

50 Years of Project Youth OCBF

2001

*Educational mentoring
services are provided*



2017

*Agency changes name
to Project Youth OCBF
and purchases
permanent home*



2019

*Project Youth OCBF
celebrates 50 years
of service to Orange
County community*



1997

*Substance abuse
services are added*

2007

*Health education
and risk reduction
services are offered*

Thanks to our generous donors, committed volunteers, dedicated staff, and invaluable community, legal, law enforcement and health partners, our 50-year impact has been vast and enduring. Thank you all for supporting Project Youth OCBF through five decades!



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Our Mission...

to keep at-risk youth in school,
healthy and drug-free through
education, counseling, mentoring,
and family strengthening.

Our Vision

Youth and families are empowered
to make positive choices, building
the foundation for a lifetime of
opportunity and success.



2020 President's Message

by Mark D. Erickson, Esq.

It is an exciting time to be a part of Project Youth OCBF as the organization celebrates 50 years of service to the community in 2020. That includes the 40th anniversary of the juvenile crime diversion program SHORTSTOP and nearly 25 years of the Project SELF student internship program. In the last decade alone, Project Youth OCBF has raised over \$1 million in college scholarship money for low-income minority students in the Higher Education Mentoring Program.

Nonprofits do not last this long unless their goals and purpose resonate with the community and their supporters. Everyone can get behind mentoring programs for disadvantaged youth—programs that will support change, growth, and diversity in our community; programs that create jobs for high school kids who have never been in a professional setting, let alone worked in one; educational and counseling programs for families; and alternatives to incarceration for youth offenders.

2020 will kick off the public phase of our Elevate Educate Empower Comprehensive Campaign designed to retire the debt on our Santa Ana home, raise funds for an endowed scholarship fund for low-income students; and provide much needed money to expand our counseling and outreach programs. When we reach our goal of paying off our building this will mean an extra \$96,000 every year that can be directed straight into Project Youth OCBF programs.

Over \$1 million has been raised for the campaign so far, primarily from board members and members of our Society of Fellows. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to this process and our shared cause.



Brian Daucher, Mark Erickson, and Kyle Kawakami



Mark Erickson with Project SELF intern at recognition dinner

As we step forward into the community with our philanthropic appeal, let us do so with the conviction that our purpose is noble, our services are needed, and that people will see meaning and value in both as they join the team by contributing to the campaign.

Of course, the success of the programs of Project Youth OCBF is measured by more than their longevity and financial performance—it's the changed lives of those impacted by our programs. The participants and beneficiaries of our programs are living testimony to the value delivered to the community. When they come back and speak at our events, it really is an emotional and pride-inspiring experience.

As our Board of Directors continues to grow and evolve, we look forward to building our Emeritus Board as a place for long-time board members and supporters to continue their service with Project Youth OCBF as an adjunct board in liaison with our Board of Directors. We are very lucky to have staff that is as dedicated as they are talented, working tirelessly to deliver daily on our programs. It is an honor to serve Project Youth OCBF as its president and with your continued support we will not only celebrate 50 years of success, but also the start of a bigger and bolder future.



Mark D. Erickson, Esq.

Elevate Educate Empower Campaign

by Brian M. Daucher, Esq.



Throughout its long history, Project Youth OCBF has made a significant impact in the lives of at-risk youth and families. The tens of thousands of clients we've served to date represent an incalculable benefit to both local families and the broader community. Our work is essential today and will remain so far into the future.

As we celebrate our 50 years impacting the lives of Orange County youth and families, we desire to make an even larger footprint in the community. We intend to expand access to our programs, so we may reach an increasing number of at-risk youth and families. We intend to create greater sustainability for our agency, so we may protect our programs through times of economic uncertainty. We intend to further enhance the excellence of our services through infrastructure enhancements, so that more youth might stay in school, pursue higher education and promising careers, and remain healthy and drug-free.

In 2019 Project Youth OCBF launched a major comprehensive campaign effort with a goal of securing millions in public and private support, over four years, that will be invested in three specific areas:

- ***Eliminating the Mortgage on Our Home***

Project Youth OCBF recently purchased a permanent home for our programs. This investment allows us to provide all of our services on-site in a safe and secure environment. Our new home is centrally located for



Martha Veliz, Chris Gaarder, Guadalupe Carrasco, MaryLou Czerner, Karen Ruan, and Brian Daucher

the families we serve and meets all of our program needs. We no longer have to worry about the rising costs of leasing or facilities that do not adequately meet our needs. Purchasing a permanent home has been one of our most impactful accomplishments. The mortgage balance on our home is \$1.7 million which, when eliminated, will make tens of thousands of dollars available every year for our programs. This will lead to even more lives transformed.

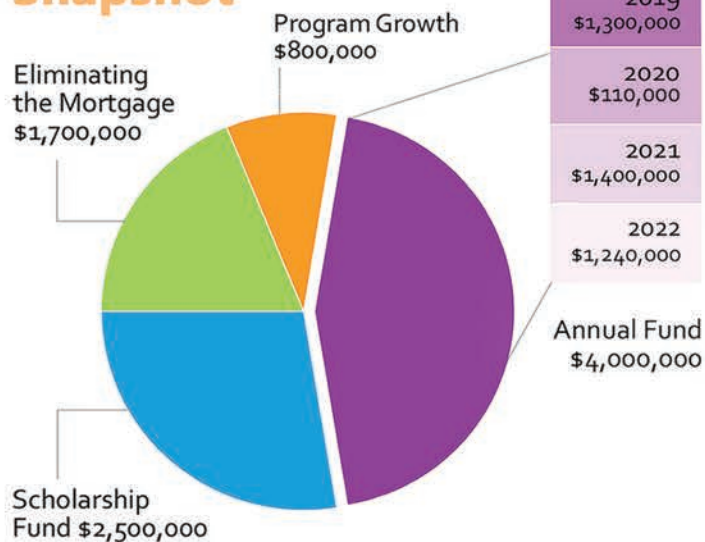
- **Program Support**

Project Youth OCBF is currently generating approximately \$1.3 million in annual funds, between private philanthropy and fundraising, to support its vital community programs. These funds are the lifeblood of our organization. We seek to raise additional revenue to expand our programs, create greater program efficacy, and improve and track outcomes.

