

## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Executives, Board Members and Funders Converge at Orange County's First Annual Nonprofit Leaders Summit**

**Irvine, CA Jan. 27, 2010** – Over 150 nonprofit executives, board members and regional funders convened at the Irvine Hyatt for a day-long leaders summit entitled “Embracing Change, Creating Community” to discuss critical issues facing the nonprofit sector in Orange County.

Hosted by the Orange County Funders Roundtable, a funder collaborative committed to promoting effective philanthropy and strengthening the nonprofit sector in Orange County, the Summit focused on critical issues facing nonprofit leadership, including organizational sustainability, maximizing human resources in the face of layoffs and changing workforce trends, and the possibilities inherent in strategic collaboration.

Keynote speakers included Fred Ali, President and CEO of the Weingart Foundation, who challenged attendees to face the new economic reality in strategic ways, and Rick Wartzman, Executive Director of the Drucker Institute, who inspired with a presentation that shared Peter Drucker’s principles for leading in turbulent times.

“This was a rare opportunity for the leaders in our sector to come together, to share experiences and expertise, and to re-energize and learn from each other in a concentrated way,” said Shelley Hoss, Chair of the Orange County Funders Roundtable and President of the Orange County Community Foundation. “We had two primary goals for the day – first, to provide engaging content to help Board and staff leaders grapple with new economic and operational realities; and second, to engage in constructive dialogue on how the regional philanthropic community can better support the needs of the sector. Given the level of energy and conversation throughout the day, I think we achieved both.”

The Summit was free to all participants due to the sponsorship of the Weingart Foundation, one of the inaugural funders of the Roundtable, and funding from Bank of America, Change a Life Foundation, Orange County Community Foundation, Orange County United Way, St. Joseph Health System Foundation and Wells Fargo Foundation.

The Summit was the result of a year-long planning effort of a committee comprised of both nonprofit leaders and regional funders, who collaborated on the content and structure for the inaugural summit.

For more information on the Nonprofit Leaders Summit, or for additional photos, please contact Shelley Hoss at (949) 553-4202 x 25 or [shoss@oc-cf.org](mailto:shoss@oc-cf.org) or Anne Olin at (714) 647-0900 x101 or [anne@ocfunders.org](mailto:anne@ocfunders.org).

## **ABOUT ORANGE COUNTY FUNDERS ROUNDTABLE**

The Orange County Funders Roundtable (OCFR) is a funder collaborative committed to promoting **effective** philanthropy and **strengthening** the nonprofit sector in Orange County. Since 2006, OCFR has promoted information sharing and collaborative funding projects among regional funders, and sponsored community needs assessments to better gauge the issues facing local nonprofits. For more information visit [www.ocfunders.org](http://www.ocfunders.org)