SHELDON STONE:
A Profile of the New Board Chair

Sheldon Stone, a founding member of Oaktree Capital Management LP and 25-year resident of Los Angeles, will serve as board chair of the California Community Foundation (CCF) from January 2011 through December 2012. He and his wife, Cindy, are members of the Legacy Society and their fund invests in multiple areas, including the arts, historic preservation and college scholarships. CCF interviewed him for this cover story.

How did you get to know CCF?
Cindy and I first heard of CCF nearly twenty years ago when we started working on our estate plan with Stu Tobisman. We wanted to include philanthropy in the plan, and he suggested that we start a charitable fund with CCF, where we could rely on CCF for their research, reporting and administration. He told us if we wanted a private foundation later, we could do that.

Several years later, I was asked to serve as an advisor on CCF’s investment committee, subsequently became a board member and then chaired the investment committee for a number of years.

Why did you join The Legacy Society?
The Legacy Society helps with generational issues. In our estate plan, it’s hard-wired that a percentage of what our children get will be given away, and CCF will ensure that that happens.

What do you think sets CCF apart?
I appreciate the flexibility that CCF provides. You can start with a donor advised fund, funding the areas that matter most to you, potentially scale to a supporting organization, and ultimately CCF can play a role in your legacy planning.

What advice would you offer new donors based on your experience as a CCF donor?
First, don’t assume that your gifting priorities will remain static. Twenty years ago, I could not have imagined that the things we support now would be so important to us. [continued on back page]
In calendar year 2010, the California Community Foundation received $132.3 million in contributions and made $130.2 million in donor advised and foundation directed grants. Of those contributions, 17 percent were gifts of stock and real estate and the remainder cash.

In the fourth quarter alone, CCF contributions totaled $46.5 million, with total grants at $62.4 million. Donors also continued to pursue their unique passions and philanthropic legacies in new and interesting ways. In fact, donors were responsible for $97.4 million in total grants to organizations and causes in Los Angeles, across the U.S. and worldwide.

For example, an anonymous donor in the entertainment industry contributed $100,000 to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank from his CCF fund, with CCF’s assistance in facilitating a relationship, creating a proposal and constructing the terms of the grant.

“The demand for the food bank has gone up by 40 percent in the last two years,” said the donor. “And yet many of these people in need are eligible for food stamps and haven’t enrolled. I saw a need and CCF helped me find a way to address it.”

From developing strategic plans to coordinating site visits to moderating family meetings, the Donor Relations and Grants Management team comprised of Terri, Taylor, Greg, Emily, Olivia, Richard, Andrea and Stephanie help donors create the change they envision.

Opportunity to Create Named, Permanent Scholarships

Here’s a special opportunity with the Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC).

A one-time gift of only $13,334 to FCCC for the California Community Colleges Scholarship Endowment, together with a matching contribution of 50 percent from The Bernard Osher Foundation, establishes a permanent, annual scholarship of $1,000 at a California community college. A donor may designate the specific college and/or area of study, and name the scholarship in honor or memory of a person, family, company or organization – or even themselves. What’s more, the one-time gift is tax-deductible.

This extraordinary opportunity to create a lasting legacy while ensuring that students with financial need can attain their educational aspirations is, however, only available through June 30, 2011.

It’s important to realize that because the cost of tuition, books and supplies to attend a California community college for one year is approximately $2,500, a $1,000 annual scholarship is significant and meaningful.

For more information or assistance, CCF donors, advisors and supporters should contact Kerry Franco, CCF scholarship program officer, at (213) 413-4130, ext. 225, or kfranco@ccf-la.org.

SCHOLARSHIPS: A CCF INSTITUTION

The California Community Foundation’s commitment to education was instilled by its founders and has been reinforced by its leaders and donors for over 95 years. They have included board member Harvey Mudd in the 1920s, advisor Dr. Walter Jarvis Barlow in the ‘30s, donor Lucile McDonough McKinstry in the ‘70s, and Secretary Warren Christopher in recent years.

Today, more than $3 million in grants are awarded annually to colleges and universities as well as nonprofit organizations in Los Angeles County and elsewhere through 150 scholarship funds and foundations managed by CCF. The community foundation is arguably the largest scholarship fund manager and one of the largest supporters of community colleges in Los Angeles County.
Where Do CCF Fundholders and Legacy Society Members Live?