- **Scholarship Endowment**

Project Youth OCBF prepares at-risk youth to enter college, yet they are typically the students least able to afford it. Providing college scholarships to keep our students from going deep into debt is a high priority. Our goal is to offer \$120,000 in scholarships to our students annually.

\$9 Million Campaign Snapshot



In celebration of our 50th anniversary, we are looking ahead to our next 50 years. A recent gift from the Jeffrey Carlton Foundation, totaling \$700,000 per year, positions us well to deliver even greater impact to youth and families...today and for generations. With the Carlton gift providing a solid foundation for our future, we are formalizing exciting plans to expand access to our programs, to create greater organizational sustainability, and to further enhance the excellence of our services to the community.



Honorary Chairs



Campaign Co-Chairs



We are extremely proud of our achievements and the long-lasting impact we've had on at-risk youth and families over the last 50 years. We look forward to building on this success. Orange County's youth and families need us. Let's join together at this very special time to further empower youth and families to make positive choices and build the foundation for a lifetime of opportunity and success. Let's be inspired by the generosity of the Carlton Foundation and be part of Project Youth OCBF's successes by supporting the Elevate Educate Empower comprehensive campaign.



Kelly Galligan, Esq.

A Celebration of 50 Years *by Kelly Lucinda Galligan, Esq.*

After fifty years of serving and empowering youth and families in Orange County, Project Youth OCBF has a lot to be celebrating at its 50th Anniversary Celebration at Shady Canyon Golf Club in Irvine (postponed until 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic): a state-of-the-art building in the heart of Santa Ana, a long-standing and experienced staff, a robust and committed group of board members and donors, and tens of thousands of lives touched. The event will recognize Project Youth OCBF's successes, honor individuals who have been influential in the organization's success and introduce potential new donors to the organization and its programs.

The Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret.) and I have the honor of co-chairing the Anniversary Celebration with honorary co-chairs, and pioneers of Project Youth OCBF, Ygal and the Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret.). The Latin-inspired evening will feature vibrant blooms, specialty margaritas, and a delectable entree handcrafted by Shady Canyon's renowned executive chef. Mambo Loco, a local Latin jazz band, will serenade guests under string lights so everyone can dance into the late summer night. But most importantly, guests will hear past program participants' touching stories of how Project Youth OCBF impacted their lives. Proceeds from the Anniversary Celebration will go toward Project Youth OCBF's comprehensive campaign, paying down Project Youth OCBF's building, funding scholarships for program participants, and expanding the reach of Project Youth OCBF's programs.

I started my legal career as a corporate associate with Rutan & Tucker, LLP, where equity partner and Project Youth OCBF board member Maria Stearns introduced me to Project Youth OCBF. Maria explained that it is the passion and zest of those involved in Project Youth OCBF—the movers and shakers of this community—that really drives change and makes a difference in so many lives. John Hurlbut, another Rutan equity partner and Project Youth OCBF board member, shared his experiences with Project Youth OCBF, where he served alongside many of his lifelong friends, all of whom I soon learned to be top quality people professionally, philanthropically, and personally.

Maria and John's encouragement was more than enough to convince me to take action to join the associate board, and the day after I was sworn into the California bar, I got involved. I wanted to get to know the people of Project Youth OCBF, work with them, and follow in their footsteps by serving our community. I was fortunate to meet the members of the influential Associate Board leadership at that time: Miguel Prietto, Jonathan Skorheim, Wesley Polischuk, and Anthony Modarelli. Their contagious and genuine enthusiasm for Project Youth OCBF instantly captivated me.



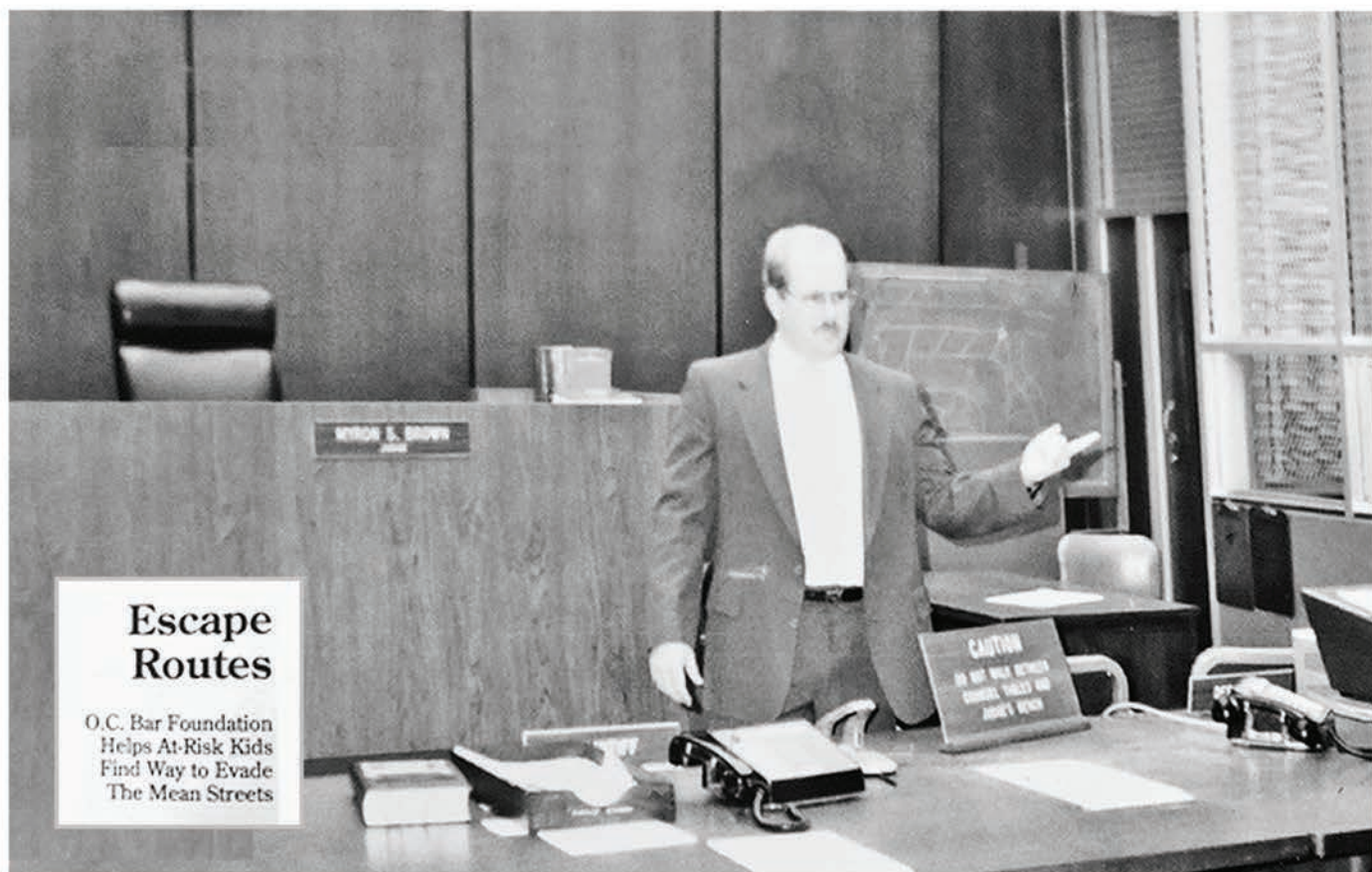
Kelly Galligan, right, with
STOP SHORT of Addiction
youth and his grandmother

