's greatest cancer needs, from advancing life-saving research to expanding access to care for underserved groups.

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ORGANIZATIONS



BANK OF AMERICA



OUTSTANDING SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY HONOREE

BANK OF AMERICA

When the devastating wildfires struck Los Angeles in January of 2025 more than half of the 13,000+ impacted households had a business relationship with Bank of America. BofA immediately jumped into action deploying capital, expertise and connections to help not just its own impacted clients but all impacted communities, with BofA's president of Business Banking (Raul Anaya, BofA president for Greater LA) dedicating his full time to the recovery effort. The company knew it would take new ways of thinking such as this going beyond the traditional playbook to get LA through this disaster.

Over the past year in LA, Bank of America became more than simply a bank – it has been instrumental in shaping this historic next chapter for Los Angeles, leading cross-sector collaboration among civic, business and philanthropic leaders to accelerate recovery and rebuilding, leaning on BofA's extensive experience with disaster recovery coast to coast and its more than 110-year legacy in Los Angeles.

Initially in the early days of the fires, Bank of America reached out to 2.5 million clients in the fire zones to assess needs and provide specialized one-on-one support, and hundreds of its own impacted employees were supported with shelter, childcare and transportation resources, among other support. Having two of its own financial centers burn down in Altadena and the Palisades, BofA brought a 100-person team of specialists together to retrieve the massive safe deposit box vaults from the two burned ruins, set up retrieval sites in nearby communities and helped reunite over 2,000 safe box clients with their valuables.

Deloitte.

DELOITTE
FINALIST

Deloitte leads with purpose to help enact positive change for its people, clients and communities. It does this through its work with clients that enables them to drive impact and value in their organizations, as well through Deloitte's own investments, commitments and actions across areas that help drive positive outcomes for communities.

180 years ago, Deloitte was founded with the mission of instilling trust in capital markets during the birth of professional accounting. While Deloitte has since expanded into other businesses, it remains steadfast in its commitment to driving impact while maintaining trust and confidence in society and its institutions. The purpose is aligned with its Shared Values and is a part of everything it does.

DELTA

DELTA AIR LINES
FINALIST

Delta Air Lines demonstrates a sustained and meaningful commitment to the Los Angeles community through significant financial investment, meaningful employee engagement and long-standing nonprofit partnerships that deliver measurable impact. In 2025, Delta contributed over \$4.1 million to the LAX market, supporting 26 nonprofit organizations aligned with four core pillars: Environment, Equity, Education and Entire Wellness. Through Delta's charitable support, nonprofit partners reported positively impacting the lives of nearly 160,000 individuals in 2025.

As part of its total giving, Delta stepped in to aid urgent community needs by contributing \$1 million to the American Red Cross for disaster relief efforts following the California wildfires in early 2025, reinforcing its role as a dependable partner in times of crisis. Delta also provided \$100,000 to YMCA LA within weeks of the fires.

PNC

PNC BANK
FINALIST

When PNC established its presence in Los Angeles in late 2021, volunteerism efforts were built from the ground up while simultaneously building a new book of business. Market executives focused on identifying the most pressing needs of local community partners and determining how we could scale our impact in a way that reflected the multicultural landscape of Los Angeles.

PNC understood that high-quality early education was a powerful means for economic and social mobility and decided to put the power of the company and its employees behind that cause through a comprehensive approach to grant funding, employee volunteerism, awareness and advocacy. PNC launched the company's signature philanthropic initiative, PNC Grow Up Great, in Los Angeles to continue advancing the nationwide goal of advancing early childhood education.

the Wonderful company™

THE WONDERFUL COMPANY
FINALIST

The Wonderful Company, home to iconic healthy brands including Wonderful Pistachios, FIJI Water, POM Wonderful, and Wonderful Halos, has a long history of showing up for the communities where its employees live and work. The Los Angeles-based company, and its founders Lynda and Stewart Resnick, along with their foundations, have channeled more than \$2.5 billion toward community development, education, sustainability, and health initiatives around the world.

In 2025, the company delivered a swift and community-centered response to the devastating Los Angeles wildfires. With employees, neighbors and first responders directly impacted, and with Los Angeles home to Wonderful's global headquarters, the company moved quickly to respond. Within days, the company committed \$10 million to support immediate relief efforts, as well as long-term recovery and rebuilding work.

UCLA Health congratulates the honorees of the

LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL NONPROFIT & CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Barb Jagels, RN, MHA, CPHQ

Executive Director, Cancer Services at UCLA Health

Business Angel of the Year

Honoree

and

UCLA Health & American Cancer Society

Outstanding Collaboration

Nominee

UCLA Health

Keep on rising



ORGANIZATIONS

CAA community & impact



MOST INNOVATIVE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN HONOREE

CAA COMMUNITY & IMPACT

Creative Artists Agency (CAA) was the first Hollywood agency to create a philanthropic arm, and CAA Community and Impact has continued to set the standard for how the entertainment industry can leverage its influence to drive lasting systemic change. CAA Community & Impact has activated popular culture to create sustainable social change through strategic initiatives and partnerships that foster awareness and action.

In response to the tragic January 2025 wildfires, CAA Community and Impact, in partnership with Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE), a global humanitarian organization cofounded by actor Sean Penn that empowers communities in and beyond crisis, and the Los Angeles Unified School District Education Foundation came together to launch a collaborative relief and recovery effort, the SoCal FIRE FUND.

To raise awareness and critical funds, CAA Community & Impact partnered with CharityBuzz, the leading online marketplace that works with nonprofits, corporations, vendors, agencies, celebrities and other donors to bring customers unmatched access and extraordinary experiences to raise funds for social causes, to offer once-in-a-lifetime experiences with proceeds benefiting the SoCal FIRE FUND. Tapping into their unparalleled network of agency clients, they were able to help provide unique experiences made available for auction and sweepstakes. Experiences included: lunch with actress Julia Roberts, set visit to Bravo's WATCH WHAT HAPPENS LIVE and meet and greet with host Andy Cohen, Vegas VIP experience with The Chainsmokers, set visit to Hulu's ONLY MURDERS IN THE BUILDING, tickets to the premiere of WHITE LOTUS in Los Angeles and meet and greet with cast, and more.



CHILDREN OF THE NIGHT, INC. FINALIST

Children of the Night, the non-profit, social services agency dedicated solely to the rescue, stabilization and education of child prostitutes across the United States, has kicked-off a new podcast series featuring intense interviews with now successful adults who are former teen prostitutes. The podcast is entitled "The Dr. Lois Lee Show."

Children of the Night also began a powerful billboard campaign in LA billboard/bus benches/transit shelters/posters in Los Angeles went up in August 2023. These have been focused exclusively within the Figueroa Corridor, the most dangerous, gang-controlled, crime-riddled area in Los Angeles. Currently there are 18 Children of the Night posters and bus benches on the Figueroa Corridor, between 75th and Century, all containing the agency's slogan: "PIMPS DON'T CARE. WE DO. 800-551-1300."



VOICES OF A HEART FINALIST

Voices of a Heart, designed to provide impact to individuals navigating abuse and divorce. The organization provides personalized mentorship through one-on-one coaching, workshops, and support groups that help survivors rebuild confidence, emotional stability, having helped close to 25 people within a year and a half. Voices of a Heart also addresses critical access-to-justice gaps by connecting clients with compassionate legal professionals, assisting with initial legal fees, and offering court advocates so survivors are not alone during intimidating legal proceedings.

Through grassroots fundraising efforts, including an online Givebutter campaign that raised approximately \$1,165 from community supporters, the organization sustains its programs and services. Through its tiered Advocacy Packages, the for-profit arm provides trauma-informed guidance, emotional support, and hands-on advocacy for individuals navigating divorce and abuse.



WELLNEST FINALIST

Wellnest's unique "Supporting Children Through Crisis," advocacy campaign, which transformed a Wellnest-written, trauma-informed mental health "tips" resource booklet, into a rapid-response, community-powered awareness initiative, reaching hundreds of thousands across Los Angeles.

Unlike a traditional awareness campaigns, this effort was designed as a living, multi-phase response, that adapted to several various crises that occurred last year, including the LA wildfires, immigration raids, and community-trauma. During the Eaton Canyon wildfires, Wellnest immediately partnered with local clergy, grassroots leaders and businesses who were trusted messengers during a critical time of fear and displacement. Wellnest distributed resource booklets directly to families and caregivers seeking guidance, ensuring access for displaced homeowners and families, to engage with clinical services. The booklet, written in-house and rooted in evidence-based, trauma-informed care, addressed complex and often overlooked topics such as grief, loss, stress, and how to talk to children about the ongoing ICE raids.

WHERE THE REST OF HER WORLD FADES AWAY.

Nestled along the L.A. River, **Taking the Reins** is a nonprofit dedicated to helping underserved girls learn how to navigate their personal growth and futures.

Taking the Reins serves 400 girls annually in our equestrian, gardening, environmental science, educational, and leadership programs.



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INDIVIDUALS



BUSINESS ANGEL OF THE YEAR HONOREE

BARBARA JAGELS

Executive Director, Cancer Services
UCLA Health

Barbara Jagels exemplifies the highest standard of a Business Angel – an executive leader who not only champions the nonprofit community, but fundamentally strengthens it through vision, influence, and sustained commitment. As executive director of cancer services at UCLA Health, Jagels has consistently leveraged her influence, expertise, and personal passion to advance the mission of the American Cancer Society (ACS) in meaningful and measurable ways. She has gone beyond traditional corporate partnership and instead taken on a role of a dedicated strategic partner by serving as executive chair of the Trailblazers in Cancer Summit, elevating health equity as a central priority, and helping raise more than \$1 million to support ACS-funded research and patient programs. Beyond financial investment, Jagels' service on the ACS Los Angeles Board of Directors and her leadership within CEOs Against Cancer demonstrate a deep, personal dedication to advancing nonprofit missions at both a strategic and community level.

At UCLA Health, Jagels continues to make a profound and lasting impact on the American Cancer Society, the broader healthcare community, and the Los Angeles region through her visionary leadership and collaborative approach. Jagels has been a transformational partner helping lead UCLA Health's multi-year partnership with ACS of \$805,000 for 2025 – 2028, which is recognized as the largest ACS health system partnership outside of Hope Lodge. This commitment has significantly strengthened ACS' ability to deliver patient support services, fund lifesaving research, and advance advocacy efforts across the region. In addition to this substantial investment, Jagels' leadership as chair of the Trailblazers in Cancer Summit has been both strategic and catalytic.



BLAKE BOLDEN

FINALIST

Growth & Inclusion Specialist
LA Kings

Blake Bolden has served as the community & hockey development specialist for the LA Kings since 2021. In this capacity, she helps to drive overall enrollment in camps and clinics, generating more revenue for the LA Kings organization. Driven by passion and her own youth hockey journey, Bolden works outside of the scope of her job duties to support Kings Care Foundation, the team's charitable arm, in its efforts to achieve greater play equity and female participation in Los Angeles.

As a result of Bolden's efforts, LA Kings youth hockey programs have achieved greater enrollment for girls and BIPOC players, enhanced the quality of on-ice programming and authentically engaged a more diverse community of players.



