

Alzheimer's

Contact: Natalie Rietkerk/HKA Inc. Natalie@hkamarcom.com (714)426-0444

Alzheimer's Orange County Spotlights Advocates, Rebranding at 'Creating Hope' Gala

Annual fundraiser on March 18 to honor Alzheimer's community leaders

IRVINE, Calif., Jan. 27, 2016 – One of Orange County's hottest new venues, <u>AV Irvine</u>, will be the setting Friday, March 18, when <u>Alzheimer's Orange County</u> (AOC) presents its 18th annual Creating Hope Gala dressed in its new blue and green color scheme and armed with a nostalgic Broadway Memories theme. Funds raised by the newly independent nonprofit will benefit the thousands of families in Orange County affected by the devastating Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

At the gala, guests will recognize four outstanding honorees for their longstanding support of the local Alzheimer's organization along with a cocktail reception, silent auction, gourmet dinner, live auction and entertainment by Broadway performers and the <u>ChickBAND</u>.

"Without the support of our community, our return to our roots as an independent organization would not have been possible," said AOC CEO Jim McAleer. "2016 will be our biggest year yet, with 100 percent of all funds raised staying here in Orange County, for families who need it the most. This event has always been a place to celebrate our supporters, families and friends, and this year will be extra special."

Today, more than 84,000 Orange County residents are suffering from Alzheimer's, a tragic disease that robs a lifetime of precious memories for those diagnosed, and devastates the families who care for them. Since 1982, the community has come to trust AOC, formerly known as Alzheimer's Association, Orange County Chapter, as a primary resource for battling Alzheimer's with no-cost services including: a telephone helpline, family care consultations, caregiver support groups, early memory loss programs, and educational programs and workshops. All funds raised from the gala will fund critical services for the Orange County Alzheimer's community.

At the Creating Hope Gala, organizations and individuals will be honored for their longstanding support of AOC. This year's honorees include:

- Philanthropy Partner: Diane Mondini, CEO, <u>Caring Companions at Home</u>
- Corporate Partner: Farmers & Merchants Trust Company
- Volunteer Partner: Pat Soldano
- Community Partner: The Sanchez Family

The gala, chaired by Jacqueline Dupont and Marc Carlson, and Eydie and Dave MacInnis, will begin at 6:30 p.m. Sponsorship, underwriting and auction opportunities are still available. Table



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sponsorship opportunities range from \$5,000 to \$10,000. To purchase tickets, donate a silent auction item or become a sponsor, visit <u>www.alzoc.org/events/gala</u>.

About Alzheimer's Orange County

Alzheimer's Orange County provides programs and services, free of charge, to Orange County residents with Alzheimer's and related dementia disorders, their families, caregivers, and the community. Alzheimer's Orange County began as an independent 501c3 nonprofit in 1982, became a chapter of the national Alzheimer's Association in 1984, and in December 2015, became an independent nonprofit again with all fundraising going toward care, support and research in Orange County, Calif. Alzheimer's is a devastating neurodegenerative illness that weakens the memory and other cognitive and emotional functions. For more information, call the Helpline at 1-844-373-4400, or visit <u>www.alzoc.org</u> Find Alzheimer's Orange County on <u>Facebook, Twitter</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

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