As I begin my fifth year with Project Youth OCBF and having had the opportunity to serve as Associate Board President, I am excited to now serve as a board member. I can attest that Maria and John were correct to highlight the character of those involved with the organization. Whether it is the program participants, with their growth and resilience in overcoming great obstacles, or the enduring Project Youth OCBF staff, who devote their best efforts to work every day, year after year, for the children and families relying on them and Project Youth OCBF's programs, there is no shortage of people to draw inspiration from. My fellow board members and the associate board members, who make it a priority to invest significant time and resources into the future of our community, motivate me to dedicate myself to Project Youth OCBF's causes. These individuals are the reason Project Youth OCBF is celebrating fifty successful years and will be around to celebrate fifty more.

Project Youth OCBF

The First 25 Years





Escape Routes

O.C. Bar Foundation
Helps At-Risk Kids
Find Way to Evade
The Mean Streets

1969-1975

1969 – **George A. Parker Law Library Foundation** was established to create a new library in Orange County.

1975 – Law library was completed. Members of the Orange County Bar Association's board of directors oversaw the Bar Foundation.



George A. Parker

Presidents

1969-1972 Stanford Shaw
1973-1979 Arthur W. Gray

1976-1985

Key people...



Ann Avery Andres



Mike D. Pursell



Allan H. Stokke



MaryLou Czerner



Court of Appeal

FOURTH DISTRICT, DIVISION III

It may surprise you to know that the State of California no longer pretends it can change adult lawbreakers for the better. Not so long ago, one of the stated goals of criminal sentencing was to rehabilitate the offender, to make him or her into a useful and happy citizen. No more. Now the purpose of punishment for adults, according to the Legislature, is just that: punishment. Based on hard experience, our leaders have come to believe that lives must be turned around before adulthood, or it is unlikely they ever will be.

There is an important lesson here for those who wish to enjoy the freedom and unlimited horizons this country offers. Join society; do not make war on it. Or, as the popular song goes, you may be singing "I fought the law, and the law won." From my experience as a prosecutor, defense attorney, trial judge, and now as an appellate justice, I can tell you that is almost always the outcome for those who choose a life of crime.

The great gifts of youth and health can be easily lost in long prison sentences or by use of poisonous drugs or narcotics. It is much easier to be a happy, productive person exploring the wonders of the world than to exist in gruesome prisons or as a captive of some addictive substance.

A life of crime is no life at all.

Thomas F. Crosby, Jr.
Thomas F. Crosby, Jr.
Associate Justice
California Court of Appeal



First American Title™

1976 – **Law-Related Education for Youth Program** established, a k-12 law related curriculum in public schools.

1979 – **SHORTSTOP** program was initiated, offered at the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana.

1979 & 1980 – SHORTSTOP received the Disneyland Civic Community Service Award.

1980 – First American Title Company donated the printing of the SHORTSTOP "Decision" handbook.

1981 – Agency received its **501(c)3** nonprofit designation.

1985 – Agency name was changed to the **Orange County Bar Foundation (OCBF)**.

1969- 1985 – OCBF board and staff ran the Bar Foundation and Bar Association.

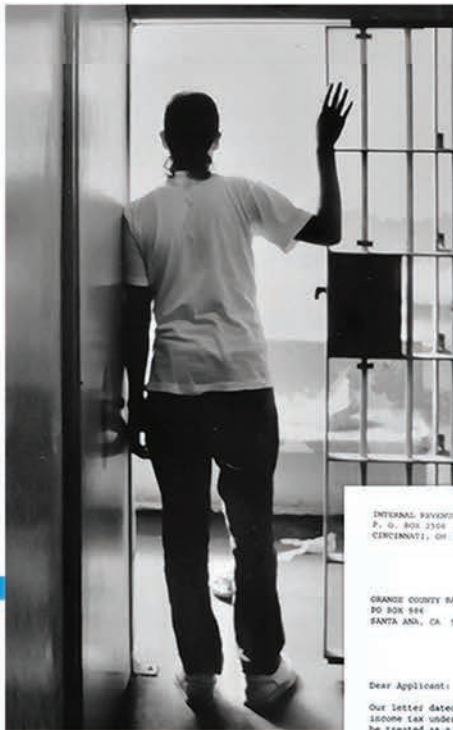


Clockwise:

Reality sets in-- students who attend **SHORTSTOP** get a first-hand look at the holding cell, a reality of being arrested.

Central Justice Center in Santa Ana.

OCBF's 501(c)3



INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2304
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Employer Identification Number:
23-1068923

SSN:
1765264151075

Contact Person:
THOMAS C KOESTER 108 33116

Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 825-5500

Public Charity Status:
176100-13 (A)(vi)

Dear Applicant:

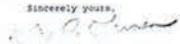
Our letter dated DECEMBER 1981, stated you would be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and you would be treated as a public charity, rather than as a private foundation, during an advance ruling period.