JAMES DO

FINALIST

California Market President;
Head of Non-Profit Banking
First Bank

James Do is someone always on the lookout for a way to help those in his community. Be it during the workday as California market president and head of nonprofit banking for First Bank, or in his personal time as an active volunteer and leader with several Los Angeles area organizations, Do is among the first in line to support those in need in whatever way he can – frequently deploying his financial expertise as a career banker.

Do currently serves as board treasurer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles and was responsible for establishing an investment policy and endowment for the organization. This endowment provides secure and sustainable financial support to critical youth mentoring programs, ensuring they remain available to those in need.



MONIQUE MONTANO

FINALIST

CEO; Founder
Bravo Salon Inc.

Monique Montano took her reputation as a business angel to the next level last year thanks to her extraordinary leadership during the Eaton Fire crisis. While her own business faced significant financial strain as a result of the Altadena fires last January 2025, including over 175 immediate cancellations and nearly \$40,000 in lost revenue, Montano prioritized community advocacy over personal profit.

Montano transformed her Pasadena salon into a vital logistical relief hub, leveraging her professional network to provide essential care and supplies to fire victims. Her ability to mobilize over 150 student volunteers while local schools were shuttered demonstrates her unique position as a leader who uses her "for-profit" platform to drive critical "non-profit" community outcomes.



JAMES SMITH

FINALIST

Founder; CEO
Executive Communication Services

As the 39th Postmaster of Los Angeles, James E. Smith had an impressive 44-year career with the United States Postal Service. Beyond his professional achievements, James founded the James A. Smith Postmaster Scholarship Foundation, which for the past decade has ignited dreams for students from underserved communities. This nonprofit vision ensures educational opportunities for students that are often overlooked, directly addressing social determinants of health by promoting education.

Smith's commitment to the community is also evident through his role as a Providence Community Health Action Team Leader and his support for Providence Health Equity initiatives. He has contributed to projects such as the Community Health Needs Assessment Health Equity engagement and listening sessions and has fostered numerous partnerships with impactful organizations.

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INDIVIDUALS



NONPROFIT ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR HONOREE

MIKE DALY

Executive Director, A&R and Music Publishing
Disney Music Group

As board chair of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles (BBBSLA), Mike Daly integrates governance excellence, personal generosity, strategic leadership, community advocacy, and steadfast commitment in order to make an extraordinary impact on the organization's mission and constituents. In 2025 alone, he contributed more than 163 volunteer hours, helped secure a transformational \$1 million gift, and led a board culture that achieved 100% participation and exceeded expectations with an average give/get of nearly four times the required threshold. Daly's involvement is deeply personal. As a former Big Brother, he speaks authentically and powerfully about the lifelong impact of mentorship, sharing his story at BBBSLA events — including the Economic Impact Luncheon, Golf Classic, and Big Night Out Gala — to inspire donors, corporate partners, and community leaders to get involved.

Importantly, Daly's leadership is both visionary and inspiring. He consistently challenges the organization to think bigger and act more boldly - asking "what if?" to challenge board members' thinking, encourage innovation, and strive for ambitious goals. This mindset directly supported landmark initiatives in 2025, including the adoption of inclusive cross-gender matching policies, the launch of BBBSLA's first-ever Alumni Circle, and the operationalization of a board-driven strategic plan focused on generational success. His philanthropic leadership reflects the very best practices of board service and board-staff partnership.

Daly's impact on BBBSLA and the greater Los Angeles community is commendable. In 2025, under his board leadership, BBBSLA served 1,225 youth, created 395 new mentoring matches, and raised \$4.9 million to sustain and expand programming across Los Angeles County.



KEITH ADDIS

FINALIST

Managing Partner; Owner
Industry Entertainment

Keith Addis exemplifies the highest standard of volunteer-driven fundraising leadership. As a member of the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank Board of Directors since 2020, Addis has dedicated extraordinary personal time, resources and influence to advance hunger relief in Los Angeles County. He and his wife, Keri Selig, host the annual "Million Reasons" fundraising event, which brings together prominent philanthropists, corporate leaders, chefs and entertainers to support the Food Bank's mission.

Through these efforts and related initiatives, Addis has helped raise more than \$3.3 million for hunger relief, providing millions of meals to neighbors in need. His creativity, leadership, and personal commitment have significantly accelerated our fundraising capacity and expanded our donor community.



MARTIN M. COOPER

FINALIST

Founder
Cooper Communications

Martin M. Cooper has been a dedicated board member of Boys & Girls Club of the West Valley for nearly two decades and will celebrate 20 years of volunteer service in December 2026. Alongside his wife, Barbara, he makes consistent personal contributions to the Club; however, what truly distinguishes Cooper is his exceptional ability to inspire others to give in ways that meaningfully impact the lives of youth.

Since 2006, Cooper has championed the Cooper Reading Challenge, encouraging individuals to contribute \$25 to support literacy programming. In the wake of COVID-19, he helped launch the Cooper Literacy Program, expanding opportunities for youth to develop a love of reading. In 2021, Cooper established an endowment to ensure these literacy programs continue for generations of children in the Valley.



JOSHUA FEIN

FINALIST

Co-Founder; Chief Financial Officer
Property Management Associates (PMA)

As president of the School on Wheels Board, Josh Fein exemplifies nonprofit advocacy through example, with his extraordinary generosity, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the organization. Fein joined School on Wheels' Board of Directors in 2010 and became its president in 2015. His leadership sets a powerful example of what it means to give generously in both time and resources.

In addition to his significant personal financial contributions, Fein, who is co-founder and CFO of Property Management Associates (PMA), donates hundreds of hours each year in service to School on Wheels, providing strategic guidance, governance leadership, and hands-on support that has been truly transformative. Fein has also been instrumental in identifying and securing new sponsors, donors, and corporate partners, substantially expanding the organization's funding base and long-term sustainability.



LIZBETH NEVAREZ

FINALIST

Partner; Nonprofit Tax Practice Leader
GHJ

As a board member of Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, Lizbeth Nevarez contributes her tax and governance expertise to help an organization that delivers free legal services to nearly 160,000 individuals and families annually. In this role, she provides financial oversight, compliance guidance and strategic insight that strengthen the organization's long-term sustainability and ability to expand access to justice for underserved communities. Her contributions go beyond fiduciary duties and include advising leadership on risk management, regulatory requirements and operational decision-making, ensuring the organization remains mission-focused and financially sound.

Nevarez also serves on the board of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation, where she provides pro bono financial and governance support to advance programs focused on early childhood education, senior services and community development.

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INDIVIDUALS



NONPROFIT EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR (LARGE) **HONOREE**

MICHAEL FLOOD

President; Chief Executive Officer

Los Angeles Regional Food Bank

Michael Flood has served as president and CEO of the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank for 25 years, marking his 25th anniversary in 2025, which was one of the most challenging years in Los Angeles County's history. Under Flood's leadership, the Food Bank responded to a federal government shutdown that disrupted CalFresh benefits and to catastrophic wildfires in the Greater Los Angeles area that displaced thousands of residents and destabilized local economies.

Flood guided rapid scaling of emergency food distributions, coordinated with state and local agencies, and mobilized donors, corporate partners, and public officials to ensure uninterrupted food access. His steady, strategic leadership during crises exemplifies the collaborative, innovative and mission-driven executive leadership this award seeks to recognize.

Flood's leadership ensured the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank functioned as a core resilience institution for Los Angeles County. During the federal government shutdown, when CalFresh benefits were paused, the Food Bank rapidly deployed large-scale emergency distributions, including a major drive-through distribution at the Kia Forum, serving thousands of families facing immediate food gaps. During the Greater Los Angeles wildfires, Flood led a countywide surge response, expanding food and essential items donations by 60% in the first few weeks, producing record emergency food kits, and coordinating the distribution with local partner organizations. He welcomed State leadership and civic officials to the Food Bank to secure emergency funding and elevate awareness, while maintaining regular hunger-relief operations across the county. Flood's 25-year tenure reflects sustained institutional growth, operational excellence, and trusted partnerships across government, philanthropy, and the private sector.



STEPHEN CHEUNG

FINALIST

President; CEO

Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation

In January 2025, wildfires burned over 40,000 acres, destroyed more than 16,000 structures, and left over 150,000 Angelenos in urgent need of aid. Stephen Cheung didn't wait for someone else to act. While local officials coordinated relief with first responders, he partnered with LA County, the Department of Economic Opportunity, GO-Biz, a coalition of community partners, and the Mayor's Office to mobilize resources for businesses, workers and entrepreneurs. Within days, his teams launched pop-up Business Recovery Centers and Fire Recovery Job Fairs across the hardest-hit areas.

Over 500 businesses were provided direct technical business assistance as a result. Cheung raised over \$1.1 million to provide emergency financial relief for fire-affected businesses and deployed LAEDC's business team to provide technical assistance to over 500 impacted businesses.



DEXTER HENDERSON

FINALIST

Chief Executive Officer

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC)

Dexter Henderson, executive director of the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC), exemplifies what it means to be a visionary nonprofit leader, a community advocate, and a transformational executive dedicated to elevating the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Henderson consistently builds strong, mission-driven relationships with businesses, civic leaders, public agencies, and community stakeholders throughout Los Angeles. His ability to bridge conversations across sectors has positioned SCLARC as a trusted thought leader in equity, inclusion and access for underserved populations. Through his strategic engagement efforts, he has fostered collaborations that expand services, enhance family supports, and amplify SCLARC's impact across 14 diverse cities in South Los Angeles.



KATIE HILL

FINALIST

Chief Executive Officer

Union Station Homeless Services

Katie Hill possesses the ability to align strategy, partnerships, and public trust to drive measurable impact across Los Angeles. As CEO of Union Station Homeless Services, she has strengthened relationships with civic leaders, healthcare systems, philanthropy, and business partners to expand housing and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness. Under her leadership, the organization has increased private fundraising to support both long-term housing solutions and rapid emergency response, including mobilizing resources during the Eaton Fire to assist displaced families.

Hill brings a disciplined, data-informed approach to fundraising while elevating public awareness through ethical storytelling and transparent impact reporting. She leads with clarity, credibility and accountability, ensuring that partners see both the human impact and the return on investment.



DANIEL ROTHBLATT

FINALIST

Executive Vice President

Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles

As executive vice president of the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles, Dan Rothblatt has played an instrumental role in The Foundation's enormous growth and success over his 18-year tenure.

As the leader of the organization's Development Department throughout his tenure, Rothblatt was key to driving asset growth from just under \$800 million when he began in 2007 to more than \$1.5 billion by the end of 2025, almost doubling in size over his employment. This growth was fueled by his enormous energy, dedication and innovative approaches to fundraising, donor acquisition, and donor stewardship, which in turn helped transform The Foundation's total grantmaking from \$78 million to \$210 million last year, a more than 250 percent increase.



PROUD TO SUPPORT THE LIFE-SAVING WORK OF

PAWS FOR LIFE K9 RESCUE

CONGRATULATIONS TO TODAY'S HONOREES
FOR THE INCREDIBLE IMPACT YOU MAKE!





INDIVIDUALS



NONPROFIT EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR (MID-SIZED) HONOREE

LOIS LEE

Founder; CEO

Children of the Night, Inc.

Dr. Lois Lee is the founder and president of Children of the Night, America's first social services agency designed to help rescue children from prostitution. She is renowned as the world's leading expert in rescuing child sex trafficking victims.