This map shows the primary residence of CCF’s donor fundholders and Legacy Society members. While California is home to most, many spend much of their time living somewhere else in the continental U.S. or abroad.

New Agent for Social Change

With the appointment in December of María Blanco as vice president of civic engagement, CCF is poised to take an even more prominent role in fostering solutions to community problems through cross-sector collaboration with residents, nonprofits, community leaders and policy makers in L.A. County. Designated a priority area by the community foundation in its 10-year strategic plan, Civic Engagement combines grantmaking, technical assistance, leadership development, advocacy and more.

Blanco has a long and distinguished career, including senior roles with leading nonprofit organizations in Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay Area. Most recently, she served in the dual role of executive director and resident lecturer of the Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Race, Ethnicity and Diversity at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. In December 2010, she was appointed to the new Citizens Redistricting Commission, a 14-member body charged with redrawing the boundaries of California’s legislative and other political districts.

How to Give More Effectively

No matter where we are in our giving journey, we all want to make an impact. Our Donor Relations team offers tips for great giving in 2011 online at myccf.org/bettergrants.
THE CRITICAL NEEDS FUND IS HELPING L.A. RESIDENTS IN CRISIS

CCF would like to thank those who contributed to the Critical Needs Fund, allowing us to distribute $586,000 in grants to 26 nonprofits so they are able to provide assistance with basic necessities to hundreds of individuals and families in desperate situations because of the recession.

Through the Critical Needs Fund this winter, a food pantry has been expanded to feed dozens of hungry Filipino and Hispanic families in midtown L.A.; five families in Altadena are able to keep their kids in day care while parents look for work; foster youth enrolled in their first year of college are receiving help with their personal needs; and much more.

We are grateful to the following donors for their gifts:

Diane & Kendall Bishop Family Foundation
Gabriele Burkard
The Burchill Charitable Fund
Patricia and Ira Cohen Foundation
Vera de Vera
The Anne Diedrich Fund
The Mabel J. Dilley Memorial Fund
The Kathleen & Terry Dooley Fund
Debra Gerod Fund
Dennis and Susi Gertmenian Fund
Leonard Hill Foundation
Philip Itó
Johnson Martin Charitable Fund
Sharon A. Keith Fund
The Kemp Family Foundation
Karen King
Marjorie Kirk
John & Sarah Kobara Family Foundation
Corday Kozberg Family Fund
Paula Kupiec
L & J Foundation #2
Karin L. Larson Fund
The Bertram and Raquel Lewitt Fund
Elizabeth and David Mindel Charitable Fund
Anne Osberg/Moore Moravec Fund
Quan Phung & Michelle Ko Family Fund
Ronus Foundation
The Melanie Stagg Charitable Fund
Sundmark Family Foundation
Harry J. Volk Fund

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Community foundations represent one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy in the United States and hold nearly $50 billion in assets, according to the Foundation Center.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS:

* Every state is home to at least one community foundation that is advancing solutions to a wide range of social issues.
* Community foundations make up only one percent of all grantmaking foundations, but account for 10 percent of all foundation giving.
* Community foundations are growing globally, with nearly 1,500 operating in more than 50 countries.

SHELDON STONE PROFILE

[continued from front page]

Second, it’s important to cast a wide net among your areas of interest. And third, there are no right answers, so you just have to give it thought and do what makes you comfortable.

What trends in philanthropy do you see?
I think the big one is the way that Bill Gates and Warren Buffett’s pledge has helped inspire the wealthiest Americans to embrace philanthropy both in size and immediacy.

Where does your commitment to philanthropy come from?
My grandmother was my main influence. She was a woman of modest means, but she said, “spend a little, save a little, give a little.” I’ve followed that ever since.

I believe that if you feel like you’ve been able to make people’s lives a little easier, that means something. It’s more fulfilling if you give a portion of what you have.

Update Your Preferences Anytime

Did you know you can update how you would like CCF to communicate with you anytime? Just log in to DonorConnect and go to “my account.” There, choose or change the type of communications you receive and how. Log on at: donorconnect.org.

Forgot your username and password? No problem, just call us at (213) 413-4130.