Based on the information you submitted, you are classified as a public charity under the Code section listed in the heading of this letter. Since your exempt status was not under consideration, you continue to be classified as an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, provides detailed information about your rights and responsibilities as an exempt organization. You may request a copy by calling the toll-free number for forms, (800) 829-3476. Information is also available on our Internet Web Site at www.irs.gov.

If you have general questions about exempt organizations, please call our toll-free number shown in the heading.

Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,


Lois G. Lerner
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Presidents

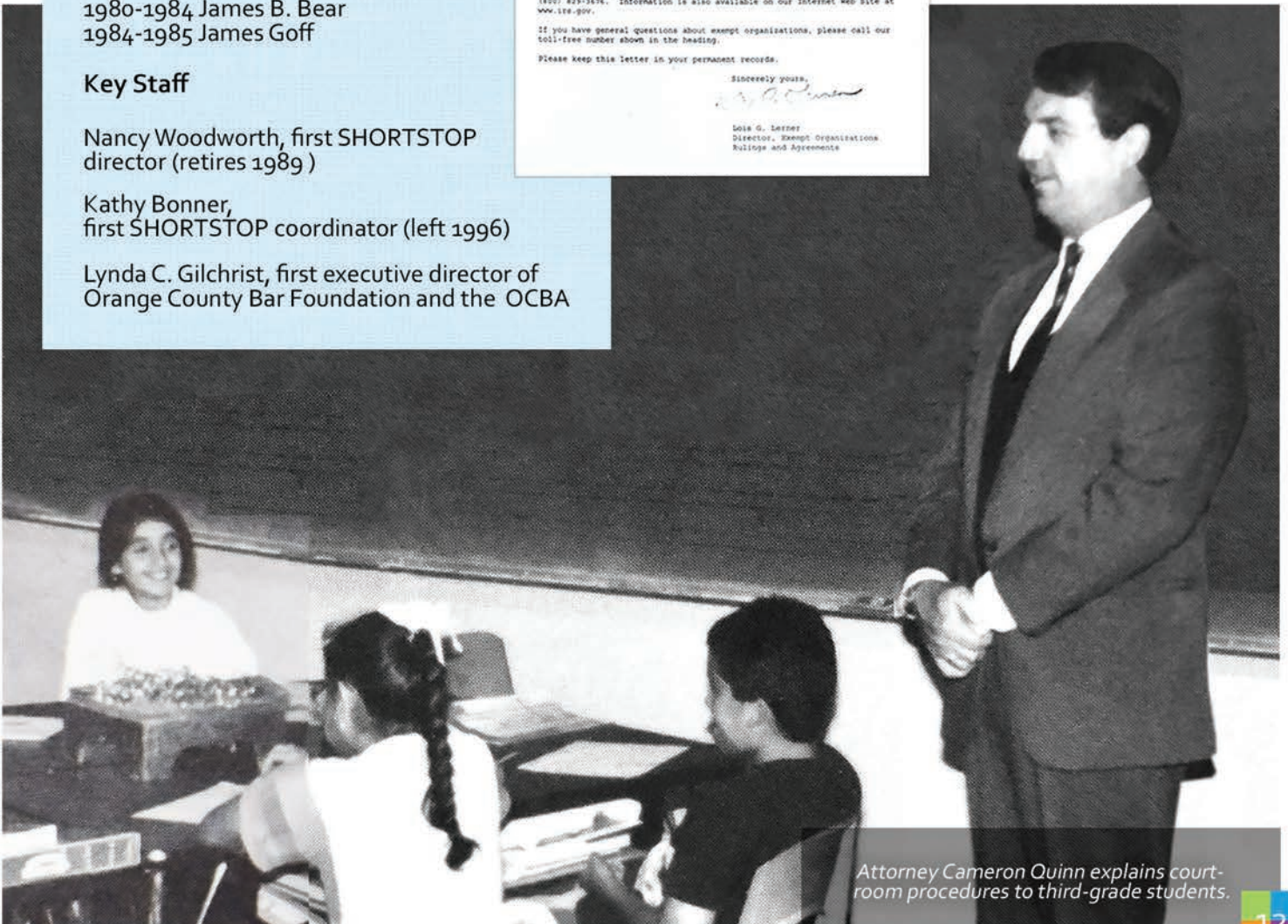
1980-1984 James B. Bear
1984-1985 James Goff

Key Staff

Nancy Woodworth, first **SHORTSTOP** director (retires 1989)

Kathy Bonner,
first **SHORTSTOP** coordinator (left 1996)

Lynda C. Gilchrist, first executive director of
Orange County Bar Foundation and the OCBA



Attorney Cameron Quinn explains courtroom procedures to third-grade students.

**“They’ll ignore their
parents and the cops
but me, they believe.”**

**Julius Jkutz
Parolee**



*SHORTSTOP Instructor,
Javier Orozco*



Don Morrow, Jane Martin,
Hon. David Sills (Ret.)

1986-
1990



Kevin Stinson



Karen Ruan,
Eva Gaxiola
(LA Bureau of
Crime Prevention),
and Art Gray
(LA Deputy
District Attorney)

1986 – **Jane Mills Martin** hired as first Executive Director of the OCBF, not combined with OCBA (retired in 2004).

Expanded attorney in the classroom program under a federal grant from the Department of Education.

1988 – SHORTSTOP receives the National Award from the Foundation for Improvement of Justice.

1989 – Legal education curriculum expanded to reach other CA cities and Chester County, PA (under a federal grant from the Department of Education).

Programa SHORTSTOP established (cultural and Spanish-language adaptation of SHORTSTOP).

Implemented **Law Revue** and **Fashion Show** fundraisers.

1990 – Hired **Karen Keup Ruan** as SHORTSTOP Coordinator (becomes Executive Director in 2005).