In 1973, Dr. Lee wrote a paper entitled "The Pimp and His Game," the basis of her trainings of thousands of members of law enforcement and her expert testimony in state and federal courts since the '80s. As a PhD student in Sociology in 1979, Dr. Lee discovered children, some as young as 11 years old, working as prostitutes on the streets of Hollywood for food to eat and a place to sleep. When she realized that these youngsters were 'falling through the cracks' of the social service system, she made it her mission to help, opening her home to more than 250 children over the next three years. Thus, the non-profit organization Children of the Night was founded in 1979. Today, Dr. Lee continues to serve as president.

Since 1979, Children of the Night has rescued over 17,000 children from prostitution in the United States. Dr. Lee maintains a 70% to 80% success rate with her life-changing work, which mobilizes children from prostitution to successful adult lives. Children of the Night graduates go on to become Homeland Security personnel, teachers, bankers, social workers, firefighters, while also securing a variety of positions within other professions. Dr. Lee's pioneering work with child sex trafficking victims has blazed the trail for academics, researchers, law enforcement, social service providers, and legislators across the globe.



GREG MARTAYAN

FINALIST

Vice President, External Affairs
The Valley Economic Alliance

Greg Martayan provides exceptional leadership and impact as an executive at the Valley Economic Alliance, where he has been a driving force behind regional collaboration, economic growth, and community engagement. As vice president of external affairs, he has built trusted partnerships across cities, businesses, educational institutions, and public agencies, translating relationships into measurable results for the San Fernando Valley. His strategic vision, tireless work, and ability to convene diverse stakeholders have helped the region. Through his work, Martayan has strengthened partnerships, advanced public safety initiatives, and consistently championed a stronger, more unified Valley, leaving a lasting legacy of service.

Beyond great outcomes, Martayan leads with his heart and purpose. He mentors emerging leaders, empowers colleagues, and represents the Alliance with professionalism and pride in every setting.



DEANA PAYNE

FINALIST

Program Director
Good Shepherd Shelter

As program director, Deana Payne is the highest ranking executive at Good Shepherd Shelter in Los Angeles. Good Shepherd has served Los Angeles' most vulnerable women for over 100 years. In 1977, it became the city's first transitional domestic violence shelter. Today, under Payne's leadership, it remains focused on its mission to break the generational cycle of domestic violence by providing individualized, comprehensive services and shelter to women and their children escaping domestic violence, and by raising community awareness through advocacy and education.

Payne and her team at Good Shepherd envision a world where all women and children are freed from the cycle of domestic violence and have an opportunity to live their lives fully, sustained by their sense of dignity, independence and potential.



BETH RYAN

FINALIST

Executive Director
Stepping Forward Los Angeles

Beth Ryan is a transformative leader in Los Angeles whose compassion, vision, and relentless advocacy has changed the trajectory of thousands of young people aging out of foster care. As founder and executive director of Stepping Forward Los Angeles (SFLA), Ryan has built one of the city's most innovative and effective support ecosystems for transition-age foster youth, grounded in dignity, community, and long-term stability.

Ryan founded SFLA in 2017 after recognizing a devastating gap: more than 1,000 foster youth age out of the Los Angeles County system each year with little to no support, placing them at extreme risk of homelessness, unemployment, exploitation and isolation. She envisioned and built an organization designed not for foster youth, but with them.



TUNUA THRASH-NTUK

FINALIST

President; CEO
The Center by Lendistry

As president & CEO of The Center by Lendistry, Tunua Thrash-Ntuk has positioned the organization as a go-to partner for civic leaders, financial institutions, public agencies, and community-based partners across Los Angeles County. Her leadership is marked by an ability to bring diverse stakeholders together around shared goals, particularly during moments of disruption, such as wildfire recovery and post-disaster rebuilding.

Thrash-Ntuk has also brought increased visibility to the structural challenges facing underserved small businesses and households, reframing economic recovery as both an immediate and long-term imperative. She has guided the organization to expand its scope beyond traditional technical assistance, integrating disaster recovery, climate resilience, and workforce-aligned strategies into a cohesive vision for equitable growth.

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL



Fighting Hunger. Giving Hope.

No One Should Go Hungry in Los Angeles County.

LAFoodBank.org



Los Angeles Regional Food Bank is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

INDIVIDUALS



NONPROFIT EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR (EMERGING) HONOREE

LISA YOUNG

Executive Director

Race For The Rescues

Lisa Young and her team at Race For The Rescues are dedicated to saving Los Angeles' most vulnerable animals while supporting local animal welfare organizations and highlighting the essential role animals play in our lives and communities. At its core, the event is powered by a deeply committed community of volunteers who dedicate countless hours, personal resources, and leadership to ensure its success year after year.

In 2025, Young and Race For The Rescues celebrated the organization's 20th anniversary at the iconic Rose Bowl, uniting 15 Los Angeles-based animal welfare nonprofits under one shared mission: to rescue and rehome animals, reduce shelter overcrowding and euthanasia, and provide critical resources to pet owners in need. Led by Young, this volunteer-driven event was built as a coalition model – bringing nonprofits together rather than competing for limited resources.

On the morning of race day, Los Angeles was hit by an unexpected atmospheric river. With the storm arriving the same day, Young and her team of volunteer leaders were forced to pivot immediately – moving activities into a Rose Bowl parking lot, redesigning logistics on the fly, shifting sponsor benefits online, and leveraging social media. What followed was a powerful demonstration of volunteer leadership and community resilience. More than 200 participants showed up in torrential rain, supported by volunteers, sponsors, and nonprofit partners who adapted in real time. Race For The Rescues exceeded its \$350,000 fundraising goal, raising over \$382,000 for animals in need. Rain or shine, Lisa Young and Race For The Rescues show up for animals.



HOWARD GROBSTEIN

FINALIST

President

Cory Fights Back

Howard Grobstein established an organization called Cory Fights Back, a nonprofit dedicated to raising funds for ovarian cancer education, awareness and research. This cause holds personal significance for Grobstein, as he lost his fiancé, Cory Zera, to ovarian cancer in February 2025. Noticing how little people know about ovarian cancer and aware of the challenges in early detection and treatment, he was motivated to take action.

Within months, Cory Fights Back was officially established as a recognized nonprofit organization. Cory Fights Back held its first event and fundraiser on October 4, 2025, just a few short months after Cory's passing. The effort united the Los Angeles community, families, supporters, doctors, survivors, and NOCC members for a shared cause, and Grobstein donated the evenings proceedings to the NOCC.



KAYOKO MITSUMATSU

FINALIST

Founder; President

Yoga Gives Back

Kayoko Mitsumatsu is the founder and president of Yoga Gives Back, a Los Angeles-based non-profit established in 2007 that mobilizes the global yoga community to empower underserved women and children in India through microloans and education funds. Mitsumatsu created Yoga Gives Back to give back to India by providing microloans and education scholarships to underserved women and children with its mantra: "For the cost of one yoga class, you can change a life."

Under Mitsumatsu's leadership over the past 18 years, Yoga Gives Back has provided more than 3,000 underserved mothers and children with microloans and education funds in Karnataka and West Bengal; has been supported by over 150 ambassadors – leading yoga and mindfulness teachers worldwide; and has reached 30 countries globally.



KEITH WHITE

FINALIST

Co-Founder

AfroAnimation

Keith White, co-founder of the AfroAnimation Foundation and founder of Margin to Mainstream, is a transformative leader advancing diversity, education, and workforce opportunity in the entertainment industry.

Through the AfroAnimation Foundation, White has expanded access to training, mentorship, and industry exposure for young talent nationwide. With Margin to Mainstream, he is preserving and elevating the untold history of Black animators while inspiring the next generation through a national lecture tour. His work has delivered measurable impact, opened doors for marginalized communities, and strengthened the creative economy. Through his leadership, he transformed AfroAnimation into the largest diverse animation summit in the United States, providing career access, mentorship, and industry visibility to thousands of emerging creators.



ARZO YUSUF

FINALIST

Executive Director

Angels Nest TLP

Arzo Yusuf is a highly service-oriented individual that has dedicated her life to helping youth from foster care improve their life circumstance and help her community at large. She takes her role as a community leader seriously and leverages various roles to raise awareness on the plight of foster youth to help educate the public and business communities to inspire more people to get involved and support this important work.

Yusuf leverages strategic partnerships to maximize impact and minimize costs. She created the Resource Navigator Program that is entirely run by former foster youth that has helped almost 2000 foster youth in the last three years. It's the only program in Los Angeles that was built in collaboration with and is run entirely by former foster youth.

TOGETHER WE CAN PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Sex trafficking in **Los Angeles County** is growing. Local children, average age of 14, are the fastest-growing victims. Our county is a high-demand area for trafficking due to our large population, affluence, and thriving tourism industry. Almost 90% of trafficked youth has a prior child abuse investigation, vulnerabilities that traffickers exploit.

That's why Olive Crest has launched a county-wide **PROMiSE Initiative** and invite you and local businesses to join us in preventing child abuse and sexual exploitation.

PROMiSE

Prevention and Restoration of Minors
impacted by Sexual Exploitation

OLIVE CREST'S COMMITMENT

We are committed to protecting children in crisis by expanding our services and resources to include our comprehensive **PROMiSE initiative**. Together, we're working to end exploitation, providing safe alternatives, and giving every child the opportunity to heal, grow, and build a brighter future by offering:

**DROP-IN
CENTERS**

**SAFE
HOMES**

**24/7 RAPID
RESPONSE
TEAMS**



Meet Lily

Hear how her life has been transformed because of our work together.

Scan QR code below to
watch Lily's story

TO LEARN MORE AND MAKE AN IMPACT

Scan the QR code or call 562.977.6905





INDIVIDUALS



NONPROFIT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR HONOREE

PAUL MILLER

Senior Managing Director

First Foundation

For the past 25 years, Paul Miller has been a driving force on Momentum's Board of Directors and Board of Governors. He has held numerous positions on the Board, including serving as chair of the Board of Directors from 2016-2019 and chair of the Board of Governors from 2019-2022.

Miller began volunteering at a very young age, supporting his mother's passion project, the Valley Association for the Handicapped. The Valley Association merged into what was then known as United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles – now Momentum. As an adult, Miller began volunteering with Momentum in 2001.

Over the past 25 years, Miller has inspired his fellow board members to raise millions of dollars, allowing Momentum to provide home and community-based services that help over 6,500 children, adults, and their families each year. Miller has also been a leader in providing the guidance that enabled Momentum to launch its new service line, Momentum Refresh. The first universally designed mobile restroom in the United States that goes beyond minimal ADA compliance, making it possible for seniors, veterans, and others with disabilities to enjoy and benefit from community events. In 2025, Momentum Refresh supported 141 events across 71 cities and 11 states, allowing nearly 15,000 individuals with mobility limitations to feel included and enjoy events without having to worry about what they would do if they needed to go to the bathroom. In January 2025, Miller led the board in making the move to turn Momentum Refresh into a for-profit agency to generate additional revenue that could be donated to Momentum.



DAVID BREWER

FINALIST

Volunteer; Philanthropist

David Brewer has made a profound and far-reaching impact on the Alzheimer's Association and communities throughout Los Angeles County through decades of sustained volunteer leadership, philanthropy and service rooted in compassion. He began volunteering with the CA Southland Chapter in 2019 following the passing of his husband, Jim, channeling personal loss into meaningful action that has strengthened the organization and advanced its mission.

