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Orange County Community Foundation to host Preserving Dignity day

On July 29, the Orange County Community Foundation (OCCF), based in Newport Beach, will host "Preserving Dignity," a Giving Day for OC's older adults in need. Now in its third year, "Preserving Dignity" aims to raise $75,000 in support for five local nonprofits serving a population that is exceedingly vulnerable to the pandemic.

"Orange County's older adults have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic due to their vulnerability to the virus and need to self-isolate in order to stay safe," said Shelley Hoss, president and CEO, OCCF. "OCCF is proud to support nonprofits providing older adults in need with the vital resources they need during these uncertain times."

The five participating organizations include Alzheimer's Orange County, Council on Aging-Southern California, Meals on Wheels Orange County, Southern California Hospice Foundation and St. Francis Home.

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Preserving Dignity Day aims to raise $75,000 to support local nonprofits

Fundraisers, in-person classes, activities and events have been indefinitely suspended for the participating nonprofits due to the extremely high risk that seniors face from COVID-19. In just one example of the challenges nonprofits face as a result of the current health crisis, St. Francis Home in Santa Ana – an assisted living care facility under the care of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception – was forced to cancel its largest fundraiser of the year, and its guild's emergency funds are running low. As a result, its operations, which include affordable assisted living, healthy meals and transportation to appointments for its residents, are in need of extra support and the generosity of donors through this Giving Day.

This Giving Day is the latest of a series that, to date, has raised more than $10 million for Orange County nonprofits. OCCF first challenged Orange County residents to "give where their heart lives" during the inaugural iheartoc Giving Day in 2015, raising more than $1.8 million for 347 participating nonprofits in just 30 hours. In 2018, OCCF restructured iheartoc as an expanded opportunity for nonprofits to connect with one another in support of their shared missions.

To give online, visit https://preserving-dignity-giving-day.ocnonprofitcentral.org/.

Additional collaborative Giving Days will be announced throughout the year. For more information, visit www.oc-cf.org/iheartoc.