Kevin Stinson, with Orange County courts, starts working in SHORTSTOP

Key People

Sam Barnes, Judge William Bedsworth, Judge James Gray, Donald Morrow, Com. Eleanor Palk, Nancy Petus, Com. Joan Reily, The Honorable Judith Ryan (Ret), Marshall Shulman, The Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine, Kevin Stinson, Cindy Stokke

Key Staff

Elizabeth Allen, Margaret Bechtel, Kathy Bonner, Mario Chavez, Nancy Reed Garcia, Melissa DeMotte, Sandy Hardacre, Hector Jimenez, Linda Johanson, Karen Keup Ruan, Jane Martin, Stephanie Powell, Nancy Woodworth



Presidents

1985-1987 Richard Schwartzberg
1987-1989 Ann Avery Andres
1989-1992 Robert S. Barnes

Fundraisers

Law Revue 1989-1995
Fashion Show 1989-1996

LAW REVUE '90



1991 -
1995

1991 – SHORTSTOP awarded the California Youth Authority Sustained Superior Achievement.

SHORTSTOP is replicated in Bannock County, Idaho.

1991 & 1992 – SHORTSTOP received the Disneyland Civic Community Service Award.

1992 – SHORTSTOP trains Long Beach to replicate SHORTSTOP.

Developed **Legal Education for Youth Curriculum** for middle schools, based on SHORTSTOP.

1993 – Awarded the National Award from the Foundation for Improvement of Justice for Programa SHORTSTOP.

SHORTSTOP awarded the National Juvenile Justice Service Award from the National Juvenile Detention Association.

Parents' Legal Rights & Responsibilities Workshops developed.

Programa SHORTSTOP receives federal SAMHSA grant and hires external evaluator Dr. Cervantes of BAI.

SHORTSTOP opens at Harbor Justice Center in Newport Beach.

KOCE Media Award given to Jim Cooper for the "SHORTSTOP Story."

1994 – **Robert S. Barnes (Sammy) Award** started to honor long-term excellent service to OCBF.

Key People

Sam Barnes, Judge William Bedsworth, Judge James Gray, Com. Eleanor Palk, Nancy Petus, Com. Joan Reily, The Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret), David Weinberg, Cindy Stokke, Marshall Shulman, Kevin Stinson, The Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret)

Key Staff

Elizabeth Allen, Margaret Bechtel, Kathy Bonner, Mario Chavez, Melissa DeMotte, Lynda Gilchrist, Alisa Ginex, Sandy Hardacre, Hector Jimenez, Linda Johanson, Jane Martin, Stephanie Powell, Karen Keup Ruan, Nancy Woodworth

Presidents

1989-1992 Robert S. Barnes
1993 Donald L. Morrow
1994 The Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret)

Sammy Award Winners

1994 Robert S. Barnes

Fundraisers

1989-1995 Law Revue
1989-1996 Fashion Show

Events

Annual Meeting



Above: Don Morrow, Eleanor Stegmeier, and Allan Stokke

Left: Linda Johanson, Karen Ruan, and Jane Martin

Life's Obstacles Brought Local Teen to Legal Community for Direction

Project SELF intern balances work, motherhood and college.

Santa Ana - Becoming pregnant at age 17 helped Santa Ana resident Celia Lopez refocus her life, with direction from the Project SELF summer internship program by the Orange County Bar Foundation and the Orange County Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators.



Testing the Bar

JULIANE BACKMANN / for the Daily Journal

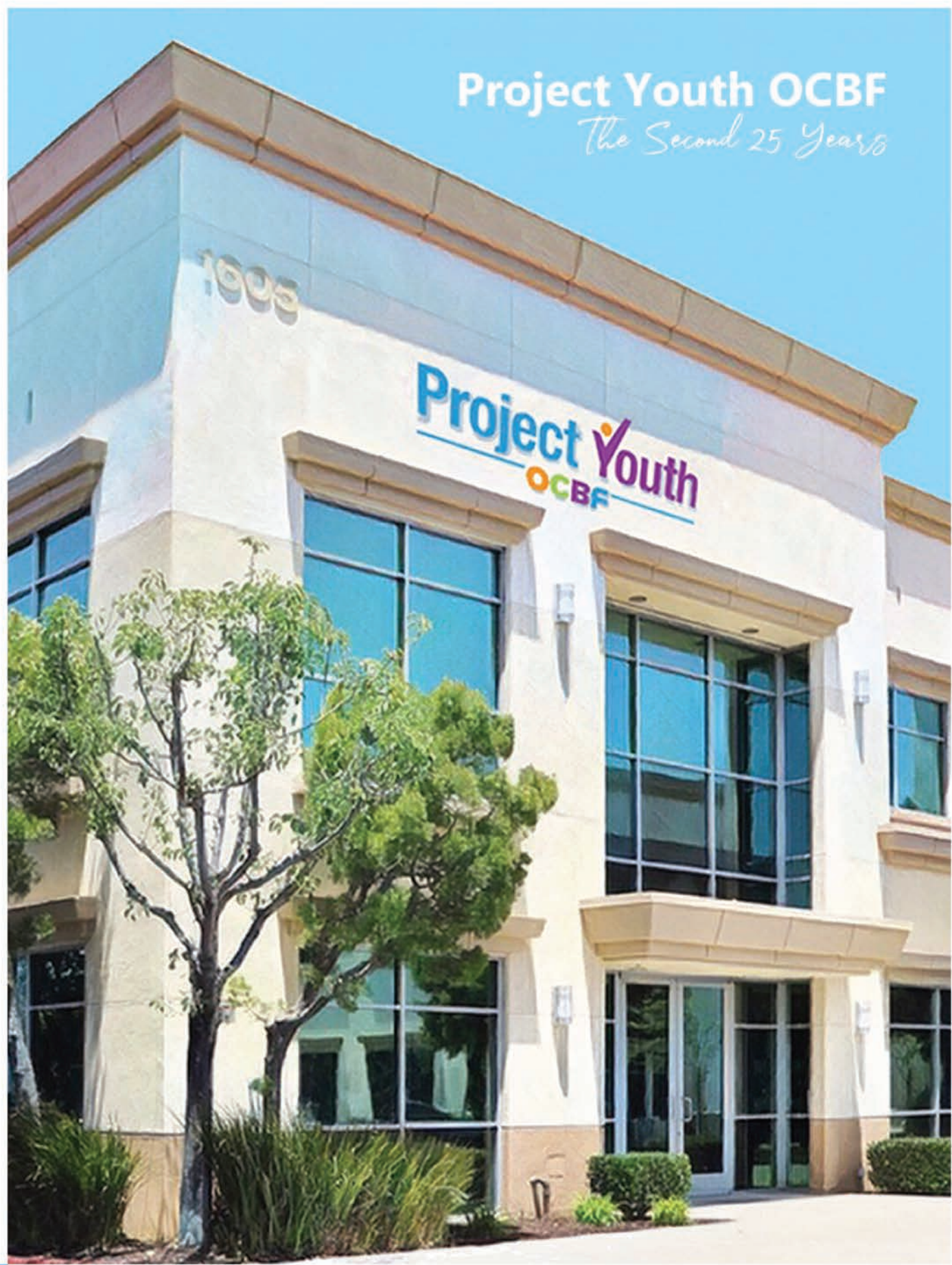
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher attorney Oscar Garza, center, with students, from left, Michelle Leon, Enrique Alcaraz, Leslie Melara, Noelle Gonzalez and Edwin Mesa at a graduation dinner for Project SELF at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Costa Mesa. Project SELF is a collaboration between the Orange County chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators and the Orange County Bar Association to offer middle and high school students from middle-to-low-income families a chance to participate in its legal internships. This year, 39 students were awarded paid summer internships at 25 different Orange County law firms.