Within the Alzheimer's Association, he is an exemplary and tireless volunteer and advocate. His involvement, fueled by compassion and purpose, spans volunteer leadership, serves on multiple committees, and his philanthropic support and fundraising impact are extraordinary, having directly supported critical programs, research and services for families affected by Alzheimer's and other dementia.



DAHLIA GUTIERREZ

FINALIST

Senior Relationship Manager,
Non-Profit Banking Team
First Bank

Dahlia Gutierrez exemplifies the good in her community each and every day through her volunteer work across the Los Angeles area. Be it financial literacy education with Children's Law Center and Samueli Academy, serving on the 50 in 90 Committee for Hope the Mission to support Los Angeles' unhoused population, or her unwavering dedication to supporting non-profits of all sizes and missions through her work with Strategic Impacts Group, Gutierrez is there for her community.

Beyond hands-on volunteering, Gutierrez serves as a board member for multiple organizations, including Child Development Institute and Uplift Youth Foundation, both of which aim to provide Los Angeles youth with opportunities for success. Child Development Institute offers programs for children with speech impediments, learning disabilities, and more.



ROB RADER

FINALIST

Manager
Rader Family Office

Rob Rader is a champion of service to Southern California non-profit and community organizations. As part of a longstanding commitment to public service, Rader has played key leadership roles in several "top-of-category organizations."

One example of Rader's contributions as a volunteer is the Santa Monica College Board of Trustees. For over 20 years, Rader has been elected as an official by the voters of Malibu and Santa Monica for leading community college and number-one transfer institution in California. Annually, SMC serves 30,000 students with a \$500 million budget. Rader has repeatedly served as chair, and has worked on cutting-edge issues in edtech, online, distance education, and public and alternative transportation. Among other impactful causes, he has also served on the KCRW Foundation Board of Directors for 13 years.



LISA TATE

FINALIST

Volunteer
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank

Lisa Tate has dedicated more than 1,000 volunteer hours to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, demonstrating extraordinary commitment, leadership and compassion. She supports a wide range of programs, including packing essential food kits for older adults, sorting fresh produce, distributing food to families experiencing food insecurity, and welcoming and mentoring new volunteers. Tate has served consistently both on the front lines and behind the scenes, stepping up during major crises, from the COVID-19 pandemic to the recent wildfires, to the government shutdown in 2025, making her an exemplary model of volunteer leadership and service.

Tate's volunteer service has had a measurable and deeply human impact on both the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank and the communities it serves.



80 Years of Impact. A Legacy of Trust. A Future of Possibility.

CCS Fundraising partners with nonprofit leaders to advance ambitious goals that strengthen missions, shape communities, and deliver meaning change.

READY TO RAISE YOUR EXPECTATIONS? LET'S TALK.



INDIVIDUAL NOMINEES



KEITH ADDIS
Board Member; Philanthropist;
Host of "A Million Reasons"
Industry Entertainment



SOPHIE ALPERT
Founder; Board President
Piece by Piece



SIGMAR BERG
President
Lovetuner Foundation



BRIAN BIANCHETTI
CEO
People's Choice Beef Jerky



BLAKE BOLDEN
Growth & Inclusion Specialist
LA Kings



DAVID BREWER
Volunteer; Philanthropist



RON BURKHARDT
Managing Director
Newmark



JEROME CALDWELL
Senior Executive, IT Support
Macerich



WENDY CARPENTER
CEO
Penny Lane Centers



STEPHEN CHEUNG
President; CEO
Los Angeles County Economic
Development Corporation



ERIC BING CHIN
CEO
Xcelerant



MARTIN M. COOPER
Founder
Cooper Communications



MIKE DALY
Executive Director, A&R and Music
Publishing
Disney Music Group



THOMAS DE SIMONE
CEO
Genesis LA



JAMES DO
California Market President;
Head of Non-Profit Banking
First Bank



KATHRYN EIDMANN
President; CEO; Helen & Morgan Chu Chief
Executive Officer Distinguished Chair
Public Counsel



SETH EKLUND
Executive Director
Bresee Foundation



JOSHUA FEIN
Co-Founder; Chief Financial Officer
Property Management Associates



NAKEYA FIELDS
Chief Executive Officer
The Therapeutic Play Foundation, Inc.



BOB FISHER
Former Owner
Pasadena Ice House



MICHAEL FLOOD
President; Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank



JOSHUA FOSTER
CEO
JAF



DORA GALLO
President; CEO
A Community of Friends



HOWARD GROBSTEIN
President
Cory Fights Back



DAHLIA GUTIERREZ
Senior Relationship Manager,
Non-Profit Banking Team
First Bank



DEXTER HENDERSON
Chief Executive Officer
South Central Los Angeles Regional
Center (SCLARC)



RYAN HICKS
Co-Founder
The New Social Workers



KATIE HILL
Chief Executive Officer
Union Station Homeless Services



BARBARA JAGELS
Executive Director, Cancer Services
UCLA Health



PATTY JUAREZ
Executive Vice President; Head of
Hispanic & Latino Affairs
Wells Fargo



TARANG LAL
Mergers and Acquisitions Advisor
PwC



LOIS LEE
Founder; CEO
Children of the Night, Inc.



KAWANNA LEGGETT
Senior Vice President, Student Affairs
Loyola Marymount University



DR. MARIE LEMELLE
CEO; Founder
Platinum Star Public Relations, Inc.



BRENDA MAGID
Chief Program Officer
Rainbow Services, Ltd.



GREG MARTAYAN
Vice President, External Affairs
The Valley Economic Alliance



PHILANTHROPY

Business on *Purpose*

We are proud to recognize Tom Corson, Co-Chairman and COO of Warner Records and City of Hope's 2025 Music, Film and Entertainment Spirit of Life® Honoree. His leadership helped raise nearly \$5.5 million to advance lifesaving research and care.

TOM CORSON
CO-CHAIRMAN AND COO
WARNER RECORDS

Today, we celebrate his nomination for the Los Angeles Business Journal's 2026 Nonprofit & Corporate Citizenship Awards, recognizing his extraordinary commitment to philanthropy and the power of the entertainment community to help outpace cancer, together.

Learn more about industries investing in cures.
cityofhope.org/MFEI

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INDIVIDUAL NOMINEES



JESSICA MEANEY
Executive Director
Investing in Place



DENNISE MEJIA-GUERRERO
Co Chair, Vice President
International Cannabis Consulting Business
Women's Association



MARY MICHLOVICH
Executive Director
OPICA Adult Day Care Program
& Counseling Center



ADAM MILLER
CEO
Better Angels



PAUL MILLER
Senior Managing Director
First Foundation



ELIZABETH MITCHELL
Partner
Umhofer, Mitchell & King LLP



KAYOKO MITSUMATSU
Founder, President
Yoga Gives Back



MONIQUE MONTANO
CEO; Founder
Bravo Salon Inc.



MICHELE NEALON
President
The Chicago School



LIZBETH NEVAREZ
Partner, Nonprofit Tax Practice Leader
GHJ



STEVE O'CONNELL
President; Chief Executive Officer
California Credit Union



KACI PATTERSON
Founder; Chief Architect
Social Good Solutions



DEANA PAYNE
Program Director
Good Shepherd Shelter



ROB RADER
Manager
Rader Family Office



LAUREN RAVITZ
Luxury Director; Realtor
Berkshire Hathaway



TIM ROBBINS
Artistic Director
The Actors' Gang



RICK RODRIGUEZ
Board Member



ED ROMANO
Board Chair
American Heart Association
Los Angeles



TARA ROTH
President
Goldhirsh Foundation



DANIEL ROTHBLATT
Executive Vice President
Jewish Community Foundation of
Los Angeles



BETH RYAN
Executive Director
Stepping Forward Los Angeles



ULISSES SANCHEZ
Principal
Centro Strategies



RENATA SIMRIL
President
Play Equity Fund



KELLY SLATTERY
Founder
Barely Canadian / Power Ladies



GEORGIE SMITH
President; Founder
A Sense of Home



JAMES SMITH
Founder; CEO
Executive Communication Services



ANGEL SONG
Founder; Executive Director
Civatec Youth



LISA TATE
Volunteer
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank



ILIANA TAVERA
CEO
Haven Hills



TUNUA THRASH-NTUK
President; CEO
The Center by Lendistry



LEYNA TOPETE
Founder; CEO
HER too



MATTHEW UMHOFFER
Partner
Umhofer, Mitchell & King LLP



ANA VALDEZ
President; CEO
Latino Donor Collaborative (LDC)



ROWAN VANSLEVE
President
Hope the Mission and
Los Angeles Mission



KIM WALL
Partner
SingerLewak



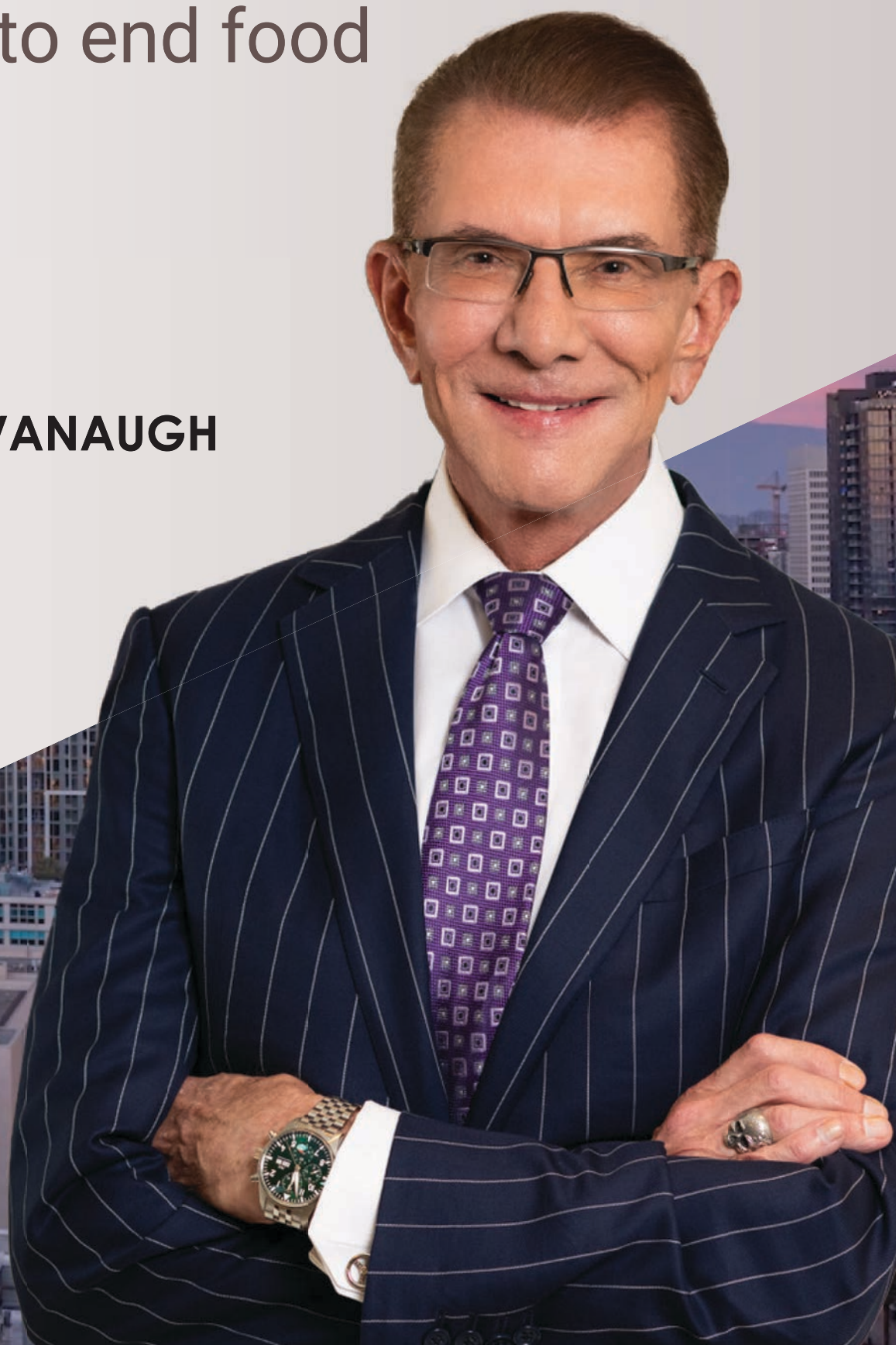
TRACI WATSON
President
NAMC SoCal

Congratulations to Nonprofit &
Corporate Citizenship Award Nominee
Jim Yukevich.

