

CCF NEWS

START YOUR GIVING SEASON BY GETTING INVOLVED



"For it is in giving that we receive."

-St. Francis of Assisi

The people of Los Angeles County are defined by an incredible generosity. Every year, they donate billions of dollars and engage in hundreds of millions of volunteer hours to improve the lives of people in their communities and around the world. For 100 years, the California Community Foundation (CCF) has worked to transform that generosity into impact to realize a stronger, healthier and more prosperous future for all Angelenos. CCF is using our centennial milestone to inspire L.A. County residents to get involved and create a better future for our families, neighborhoods and region.

Our recent "Vision Poll for a Better Los Angeles County," conducted in

partnership with USC Dornsife and the *Los Angeles Times*, found that Angelenos want to give back to their communities but need direction. They want to make an impact but don't know how or if their actions will make a difference. A staggering 80 percent said they are willing to increase their volunteerism and 65 percent would be willing to donate more money to build a better L.A. County.

To help achieve this, CCF has partnered with **L.A. Works** to help Angelenos discover the wide array of meaningful volunteer opportunities across the county. Volunteerism helps us connect with our community - and our humanity. As L.A. Works Co-founder and Board Chairman Bob L. Johnson said, "Service to others is a nonpartisan, cost-effective way of building community and creating tangible change. We can all volunteer."

We hope the feeling of fulfillment gained from giving to the community during the traditional "giving season" drives people to make volunteerism and charitable giving a part of their lives year-round. As we enter our next century of service, we seek to foster a sense of belonging, purpose and engagement, while encouraging compassion and a sense of unity across Los Angeles County. I am humbled by the generosity of our partners and donors, who have shown the willingness, compassion and courage to address critical challenges directly.

Join us, and be a part of building tomorrow, together.

Sincerely,

Antonia Hernández
PRESIDENT & CEO

L.A. Works

L.A. Works connects committed volunteers with organizations dedicated to making a significant, visible and lasting contribution to Los Angeles. Since 1991, L.A. Works has mobilized and led volunteers to contribute more than a million hours to Los Angeles. Whether serving meals to the homeless, teaching disadvantaged youth, revitalizing public spaces or caring for animals in shelters, L.A. Works has helped tens of thousands of volunteers share their generosity and transform their communities. Learn more at laworks.com.

Impact L.A. on Giving Tuesday

On December 1, individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits will come together to support **Giving Tuesday**, a national day to celebrate generosity and give back. We invite you to join us in supporting funds and organizations dedicated to improving the lives of L.A. residents and creating a brighter future for all who call our county home.



Los Angeles Scholars Investment Fund

The economic future of Los Angeles depends on realizing the potential of our students. By 2018, more than half of California's jobs will require at least some college education, yet only 12 percent of L.A.'s 9th graders will go on to receive a college degree. With a projected shortfall of 1.1 million degree holders by 2030, California is facing a college graduation crisis.

Students who graduate college are healthier, less likely to become involved in the justice system and more civically engaged. They average an additional \$1 million in lifetime earnings, which

means our entire local economy benefits when L.A. students graduate from college.

CCF and the College Futures Foundation, along with investors across Los Angeles and the country, have committed more than \$15 million to establish the Los Angeles Scholars Investment Fund (LASIF) in order to address this impending crisis and increase the number of low-income L.A. County youth who graduate from college. Part high-performing learning network, part innovation incubator, LASIF supports programs that combine

multi-year scholarships with additional support proven to help students graduate.

To date, LASIF has provided more than 45,000 students with the resources and skills they need to succeed, and data shows that 94 percent of 2013's inaugural class of LASIF scholars who enrolled in a four-year college or university persisted to their second year.

To join with CCF and College Futures Foundation in unlocking the potential of L.A. students and shaping the future of the region, visit calfund.org/lasif.



New Americans Opportunity Fund

U.S. citizenship is transformative for immigrants and communities. Not only does a naturalized citizen gain the right to vote, they also see an 8-11 percent increase in their income. They enjoy the freedom to travel abroad without restrictions, are protected from deportation and can become engaged members of the community.

There are more than 755,000 immigrants in L.A. County who are eligible to naturalize. Unfortunately, over the past eight years, the number of people applying for citizenship has continuously declined. Several barriers have kept many from applying, including increased fees, fear of the exam and lack of knowledge about the benefits and process.

CCF aims to ensure that immigrants are full participants in the social, economic and civic life of L.A. County to add to our region's strength and resilience. To achieve this, we are partnering with immigrant rights organizations, major Spanish-language media outlets and the City and County of Los Angeles on an unprecedented campaign. ¡Protégete!...¡Ciudadanía Ya! (Protect Yourself! Citizenship Now!) launched on Nov. 10 and is providing information, workshops and other important resources to help individuals learn about citizenship and naturalize.

To support the New Americans Opportunity Fund in making citizenship a reality for hundreds of thousands of L.A. County residents, visit calfund.org/newamericans. Your donation will assist with application fees and other critical services.



Pass it Along Fund

Diana, a widow with a young son, was determined to create a better life for her family. But after putting herself through school and earning an associate's degree in culinary arts, she found herself struggling to find work because of a lack of experience. As student loans came due, she was unable to cover her monthly rent and meet her family's basic needs. Not knowing what else to do, she sought help at the P.F. Bresee Foundation. They were able to provide it through the Pass it Along Fund.

The Pass It Along Fund was established by anonymous donors to provide financial assistance directly to individuals facing a moment of acute need. The only request in return is that these individuals pass along two acts of kindness. Since 2011, the fund has given more than \$1.5 million to help Angelenos in crisis create a brighter future for themselves and their families. Recipients have expressed their gratitude through thousands of generous acts, sharing the help they've been given and transforming their communities.

The emergency rental assistance Diana received allowed her to provide for her son while continuing to search for employment, eventually finding long-term employment at Urth Caffé. In turn, she gave back by participating in a community clean-up, distributing meals to the homeless and teaching basic cooking classes to students at Bresee.

To support the Pass it Along Fund and help individuals like Diana to overcome obstacles and take control of their own lives, visit calfund.org/passitalong.

Home L.A. Fund

On any given night, there are more than 40,000 homeless individuals and families in Los Angeles County, and the numbers continue to rise. Next to comparable cities, the cost of living here is among the highest, yet Angelenos earn less income. Our donors have a long history of supporting critical, immediate needs for the homeless, such as soup kitchens and shelters. These safety net organizations are struggling to meet growing demand.

We know that homelessness can be best addressed by housing, and CCF has a long-standing commitment to increasing affordable housing in Los Angeles. Today, we are working with partners to create a viable strategy that will more than triple the annual production of permanent

supportive housing units for the homeless in Los Angeles. To truly make an impact on homelessness in L.A. County, we must address both immediate and long-term needs. CCF provides resources to our nonprofit partners working on the ground to help the homeless get the emergency shelter, food and services they need today.

At the same time, we invest in longer-term solutions to accelerate the production of permanent supportive housing, which combines housing with mental and physical healthcare and social services for chronically homeless individuals.

To support the Home L.A. Fund and help ensure that all Angelenos have safe and secure homes and the services they need to thrive, visit calfund.org/homela.





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care about while minimizing your
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calfund.org/yearend