MaryLou Czermer with Project SELF interns

Project Youth OCBF

The Second 25 Years







1995 - 2000

Peer Court Case Management developed to manage peer court sanctions, which the Orange County Probation monitored under federal funding.

Food & Wine Society fundraiser developed to support OCBF programs.

Project Youth Connect (mentoring program for Latina's ages 9-15 to prevent substance abuse) developed through SAMHSA grant.

SHORTSTOP opened at North Justice Center in Fullerton.

Sticks & Steins fundraiser started.

STOP SHORT of Addiction program developed.

SHORTSTOP expands to central LA with the U.S. Attorney's office.

OCBF adds clinical services.

1995 First American Title Insurance Company & Nordstrom

Jim Skorhiem, Cindy Stokke
and John Herklotz

Events That Please the Palate Benefit Youth in Trouble



Law Revue
Fashion Show
Stride Ride N' Roll
Food & Wine Society
Golf Classic

Annual Meeting



STOP SHORT of Addiction youth and families attend first program session in the courthouse



Project Youth Connect Participants

Presidents

1995 Jess J. Araujo
 1996 Rodger M. Carey
 1997 Robert J. Whalen
 1998 William B. Grenner
 1999 Cindy Stokke
 2000 Marshall M. Schulman

Key People

Hal & Linda Beral, William Grenner, Michael Hornak, Judy Johnson, Don Morrow, Patrick & The Honorable Judith Ryan (Ret.), Marshal Schulman, Ygal Sonenshine & The Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret.), Allan & Cindy Stokke

Key Staff

Mario Chavez, Nancy Garcia, Jane Martin, Dona King Grubbs, Martha Madrid, Donna Ortega, Karen Ruan, Frances Torrez, Matha Veliz

Project SELF Student





Entitled "A New Direction," the bronze sculpture was donated to the Santa Ana Justice Center in honor of the Sam Barnes Campaign.

2001 -
2005



Karen Ruan
and Jane Martin

2002 – Higher Education Mentoring Program initiated.

2002-2004– Sam Barnes Capital Campaign raised funds to establish a reserve fund. A matching challenge from John Herklotz raised \$300,000.

2003 – SHORTSTOP awarded the National Conference of Bar Foundations Excellence Award.

STOP SHORT of Addiction provided in Spanish.

Trained to implement clinical evidenced-based **BSFT (Brief Strategic Family Therapy)** model.

2004 – OCBF Commissions artist Angela Mia De La Vega to create a commemorative bronze sculpture depicting OCBF's mission of providing legal education to prevent juvenile crime.

OCBF partners with the OC Marathon to become a benefiting charity.

Jane Mills Martin retires. **Karen Ruan**, hired in 1990 as SHORTSTOP Coordinator, was promoted to Executive Director and became the 2nd Executive Director of OCBF.

2005 – OCBF received first trust gift from Paul & Jean Cleary.



Presidents

2001 Michael T. Hornak
2002 William S. O'Hare
2003 Wayne W. Smith
2004 Michael P. Maguire
2005 Kathleen O. Peterson

Key People

William Grenner, Michael Maguire,
Karen Ruan, Jane Martin, William
O'Hare, The Honorable Judith Ryan
(Ret), Jim Skorhiem, Allan & Cindy
Stokke, William O'Hare,
Timothy Carlyle

Sammy Award Winners

1999 Ann Avery Andres
2000 OC Superior Court
2001 Hitachi
2002 John C. Herklotz
2003 Irvine Health Foundation
2004 Jane Mills Martin

Fundraisers

Golf Tournament
Food & Wine Society
Sticks & Steins
OC Marathon

Events

Annual Meeting

Southern California Statue Portrays Teen Crime-Diversion Program

By Tim Willert
Daily Journal Staff Writer

SANTA ANA — The teenage boy is slumped over, an empty bottle of booze at his feet. Despair is his only companion.

Behind him, walking with his head high and a smile on his face, is the same boy, only he is filled with hope, thanks to a judge and attorney by his side.

Capturing the essence of Shortstop, a juvenile crime diversion program that redirects wayward youth toward a crime-free future was no easy task for Dallas artist Angela Mia de la Vega.

"They very much wanted to focus on the program's outcome," de la Vega said of Orange County Bar Foundation board members who approached her 18 months ago to sculpt a lasting tribute to the legal profession that would be housed in the Orange Superior Court's Central Justice Center. "I think we accomplished that."

"A New Direction" was unveiled Thursday during a ceremony hosted by the Orange County Bar Foundation in the justice center lobby.

About 150 guests, mostly dignitaries and donors, were on hand to salute de la Vega's work, a bronze statue that took six months to complete. Private donations paid the \$50,000 price tag.

"I think it's much easier to sculpt than to get up in front of you," she told those in attendance, who included judges, attorneys and local politicians. "This was a quite a challenge to depict the legacy of rehabilitating our troubled youth."