Thank you, Jim, for your tireless
work in the battle to end food
insecurity in LA.

YC YUKEVICH | CAVANAUGH

yukelaw.com





INDIVIDUAL NOMINEES



DAWN EASH WAZZAN
President
Jr. League of Los Angeles



MICHAEL WEINTRAUB
Director, Business Development
ICG Advisors



KEITH WHITE
Co-Founder
AfroAnimation



ZACH WIGAL
President; CEO
Gamers Outreach



AMY YASBECK
Founder
The John Ritter Foundation
for Aortic Health



LISA YOUNG
Executive Director
Race For The Rescues



JAMES YUKEVICH
Partner
Yukevich | Cavanaugh



ARZO YUSUF
Executive Director
Angels Nest TLP



RICHARD L. ZALDIVAR
Founder; Executive Director
The Wall Las Memorias Project

Original Pantry Cafe

Returning Soon by Hope the Mission

Hope the Mission is reopening the iconic and beloved Original Pantry Cafe in Downtown LA, and every plate served will help fight homelessness in our city.

Learn more here!

www.hopethemission.org/pantry



HOPE THE MISSION

CONNECTING THE WORLD IN THE AIR. **STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES ON THE GROUND.**

Proud to support the 2026 Nonprofit +
Corporate Citizenship Symposium & Awards.







































KEEP CLIMBING





ORGANIZATION NOMINEES

					
A Community of Friends	A Sense of Home	ADL Los Angeles	After-School All-Stars	The Agency	Al Wooten Jr. Youth Center
					
Allen Lund Company, LLC	ALS Network	Amanecer Community Counseling Service	American Cancer Society	American Red Cross	Analog Events
					
Angel City Football Club	Angels Nest TLP	APM Terminals	Austin Ekeler Foundation	Aviva Family and Children's Services	Bank of America
					
Banc of California	Beach Cities Health Foundation	Better Angels	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles	Blank Rome LLP	Blank Rome's Adopt-A-Center Program
					
Blood Cancer United Light The Night	BLT Enterprises	The Boys & Girls Club of Burbank and Greater East Valley	Boys and Girls Club of the West Valley	Bresee Foundation	Bundles of Kindness
					
Burbank Housing Corporation	C5 Los Angeles	CAA Community & Impact	California Bank & Trust	California Credit Union	California Multicultural Business Alliance

WELCOME

to our Newest Executive Leadership Volunteers



Cindy Chavira
Vice President
Cedars-Sinai Cancer
Board Member



Chang M. Liu
President & CEO
Cathay Bank
Board Member



Rod Hanners
Chief Executive Officer
Keck Medicine of USC
CEOs Against Cancer,
Chapter Chair '26



Kimberli Robinson
VP, Network Operations
Blue Shield
Board Member

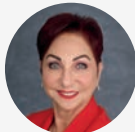


Karen Sturges
CFO
LA28
Board Member

Greater Los Angeles & Central Coast Board of Directors



Elizabeth Acord, Chair
VP, Clinical Integration
MemorialCare



Joan August
Consultant



Cindy Chavira
Vice President
Cedars-Sinai Cancer



Chris Cooper
Managing Director
Clearlake Capital Group



Veronica Corona
CEO & Founder
Crown Enterprises, Inc.



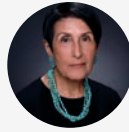
Albert Gonzalez
Managing Director
KPMG



Dr. Chanita Hughes-Halbert
Vice Chair for Research
Norris Comprehensive
Cancer Center



Barbara Jagles
Exec. Director, Cancer Services
UCLA Health



Jean Kagan
CME Consultant
City of Hope



Spencer Khoury
Director, Value Creation
Shamrock Capital



Chang M. Liu
President & CEO
Cathay Bank



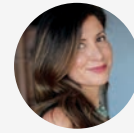
Adam Lopez
Sr. Loss Control Consultant
Sedgwick



Nancy Molenda
VP, Global Corporate
Events and Philanthropy
Mattel



Danyelle Musselman
Former Sportscaster &
Wife of Eric Musselman
USC Men's Basketball Coach



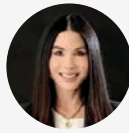
Cecilia Rendon
Managing Attorney
SoCalGas Company



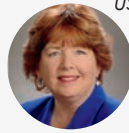
Kimberli Robinson
VP, Network Operations
Blue Shield



Rita Secola
Exec. Director & Associate
Chief Nursing Officer
Children's Hospital Los Angeles



Karen Sturges
CFO
LA28



Kathleen Sullivan
VP, Cancer Care Services
& Post Acute Care
Dignity Health



Timshel Tarbet
Founder and Principal
Timshel Tarbet Consulting LLC



Sharey Wang
Principal
CLA LLP

CEOs Against Cancer Chapter of Greater Los Angeles



Rod Hanners, Chair
Chief Executive Officer
Keck Medicine of USC



Todd Doney
Vice Chairman
CBRE



Teddy Fong
CEO
Million Dollar Baby Co.



Howard Gussman
Chairman & CEO
Marvin Engineering



Barbara Jagels
Exec. Director, Cancer Services
UCLA Health



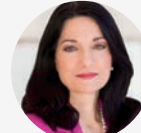
Chang M. Liu
President & CEO
Cathay Bank



Jill Martin
Executive VP
Cedars-Sinai



Peter Slavin
President & CEO
Cedars-Sinai



Johnese Spisso
President
UCLA Health



Michelle Wroan
Managing Partner
KPMG

The American Cancer Society is committed to improving the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support.

We recognize the committed volunteer leaders supporting our mission to ensure everyone has the opportunity to prevent, detect, and survive cancer.

Join us. Together, we can accelerate progress and create lasting impact in our vision to end cancer as we know it, for everyone.

To get engaged or learn more about our mission, please contact jessica.orooco@cancer.org.



ORGANIZATION NOMINEES



Cancer Support Community Greater San Gabriel Valley



Cancer Support Community Los Angeles



Catholic Campus Ministry Association



Cayton Children's Museum



CCS Fundraising



The Center by Lendistry



Center for the Pacific-Asian Family, Inc.



Central City Association



The Chicago School



Child Care Resource Center



Child Development Institute



Children of the Night, Inc.



The Children's Lifesaving Foundation



Citadel Outlets



City National Bank



City of Hope



Civicate Youth



Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking



Colliers



Crest Real Estate



Deloitte



Delta Air Lines



Department of Recreation and Parks



The Farmlink Project



Food Forward



Fulfillment Fund



Gamers Outreach



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Heal the Bay



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Hiller Enterprise: Taxes & Investments

CORPORATE GIVING SPOTLIGHT

Philanthropy and Business: Leading LA's Recovery

By RAUL A. ANAYA

Los Angeles has long been defined by the strength of its nonprofit and philanthropic community. In the aftermath of last year's devastating wildfires, that strength was on full display. Nonprofits, foundations and community organizations were among the first to mobilize—delivering resources, supporting survivors and helping stabilize communities in the earliest days of recovery.

We thank the Los Angeles Business Journal for recognizing this vital sector through its Corporate Philanthropy Awards and for shining a light on the organizations and leaders whose work makes Los Angeles such a remarkable place to live, work and do business.

Recovery at this scale will take years, but Los Angeles has a deeply connected network of nonprofits, foundations, civic leaders and businesses committed to building back stronger, together.

What has stood out most since day one of the Los Angeles fire recovery effort is how collaborative the work has been. Survivors, nonprofits, civic leaders, philanthropic institutions and businesses have been sharing data, testing ideas and leveraging each other's resources in real time. This spirit of partnership reflects the very best of Los Angeles.

We recognized early on that recovery at this scale would require more than the traditional disaster response of grants to nonprofits - rebuilding communities of this size and complexity also required coordination, expertise and capital. With decades of experience helping communities recover from disasters across the country, Bank of America was uniquely positioned to support Los Angeles' next chapter through our expertise,

DISASTER RECOVERY | BEST PRACTICES BY PHASE



Raul Anaya discusses disaster recovery priorities at a Dept. of Angels conference.

capital and connections.

But we also quickly realized that, in Los Angeles, BofA was far more than just simply a bank. We became conveners, trusted partners, experts, collaborators and thought leaders with civic, business and nonprofit sectors.

- We joined panels like Milken Institute's Global Conference to align wildfire recovery with business and philanthropic sectors, and BofA developed early materials around disaster response best practices with foundations at the center.

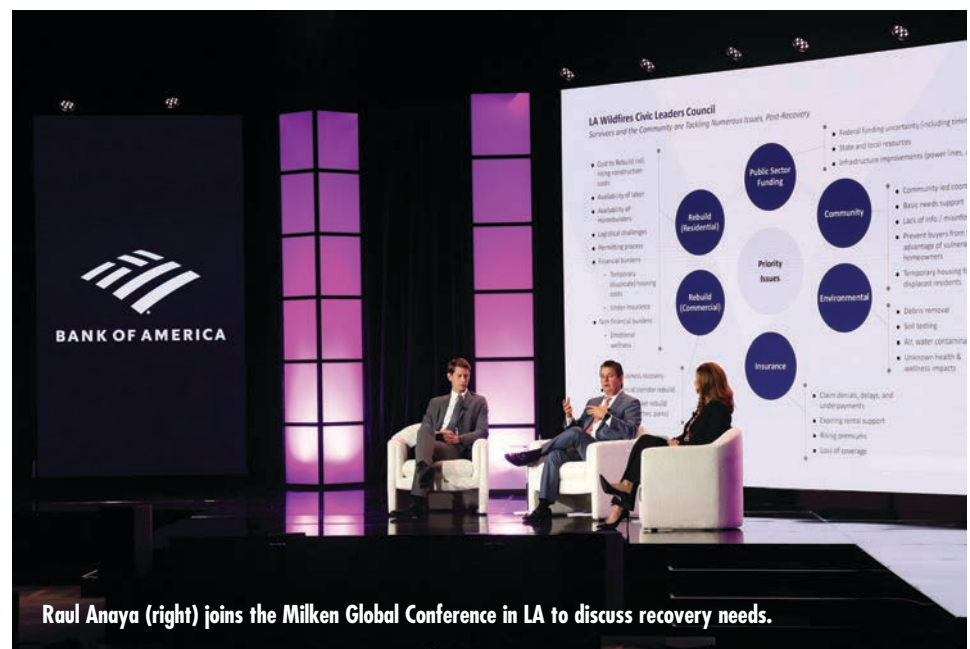
- One of the most impactful outcomes from the Milken conference was the formation of the LA Wildfires Civic Leaders Council between the California Community Foundation President and CEO, Miguel Santana and BofA. It brings philanthropic and private sectors together around the table to source survivor needs and fast-track solutions.

- Members include: the Ahmanson Foundation, Altadena Recovery and Rebuild Corporation (ARRC), Build Back Altadena Foundation, California Community Foundation, Department of Angels, Jewish Federation, LA4LA, Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Pasadena Community Foundation, R&S Kayne Foundation, AltaMed Health Services, Banc of California, Bank of America, BMO, Brookfield, Builders Alliance, CAA, Capital Group, Charter Communications, CityView & Genesis Builders, Goldman Sachs and JM Eagle.

- Another critical realization which emerged early on was that the enormous generosity of donations approaching \$1 billion to local nonprofits challenged the fiduciary skillsets of most local nonprofits. There was an immediate need to guide many of these nonprofits and foundations around fund management strategies. BofA quickly made our Private Bank donor strategists available to help guide not just these nonprofits, but also help donors, founders and grant makers.

Our work with foundations continues, even a year after the fires were extinguished.

- We helped create the Capacity Collective, a



Raul Anaya (right) joins the Milken Global Conference in LA to discuss recovery needs.

collaborative group of philanthropic leaders focused on bolstering nonprofits that support fire survivors. Members include: Parsons Foundation, Pasadena Community Foundation, Weingart Foundation, California Community Foundation, Southern California Grantmakers, the Red Cross and Department of Angels.

- To date, the Collective has shared resources, network of experts, and studies led by Bank of America alongside the Goodman Center and the Annenberg Foundation, hosted disaster preparedness workshops spearheaded by the Red Cross, and is set to launch a series of ongoing workshops and impact progress reports for the year ahead.

Recovery at this scale will take years, but Los Angeles has a deeply connected network of nonprofits, foundations, civic leaders and businesses committed to building back stronger, together.

Congratulations to all the nominees recognized in this year's LABJ's Corporate Philanthropy Awards. Your work and spirit will help guide our region through recovery and into its next chapter.

Raul A. Anaya is head of local markets strategy and president, Bank of America Los Angeles. Learn more at bankofamerica.com. To see all of BofA's relief and rebuilding efforts go to BofA.com/LARebuild.



ORGANIZATION NOMINEES



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Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties proudly congratulates our own **Lauren Ravitz** on her nomination for *Nonprofit Advocate of the Year* at the Los Angeles Business Journal's 2026 Nonprofit & Corporate Citizenship Symposium & Awards.

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Her passion for giving back reflects the very best of our industry and the communities we serve.



Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

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SNAP (Snapchat) Inc.



SoCal Fire Fund



Social Good Solutions



The SoLa Foundation



Southern California Medical Center



Sprouts Healthy Communities Foundation

Grobstein Teeple extends its sincerest congratulations to Howard Grobstein on his nomination for the Los Angeles Business Journal's Nonprofit Executive of the Year Award.

Grobstein Teeple LLP
Co-Founder and Managing Partner

Cory Fights Back
Executive Director

Howard's dedication to **Cory Fights Back** is aligned with the core values that have long guided our firm: showing up fully, caring deeply, and refusing to quit when it matters.

After Cory Zera lost her battle with ovarian cancer at 47, Howard founded **Cory Fights Back** in her memory, a movement built on the belief that silence isn't an option.

Today, there is still no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer. Approximately 21,010 women will be newly diagnosed, and about 12,450 women are expected to die from the disease in 2026.*

We are honored to stand behind him and proud to support the mission he continues to build in Cory's name.

*Together, we raise awareness. Fund research.
Support the fighters.*

coryfightsback.org

*American Cancer Society



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Grobstein Teeple is a Los Angeles-based accounting and consulting firm providing services in assurance, taxation, forensic accounting, business valuation, litigation support, cybersecurity, and business management. Founded in 2013, the firm believes complex problems deserve practical solutions—and the right team to deliver them.

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Union Station Homeless Services

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL'S
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Banking on the Team Approach

By CHRIS EDMONDS

When a Southern California food manufacturer wanted to expand into the Southwest, they needed to identify the best manufacturing and distribution sites near major rail hubs to support their growing footprint. While such logistical issues may not immediately suggest the need for a bank’s services, the company understood the value of interconnected decision-making as they scaled.

They turned to City National Bank’s Middle Market Banking team for advice. By developing a strategy paired with quick, flexible and customized financing, the bank helped a smooth expansion.

City National Bank’s Middle Market Banking team serves businesses and nonprofits in the “sweet spot” between small businesses and large corporations, typically those with revenue between \$50 million and \$2 billion. These organizations often have complex needs and larger budgets, and many are family-owned businesses focused on multi-generational growth.

The team includes seasoned experts with deep knowledge of geographical nuances in the tri-state area, the Carolinas and California. Additionally, team members offer specialized experience in verticals like food and beverage, healthcare, nonprofit management and many other industries.

The division maintains close ties with personal banking, estate planning, wealth management and investment professionals. This provides an ecosystem that enables business owners to access succession planning, providing a holistic approach to their complex financial and personal decisions.

Clients reach out for various reasons. Growth-related issues, such as a new contract requiring more working capital, are common. In other cases, leadership transitions or ownership changes trigger the need for a broad-based evaluation.

For example, when a healthcare company prepared to execute an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), leadership required advice on multiple levels to ensure growth and employee security. The company’s relationship manager served as a “quarterback,” guiding experts in ESOP financing and healthcare to work alongside the client’s internal team to strengthen the organization.

NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT SUPPORT THAT GOES BEYOND BUSINESS

Nonprofit leaders face immense pressure, often managing complex organizations with limited staff and resources. City National’s Middle Market Banking division works alongside these organizations to help strengthen financial infrastructure, support long-term sustainability, and enable lead-

ership teams to focus on mission and impact.

The team recently worked with a nonprofit school that had operated successfully for decades but found itself without a bank following the regional banking disruption. City National helped the organization establish a comprehensive banking relationship and implement solutions to support fundraising, build its endowment, structure investments, and optimize working capital.

Their work with nonprofits often extends beyond traditional banking. Because nonprofit organizations are deeply embedded in their communities, City National bankers frequently serve as connectors – helping organizations access relationships, resources and expertise that support operational stability and long-term growth.

DEVELOPING A HOLISTIC STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS

Whether an organization is a growing business or a nonprofit in transition, the strategy remains the same: bring together the financial acumen of the Middle Market Banking team with accountants, tax advisors and attorneys. City National’s team works with leadership to understand how cash moves across the organization while distinguishing between operating, reserve and strategic liquidity. They also help align capital structures with growth plans and

risk exposure, identify structural pressure points and reposition balance sheets to support strategic options.

The best outcomes can occur when leaders work with professionals who understand the implications of every decision from a fresh perspective. The combination of City National’s personalized regional approach and the backing of RBC—with its CAD \$2.4 trillion in assets and top-tier credit ratings of Aa1 from Moody’s and AA- from S&P—provides a unique resource for middle market businesses and nonprofits.

Chris Edmonds is City National Bank’s executive vice president of Middle Market Banking, where he leads strategy and execution across the bank’s middle market client segments nationwide. Contact the Middle Market Banking Team at City National Bank to discuss how it can help your organization succeed. Visit cnb.com to learn more.

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ORGANIZATION NOMINEES

Mentorship is LA's Smartest Workforce Investment

How trusted relationships are strengthening talent pipelines, economic mobility, and the long-term competitiveness of Los Angeles

In Los Angeles County, one of the most innovative and dynamic regions in the world, thousands of young people still face systemic barriers to opportunity. These challenges directly affect workforce readiness, economic mobility, and regional competitiveness. Mentorship is increasingly recognized by business leaders as a practical, research-backed solution. When companies support mentoring, they help strengthen the future workforce, close opportunity gaps, and contribute to a more resilient regional economy.

What mentorship offers young people is something policies alone cannot replicate: a consistent, caring adult who shows up, listens, and expands what feels possible. According to the 2025 Youth Mentorship Access Report conducted by The Harris Poll, 84% of young people say mentorship opens doors to new opportunities, and 83% report that it helps bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world success.

These findings reinforce an important reality

for employers. Exposure, guidance, and trusted relationships are essential components of career readiness. Nearly 65% of young people report having a conversation with a non-family adult that changed their career trajectory. Young people without access to professional networks often rely on mentors to build social capital and discover pathways that might otherwise remain invisible.

Longitudinal research further underscores mentorship's value. A four-year randomized controlled trial funded by Arnold Ventures showed a 31% reduction in violence-related delinquent behavior and a 42% decrease in substance use among mentored youth. Participants were also significantly less likely to report suicidal ideation.

Even more compelling, a 30-year longitudinal study conducted by Harvard University researchers in partnership with the US Department of the Treasury found that participants in Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring programs earned significantly more as adults and experienced measurable gains in economic mobility. Their adult incomes more closely aligned with those of their mentors than with their own families—closing nearly two-thirds of the opportunity gap and helping disrupt cycles of generational poverty. Researchers also concluded that, with an average investment of approxi-

mately \$2,500 per mentee each year, the societal return on mentoring is realized within roughly seven years. These findings position mentorship among the most cost-effective workforce and economic mobility interventions ever evaluated.

As youth mental health concerns rise nationwide, mentoring relationships serve as powerful protective factors, supporting stability, strengthening school engagement, and reducing long-term social and economic costs. Across Los Angeles County, more than 200,000 young people live in poverty, approximately 60,000 students experience homelessness, and 22% of households are led by single parents. From 2022 to 2023, 36% of Los Angeles Unified School District students were chronically absent, increasing the risk of academic disengagement and long-term instability. In many young people's lives, a mentor provides consistency, accountability, and encouragement during pivotal developmental years, and helps build a foundation for lifelong success.

For more than 70 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles has addressed this need through professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships. Program outcomes reflect the strength of this model: 95% of participating youth graduate high school, 94% enroll in college, 92% maintain or reduce depressive symptoms, and 91% maintain or improve social

competence. Together, these results demonstrate that mentorship is measurable, scalable, and deeply impactful.

The benefits extend to those who volunteer as well. Many mentors describe the experience as both personally fulfilling and professionally enriching. Through consistent engagement, they strengthen communication skills, deepen cultural awareness, and gain perspective that informs more empathetic leadership. Organizations often see improved employee engagement and retention when mentoring becomes part of leadership development. Companies seeking deeper community impact can embed mentorship through volunteer initiatives, strategic partnerships, and philanthropic investment, all while delivering meaningful benefits to participating employees.

Expanding access to mentorship is a shared opportunity. When businesses, nonprofits, and civic leaders collaborate, the result is a stronger pipeline of future talent. In a city built on ambition and possibility, mentorship ensures that more young people are prepared not only to imagine the future—but to shape it.