2006 – **Youth Transitional Intervention Program** implemented through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration) funding and later through a CA state grant.

2007 – **The Hermana Project** is implemented and later evolved into the Madres Unidas program.

The **Society of Fellows** individual giving program was created as outgrowth from our Founding Fellows.

Trudy Levindofske promoted to OCBA Executive Director.

2008 – College Futures Foundation provides grant for **college scholarships** to Higher Education Mentoring Program graduates. Grant was renewed for 9 years.

2009 – Distinguished Fellows Award created to honor outstanding OCBF supporters and community professionals. Mark Minyard is the first recipient.

Implemented Distinguished Judicial Society of Fellows award. The Honorable David Carter is the first recipient.

2010 – Implemented **Chicas con Fuerza** through funding from the Office of Women's Health.

Piloted Higher Education Mentoring Program for male students.



Dennis Ghan
and Kyle Kawakami

Mark
Minyard

Presidents

2006 Allan H. Stokke, 2007 James M. Skorheim, 2008 Allan C. Crivaro, 2009 Carolyn C. McKitterick & 2010 Dennis W. Ghan

Key People

Ronnie Basset, Dr. Richard Cervantes, Mark Minyard, Maria Stearns, Donald Morrow

Key Staff

Jane Martin, Karen Ruan, Martha Madrid, Nancy Garcia, Michelle Hammond, Nazly Restrepo, Bobby Esber, Frances Torres, Susana Vega, Martha Veliz, Maricela Rios, Donita Riley, Leo Villarreal, Karyn Mendoza, Brent Barcellona

Sammy Award Winners

2005 Paul & Jean Cleary, 2006 Ygal Sonenshine and The Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret), 2007 Michael D. Pursell, 2008 William S. O'Hare, 2009 Michael P. Maguire, and 2010 Cindy Stokke

Fellows Awards

2008 Mark E. Minyard, 2009, James M. Skorheim, and 2010 Allan H. Stokke

Judicial Fellows Awards

2009 Hon. David O. Carter and 2010 Justice David A. Thompson

Fundraisers

Golf Tournament, Food & Wine Society, and OC Marathon

Events

Annual Meeting and Society of Fellows Reception



*Higher Education Mentoring
Program Participants*

2011 -
2015



John Hurlbut



Dan Robinson

Key People – Jeffrey Carlton, John Hurlbut, Mark Minyard, Daniel Robinson, Cindy Stokke

Key Staff – Karen Ruan, Martha Madrid, Nancy Garcia, Michelle Hammond, Nazly Restrepo, Bobby Esber, Kathleen Scatton, Martha Veliz, Frances Torres, Susana Vega, Natalie Sanchez, Manny Gutierrez, Sujei Vasquez, Adam Sattar, Robert Diaz, Sonia Orozco, Santiago Sandoval

2012 – The OCBF created the **Associate Board**.

2013 – Received trust gift through the **Jeffrey Carlton Foundation**, largest gift OCBF received to date.

2014 – Partnered with **Hoag Hospital** to provide funding and programming (diversion and women's health services) on site at the Melinda Hoag Smith Center for Health.

2015 – Implemented **¡Cuidate!** teen health program through state funding.

The OCBF refreshed agency brand with a new logo, colors, tag line, mission and vision statements.



Taylor Dalton



Eric Traut



¡Cuidate! Participants



*Lauren Grochow, Kevin Grochow
and Nicholas Schuchert*

Presidents – 2011 John B. Hurlbut, Jr.; 2012 Mark E. Minyard; 2013 Collie F. James, IV; 2014 Eric V. Traut, 2015 Christopher P. Wesierski

Associate Board Presidents – 2013 and 2014 Taylor R. Dalton, 2015 Ashley E. Merlo

Sammy Award Winners – 2011 James M. Skorheim, 2012 Santa Ana Police Department, 2013 John B. Hurlbut, 2014 Mark E. Minyard, 2015 Carolyn C. McKitterick

Fellows Award – 2011 Alan J. Crivaro, 2012, Eric V. Traut, 2013 Dennis W. Ghan, 2014 Jonathon M. Skorheim, 2015 Steven G. Hittelman

Judicial Fellows Award – 2011 Hon. James P. Gray (Ret), 2012 Hon. Francisco Briseno, 2013 Hon. Lon F. Hurwitz, 2014 Hon. Jomoa A. Moberly, and 2015 Com. Richard G. Vogl (Ret)

Fundraisers - Golf Tournament, Food & Wine Society, OC Marathon, Rooftop Brewfest and Game Day



Rooftop Fundraiser

2016 -
2020

2017 – Project Youth OCBF purchases its first building and gets a **new home**. Many thanks to Steve Card for his assistance in securing the building, Dennis Ghan for in-kind legal support, and to Kyle Kawakami for donating office furniture from Irell & Manella LLP.

President Daniel Robinson, Esq. establishes a board campaign to help pay off the mortgage (early efforts of the 2019 comprehensive campaign).

Implemented Youth Making Proud Choices to expand teen health education through Center for Substance Abuse Prevention SAMHSA grant.



Steve Card



Kyle Kawakami



Wes Polischuk



Jon Skorheim

2018 – OCBF changes its name through a dba to **Project Youth OCBF**.

Project Youth OCBF celebrates giving **over \$1 million in college scholarships** to students in the Santa Ana Unified School District.

Project Youth OCBF established Emeritus Board.

Project Youth OCBF was awarded Santa Ana Unified School District's Bright Star Award in recognition of our Higher Education Mentoring and Project SELF programs.

New Project Youth OCBF video launched.

President Brian Daucher put plans in motion to launch a campaign in 2019 to raise money to pay off the mortgage, endow college scholarships and increase program support.

2019 – Implemented **comprehensive campaign** to raise \$9 million dollars over three years.

2020 – Project Youth OCBF celebrates **50 years**.

The **COVID-19 pandemic** hits and, for months, it changes the way America and the world operates.

PY OCBF responded with bi weekly food drives and gift card support for food and essentials for families in need.

On October 12, 2018 the Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) and Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation held their annual Superintendent's State of the District Breakfast. During the event, which hosted more than 400 business and community leaders, Superintendent Dr. Stefanie Phillips presented the Connectedness Bright Star Award to Project Youth OCBF in recognition of our exceptional college access and professional development services, the Higher Education Mentoring Program and Project SELF.