To learn more or get involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles, visit bbbsla.org. Interested in becoming a corporate partner? Email James.Nguyen@bbbsla.org.



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- Serenity Foster Care & Adoption
- Long-Term Foster Care

EDUCATION

- Renaissance Community Prep/Joan Macy Nonpublic School
- Bliss Academy School for Autism & Developmental Disabilities
- S.T.A.R. Academy Nonpublic Agency

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

- Renaissance Residential Program
- COMPASS Programs Transitional Services
- New Beginnings



How Businesses Can Support Nonprofits Beyond Financial Contributions

By LIZBETH NEVAREZ

While financial donations are an essential source of support for nonprofit organizations, money alone cannot meet every need. Many nonprofits operate with lean teams and limited access to specialized expertise in areas such as finance, operations, technology, marketing and governance. And corporate leaders are in a unique position to close that gap.

By encouraging employees to volunteer their skills, serve on nonprofit boards and share professional expertise, businesses can strengthen nonprofit organizations while creating meaningful engagement opportunities for their workforce.

For corporate leaders, supporting nonprofits in this way can build stronger communities, develop employee leadership skills and reinforce a culture of purpose within the organization.

EXPLAINING THE NEED

Many nonprofit organizations operate with small administrative teams responsible for financial reporting, compliance, strategic planning and operational oversight. At the same time, nonprofit boards are expected to provide governance, financial oversight and strategic guidance.

This creates a clear need for professionals with business experience. Corporate professionals bring skills that nonprofits often cannot afford to hire internally. When these professionals volunteer their time or serve on boards, they help nonprofits strengthen their operations and decision-making processes.

WHY BUSINESSES SHOULD ENCOURAGE EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Encouraging employees to support nonprofits benefits both the community and the company.

First, it strengthens community relationships. Businesses rely on healthy communities to thrive, and nonprofits play a critical role in addressing social needs. Supporting them helps create more stable and resilient communities.

Second, volunteering builds leadership skills. Employees who serve on nonprofit boards or committees can gain experiences that translate into stronger leadership within the workplace.

Third, community engagement improves employee satisfaction. Many professionals want their work to contribute to a larger purpose. When companies support volunteerism, employees feel that their employer values service and social impact. Research from America's Charities

in fact reports that 71% of surveyed employees agree it is important to work where the company's culture supports giving and volunteering.

Finally, nonprofit involvement enhances a company's reputation. Organizations known for community involvement often earn greater trust from clients, employees and stakeholders. Data from Score, a mentorship platform, cites that 85% of consumers polled have a more positive image of a company that supports charities.

CORPORATE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Companywide structured programs make it easier for employees to contribute their time and expertise. One widely used approach is the "Dollars for Doers" program. Under this model, companies provide financial donations to nonprofits where employees volunteer their time. For example, a company might contribute \$10 for every hour an employee volunteers with a qualified nonprofit. This approach rewards community engagement while providing nonprofits with additional funding.

Platforms such as Groundswell simplify the backend coordination of large-scale employee volunteer programming from set up to post-event reporting. It also allows employees to con-

tribute financially to charities they care about using allotted funds provided by employers.

Companies can also establish board service initiatives, where leaders actively encourage experienced employees to join nonprofit boards. Organizations may even provide training or mentorship to help employees prepare for governance roles.

INCENTIVIZE PARTICIPATION

Corporate leaders can encourage engagement through practical strategies:

- **Recognize volunteer efforts.** Publicly acknowledge employees who contribute significant time to nonprofits. Recognition reinforces the value of service within company culture
- **Support board service.** Encourage professionals to serve on nonprofit boards where their expertise is highly valuable
- **Create company volunteer events.** Organized volunteer days help employees participate together and introduce them to local nonprofit organizations

Lizbeth Nevarez, CPA, is a partner and GHJ's Nonprofit Tax Practice leader. Learn more at ghjadvisors.com.

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The Changing Corporate Philanthropy Landscape Under OBBB

US charitable giving is expected to be lower under new tax provisions included in the One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB) law enacted in 2025 than it otherwise would have been under previous law, according to a new research report researched and written by the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy and presented by CCS Fundraising. The study also estimates that more households will give to charity than previously gave.

The report, *Philanthropy Outlook: Estimating Effects on Charitable Giving from the One Big Beautiful Bill*, estimates how specific policy changes in the new law (also known as 2025 H.R. 1 and Public Law 119-21) will affect both household and corporate giving, as well as the combined effects on giving.

The research provides estimates of the anticipated shift in giving behavior resulting from each of the policy changes, holding everything else constant (e.g., income, wealth, GDP, the stock market, and other factors). It thus represents long-run annual effects of the policy changes, rather than predictions for any particular year.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Overall, the OBBB is estimated to lower charitable giving by about \$5.69 billion per year compared to previous law. That is roughly equivalent to about 1% of all US giving.
- The number of US households who give is estimated to increase by about 8 million.
- Total corporate giving is estimated to be approximately \$1.55 billion lower, or -3.5% of total corporate giving.
- The above effects may not be fully seen in the first year the law is in effect, as it may take some time for taxpayers to become aware of and adapt to the new policies.

“Tax policy changes shape charitable giving, and their effects vary across different policies, types of donors and ways of giving,” said Patrick M. Rooney, Ph.D., professor emeritus of philanthropic studies and economics at the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. “Changes that affect high-income households and large corporate donors have the greatest influence on total giving levels. Policies that broaden incentives to give, such as the newly enacted universal charitable deduction, are likely to increase the number

of people who give.”

WHY THIS MATTERS:

- Different nonprofits may experience the decrease differently. The overall estimated decrease in giving is fairly slight relative to total US giving; however, some nonprofits may feel it more acutely. Organizations whose giving comes disproportionately from households in the top 37% tax bracket or that rely heavily on corporate giving could see a larger impact.
- Nonprofits that alert their potential donor base to new opportunities may see more giving in the short term. An increase in giving tied to new the universal charitable deduction (UCD) for people who don't itemize on their income taxes will come from households who realize that they now have this opportunity.
- Nonprofits may experience shifts in the timing and structure of some gifts as households and especially corporations who are close to the deduction floor on their taxes annually may “bunch” their gifts and instead give and deduct biennially. This may affect how nonprofits solicit and receive gifts.

• More smaller-dollar donors are likely to contribute to nonprofits due to the introduction of a UCD. Some types of charitable organizations, such as those providing basic human services, rely more heavily on smaller contributions.

• Most corporations no longer have a tax incentive to donate. Charities will need to make their case based on philanthropic and community-based values, as well as enhancing the brand and image of the corporations to consumers, employees and shareholders.

“Changes to tax policy can introduce new complexities for charitable giving, and they can also create opportunities for more donors to engage meaningfully in philanthropy,” said Greg Hagin, managing partner at CCS Fundraising. “This is a moment for nonprofits to adapt with clarity by educating supporters and refining strategies that welcome both major contributions and the cumulative strength of smaller gifts. At CCS, we view shifts like these as catalysts for more resilient fundraising.”

Learn more at philanthropy.indianapolis.iu.edu.

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Hunger, Resilience, and the Role of Nonprofits

In Los Angeles County, 2025 will be remembered as a year that tested the limits of stability

The Greater Los Angeles wildfires displaced thousands at the beginning of the year. Entire neighborhoods were forced to evacuate. Others lost electricity or access to clean drinking water. Local businesses saw customer bases shrink overnight. Workers lost hours. Service providers, from landscapers to housekeepers, lost income when homes and commercial properties were destroyed. The ripple effects extended far beyond the burn zones. At the end of the year, a prolonged federal government shutdown delayed critical assistance programs. When CalFresh benefits were delayed, federal workers' income was disrupted, and administrative systems stalled, straining local communities. For many households already living on the financial edge, the margin for error disappeared. Pandemics, wildfires, economic disruption, and the like all throw order into chaos, and hunger accelerates much faster than most people expect. A missed paycheck, a delayed benefit, an evacuation order, or even the temporary loss of utilities can push a stable family

into food insecurity within days. In 2025, we saw that reality unfold in real time. For a period, organizations like the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, other nonprofits, and community partners moved from being the last line of defense against hunger to nearly the only line of defense. That shift is not ideological; it is operational. Nonprofits are designed to complement other parts of the social safety net. When disruptions occur, organizations like the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank must scale quickly to meet increased need. When portions of the safety net are strained, the nonprofit sector becomes even more essential to preventing it from unraveling entirely.

FORTUNATELY, RESILIENCE IS BUILT LONG BEFORE A CRISIS HITS

During the COVID-19 pandemic in August 2020, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank acquired a new warehouse in the City of Industry. Emergency storage capacity was a core consideration in its planning and renovation. That foresight paid dividends in 2025. When demand surged this year, the Food Bank expanded distribution, rerouted logistics, mobilized volunteers, accelerated corporate and donor support, and secured early philanthropic commitments to ensure that food continued to reach families. Resilience was not

theoretical, but was measured in truckloads of produce, emergency distributions set up in parking lots, and late-night coordination calls to move food around fire-affected zones. 2025 underscored a critical truth: the nonprofit sector is part of our region's core infrastructure. We often think of infrastructure as highways, ports, utilities, and digital networks. But food distribution systems, community health clinics, and human service organizations are equally essential to economic continuity. When employees cannot afford groceries, when families are displaced, or when public assistance stalls, productivity suffers. The health of our workforce and the stability of our consumer base depend on more than markets alone. Put simply, economies rely on people's ability to do things, and people's ability to do things relies on their ability to eat. Los Angeles County is home to one of the most dynamic economies in the world. Yet millions of residents live paycheck to paycheck. A shock to the system, whether fire or funding interruption, exposes how thin those margins can be. In those moments, nonprofits require ongoing investment. In the case of the Food Bank, it requires warehouse capacity, fleet maintenance, modern technology systems, and professional staff. It requires strong partnerships with grocery retailers, farmers, transpor-

tation companies, and community agencies. It requires governance and financial discipline so that when demand doubles, operations respond without hesitation. For the business community, the lesson is clear: supporting nonprofits is both charitable and strategic. A resilient nonprofit sector strengthens workforce stability, supports public health, and preserves consumer confidence. It ensures that when gaps appear, communities do not fall through them. The goal is not the replacement of public systems, but a partnership in which public agencies, private enterprises, and nonprofit organizations reinforce one another. In stable times, that collaboration drives efficiency. In times of instability, it preserves continuity. The challenges of 2025 revealed both vulnerability and strength. They showed how quickly hunger can rise, but how powerfully a community can respond when sectors work together. In Los Angeles, thanks to the support of our donors, volunteers, and supporters, nonprofits stand ready to help ensure that when the next crisis inevitably comes, our communities remain standing.

Information for this article was provided by the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. Learn more at LAFoodBank.org.



BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES SINCE 1985

PUENTE Learning Center is a transformative educational nonprofit empowering students and families to unlock opportunity and thrive as vital contributors to their community.

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Young Charitable Donors Focus on Social Issues and Technology

Generation Z and Millennial donors are approaching charitable giving differently than the generations that came before them, according to a new report from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.

Dynamic social, economic, and political shifts, globalization, and technological advancements over the last 20 years have reshaped how next-generation donors engage with the philanthropic sector. The Next Generation of Philanthropy study analyzes the interests and needs of younger donors, their evolving patterns of giving, and the opportunities and challenges those present. The report also examines younger donors' motivations, their attitudes toward giving, the causes they support and their preferred methods for making donations and evaluating the impact. The research was completed with funding from DAFgiving360.

"Younger generations of donors are impacting philanthropy in positive ways by seeking long-term, hands-on involvement with the issues that are important to them. They rely heavily on technology to inform their giving decisions, and invest time into looking for trustworthy and transparent nonprofits to support," said Amir Pasic, Ph.D., the Eugene R. Tempel

dean of the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. "The generational differences reflected in our new research underscore the need for nonprofits to adapt to Next Gen views, preferences and practices in order to advance their missions and build the long-term relationships that sustain them."

The new report highlights that Generation Z (born 1997-2012) and Millennial (born 1981-1996) donors focus their giving on supporting issues rather than specific organizations and consider themselves to be active social change agents. Next generation donors bring a decidedly tech-forward approach to all aspects of their philanthropy, including learning about and advocating for causes on social media and making donations online. They participate in crowdfunding at higher rates than older generations, and growing numbers of younger donors are giving through social media-based charity streaming events hosted by influencers.

"A significant wealth transfer is currently underway, and some estimates indicate that \$18 trillion will go to charity by 2048, creating the opportunity for next gen donors to have a significant charitable impact in the future," said Fred Kaynor, managing director, relationship management, marketing & partnerships at

'A significant wealth transfer is currently underway, and some estimates indicate that \$18 trillion will go to charity by 2048.'

FRED KAYNOR
DAFgiving360

DAFgiving360. "Generation Z and Millennials are passionate about and deeply connected to the causes they support. It's incredibly important for charities to engage with their philanthropic spirit. In addition, the financial advisors who are guiding this next generation of donors should also recognize their distinct needs and priorities to better support them and to help maximize their giving potential."

KEY FINDINGS INCLUDE:

- Basic needs and religion are top causes for philanthropic giving across all generations from

2003 to 2021, while giving to education is less common for younger donors.

- Generation Z giving to secular causes is similar to what Millennials gave at the same stage of life, despite an overall drop in secular giving.

- Compared to Millennials who gave to religious causes, Generation Z donors who gave to religion were significantly less likely to also support secular causes. This finding challenges the historical trend of religious donors being more inclined to also contribute to secular causes.

- Giving across all generations has declined since 2008. In each stage of life, individuals are less likely to give than they were in 2003.

Many of the report's key findings were derived using the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy's Philanthropy Panel Study, a module of the University of Michigan's Panel Study of Income Dynamics, which has been tracking thousands of US households since 2000. By following the same households over time, this longitudinal approach provides unique insights into changes in giving behavior within individuals, households, and families.

Visit dafgiving360.org to learn more.



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EverBank Expands Its Commitment to Los Angeles: Supporting Clients and Communities

Los Angeles is one of the most dynamic banking markets in the country. For EverBank, it has become a focal point of the bank's California growth strategy. By combining its nationwide digital banking platform with a growing network of financial centers across Southern California, EverBank is strengthening its presence in the region while building deeper connections with local clients and communities.

Over the past two years, the Jacksonville-headquartered bank has steadily expanded its footprint across California, with the greater Los Angeles area playing a central role in that growth. EverBank opened its first Southern California financial center in Encino and has since added locations in Beverly Hills and Corona del Mar, with additional financial centers planned in Santa Monica and Westlake Village set to open in the first half of 2026. The bank also established a West Coast hub in Irvine in early 2024, bringing senior leadership and operational teams closer to the region.

For Patrick Nygren, EverBank's senior vice president and head of Retail Banking, who is based in Los Angeles, the expansion reflects both the scale of opportunity in the region and the bank's long-term commitment to the Cali-

fornia market.

"Los Angeles is an incredibly vibrant and opportunity-rich market," Nygren said. "By pairing our digital banking platform with select financial centers in key communities, we're able to provide the convenience customers want with the personal connection they value."

EverBank's growth accelerated in 2025 following the acquisition of Sterling Bank & Trust, which added 25 financial centers across California, including four in the Los Angeles area. The integration significantly expanded EverBank's ability to serve clients across the state while strengthening its presence in local communities.

The bank's strategy combines digital banking with strategically located financial centers, allowing it to operate efficiently while still providing customers with in-person access.

The approach is already gaining traction in the Los Angeles market. Since opening its Encino financial center, EverBank has seen strong growth in deposits and client relationships in the surrounding area.

Beyond expanding financial services, EverBank is also focused on strengthening its engagement with local communities across Southern California. As the bank grows its presence in

'We're proud to support organizations and initiatives that help the community thrive.'

BRIAN GILPATRICK
Everbank

the region, it is working alongside nonprofit organizations and community partners to support initiatives that promote economic opportunity and address critical community needs.

In Los Angeles, EverBank has partnered with organizations including Junior Achievement of Southern California, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, Thrive Scholars, San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity and Upward Bound House.

Recent efforts include hosting a group of Los Angeles-based Thrive Scholars at EverBank's Irvine office for a career day, where 27 first-year college students met with bank leaders and employees to learn about career paths in financial services.

Through EverBank's partnership with San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity, teams have helped rebuild homes and support families impacted by the devastating 2025 wildfires. In 2026, employees have participated in three volunteer events with the organization, contributing over 120 hours of service.

Across these partnerships, EverBank employees contribute both time and resources to local organizations. Across the company, 71% of associates participate in volunteer initiatives – more than three times the industry average – with 100% management participation. The strong engagement reflects EverBank teams' commitment to supporting the communities where they live and work, including across Los Angeles.

"As EverBank continues to expand its presence in Southern California, being an active partner in the community is an important part of that growth," said regional manager Brian Gilpatrick, who oversees retail operations across the state. "Los Angeles is a region defined by innovation, resilience and opportunity, and we're proud to support organizations and initiatives that help the community thrive."

Learn more at everbank.com.



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Baby Boomers' Unique Relationship with Charitable Giving

While many retirees work with a financial advisor, only half have had a charitable planning conversation

Fidelity Charitable, an independent public charity and the nation's largest grantmaker, shared findings from its "Charitable living and the new retirement" study, highlighting how donors age 50+ plan for and engage in charitable giving during retirement. With more than four million Baby Boomers turning 65 this year, the study shows that more than half of pre-retirees and retirees ages 50-80 are committed to giving, with 78% saying that charitable giving plays a significant role in their lives.

"Retirement is an exciting new chapter in life that creates opportunities for retirees to spend more time and resources in support of the meaningful causes they care about, but it also has implications for charities and financial advisors. While the intent and desire to make a difference are strong with retiring donors, there is a knowledge gap around tax-smart strategies," said Amy Pirozzolo, head of marketing at Fidelity

Charitable. "That is where we can help them make charitable dollars go further and ensure they achieve their goal of doing well while doing good throughout this next stage of their lives."

A DEMONSTRATED COMMITMENT TO GIVING

Beyond providing financial support for charities, pre-retirees and retirees are also actively giving back through volunteerism. In the past year, over two-thirds of pre-retirees (71%) and over half of retirees (55%) volunteered. This could indicate that the trend toward volunteerism may continue to grow as the current group of pre-retirees transitions into retirement.

- Of those retirees who volunteer, more than one in four (27%) report doing so for over 13 hours a month, indicating commitment to their causes.

- Nearly nine in ten retired respondents who volunteer agree that volunteering is a way to remain active (88%) and connected (91%).

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVISORS

Additionally, the research reveals that many retirees rely on advisors for financial planning, but only half (51%) have discussed charitable

'Retirement is an exciting new chapter in life ... but it also has implications for charities and financial advisors. While the intent and desire to make a difference are strong with retiring donors, there is a knowledge gap around tax-smart strategies.'

AMY PIROZZOLO, Fidelity Charitable

giving with an advisor. With their knowledge of tax-smart charitable planning methods low, this audience is ripe for additional guidance.

- **Tax-smart giving awareness:** While most pre-retirees and retirees are familiar with at least one vehicle or method used to support charities financially, 21% are unaware of any.

- **Giving method awareness:** Awareness of what can be donated is also low. For example, just one in three pre-retirees and retirees (32%) are aware that they can donate appreciated assets, like stocks.

- **Professional charitable advice:** While about two-thirds of pre-retirees (69%) and retirees (65%) work with an advisor (financial

advisor, certified public accountant, or attorney), 61% of pre-retirees and 51% of retirees report ever having had a conversation with a professional advisor about charitable planning or giving.

The study surveyed more than 2,500 people, ages 50-80, including 844 givers with investable assets of at least \$1 million. To qualify for the survey, respondents had to contribute at least \$500 or more per year to charitable organizations. The study asked pre-retirees and retirees how they plan for and participate in charitable activities.

For more information, visit fidelitycharitable.org.

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National Philanthropic Trust Donor-Recommended Grants to Charities Grew 20% in 2025

Year-over-year, NPT donor-advised fund grant value and volume to charitable organizations increased 20% and 25% respectively

National Philanthropic Trust (NPT), the largest national, independent public charity that manages donor-advised funds (DAF), granted \$6.61 billion to over 48,000 qualified charitable organizations in the US and 67 other countries on behalf of its donors in Fiscal Year 2025. NPT DAF philanthropy grew in all key benchmarks year-over-year.

“Both the value of NPT donor-recommended grants and the number of charitable organizations receiving NPT grants grew to new heights this year,” said Holly Welch Stubbing, president and chief executive officer, National Philanthropic Trust. “Our donors are impactful philanthropists, and helping them support the causes they care deeply about domestically and internationally is critical to the nonprofit ecosystem. We anticipate this generosity to charitable orga-

nizations to continue into 2026 as donor-advised funds step up to meet the moment and support everyday needs and the innovations to drive social impact and transformation.”

NPT fiscal year 2025 highlights included:

- \$6.61 billion in donor-recommended grants, representing a 20% increase compared to 2024.
- 161,515 grants were awarded to charitable organizations in every state, the District of Columbia and 67 other countries, representing a 25% increase over the previous reporting period.
- 48,685 charitable organizations received donor-recommended grants, an 18% increase over 2024.
- Two thirds of all grants were unrestricted, representing a significant 72% increase over 2024.
- The total value of Environmental/Animals Sector (+41%) and Health Sector (+39%) grantmaking saw large increases over the previous reporting period.
- Year-over-year donor grantmaking in FY 2025 saw growth in both value and volume across all eight charitable fields of interest: Arts and Culture, Education, Environment and Animals, Health, Human Services, International,

Religion, Public and Societal Benefit.

- Year-over-year grantmaking to international organizations grew 25% with a total of \$439 million awarded. 1,242 grants were recommended internationally, up 428% compared to FY24.

NPT affiliates NPT UK and NPT Transatlantic, saw year-over-year increases in volume of grantmaking in FY 2025.

Founded in 1996, National Philanthropic Trust is the largest national, independent public charity that manages donor-advised funds and one of the leading grantmaking institutions in the US. Since its founding, NPT has raised more than \$80.2 billion in charitable funding and has made more than 930,000 grants exceeding \$37.7 billion



to nonprofits around the world.

Visit NPT's resource library to learn what you can do with a DAF and about NPT's impact investing options. More at NPTTrust.org and NPTGivingPoint.org.



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