Presidents – 2016 Kyle S. Kawakami, 2017 Daniel S. Robinson, 2018 Brian M. Daucher, 2019 Steven T. Card & 2020 Mark D. Erickson

Associate Board Presidents – 2016 Miguel P. Preto, 2017 Jonathon M. Skorheim, 2018 Wesley K. Polischuk, 2019 Kelly L. Galligan & 2020 Anthony C. Modarelli, III

Key People – Steve Card, Brian Daucher, Dennis Ghan, Kelly Galligan, Alan Crivaro, Kyle Kawakami, Wesley Polischuk, Miguel Prieto, Daniel Robinson, Eric Traut, Mark Erickson, and Campaign Co-Chairs Jim and Linda Skorheim, Patrick & The Honorable Judith Ryan (Ret.), Marshal Schulman, Ygal Sonenshine & The Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret.), and Allan & Cindy Stokke

Key Staff – Karen Ruan, Martha Madrid, Nancy Garcia, Michelle Hammond, Nazly Restrepo, Bobby Esber, Kathleen Scatton, Martha Veliz, Frances Torres, Susana Vega, Natalie Sanchez, Manny Gutierrez, Sujei Vasquez, Adam Sattar, Robert Diaz, Sonia Orozco, Santiago Sandoval & Marisol Parand



Kyle Kawakami (left) is presented the Sammy Award by President Daniel Robinson



The Honorable David Carter and Alan Crivaro



Dennis Ghan, Maureen Weiserski and Ken Curtis

Sammy Award Winners – 2016 Dennis W. Ghan, 2017 Kyle S. Kawakami, 2018 William B. Grenner and 2019 Eric V. Traut

Fellows Awards – 2016 John B. Hurlbut, Jr., 2017 Michael T. Hornak, 2018 Timothy Carlyle and 2019 Arthur G. Kidman

Judicial Fellows Awards – 2016 The Honorable Steven L. Perk (Ret), 2017 The Honorable Gail A. Andler, 2018 The Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret), 2019 The Honorable Nancy Weiben Stock (Ret)

Fundraisers – Golf Tournament, Food & Wine Society, OC Marathon, Rooftop Brewfest, Game Day

Events – Muldoon's Mixer, Society of Fellows Reception and Annual Meeting, and in 2021 a 50th Anniversary Soiree held at Shady Canyon to celebrate agency history and raise funds for Project Youth OCBF programs



50th Anniversary Soiree Chairs (left to right) – The Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret), The Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret), Kelly Galligan



Karen Ruan

Our Humble Beginnings

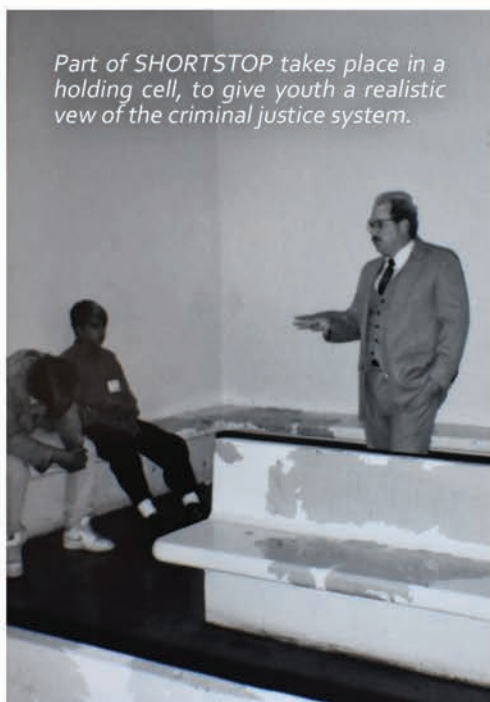
by Karen Ruan, Executive Director

Our story begins back in 1969 when the George A. Parker Law Library Foundation was established as a private foundation for the advancement of educational, literary, and other philanthropic purposes. Our name honored a man who was extremely devoted and committed to the Orange County Bar Association, George A. Parker. George served as secretary from 1927 until 1969 and was an active and engaged bar member till his death in 1979. He was the first to contribute to the organization, which helped to fund a law library. Once the law library was in place, efforts of the foundation turned to the promotion and marketing of our Legal Education in Schools program. Later efforts grew to include educating families about the law to prevent juvenile crime. By 1981 we were no longer a private foundation, but a public charity.



The first curriculum for Legal Education for Youth was created in 1976. The K-12 classroom materials were written by teams of practicing attorneys, law enforcement officers, educators, judges and administrators. Legal volunteers taught the legal lessons in classrooms to provide legal information to young people throughout Orange County by way of a partnership with the Orange County Department of Education. The goal of the program was to instill students with a knowledge and respect for the law, plus an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. The program contained a decision-making strategy for students to enable them to use legal information as part of their daily life. The Legal Education for Youth program continued to grow over the years, forming partnerships with the Chester County, Pennsylvania Bar Foundation; Maricopa County, Arizona Law Auxiliary; Fresno Bar Association; and Bench and Bar League of Santa Clara in addition to the 138 school districts in California who used the programs. The success of the program was not only due to the outstanding volunteers but through key staff members, Jane Martin, Executive Director; Margaret Bechtel, Publishing Coordinator; and Linda Johanson, Program Scheduler and Volunteer Coordinator.

The Legal Education for Youth program was provided at no cost to Orange County School Districts. It was available to bar associations and school districts state and nationwide for a modest cost. Legal Education for Youth remained relevant for over 20 years. With the advancement of technology, and changes in classroom instruction statewide, schools no longer could offer the program.



SHORTSTOP was developed as an outgrowth of the Legal Education for Youth Program in 1979. Its purpose was to divert youthful, light-weight offenders from the juvenile justice system. The objectives of SHORTSTOP were to promote awareness of consequences of delinquent behavior, personal responsibility, increased communication skills between parents and child, as well as alternative decision-making skills for dealing with peer pressure. The goal of SHORTSTOP was to increase communication and legal education as a means of deterring further involvement in the criminal justice system.

Both parent and child participated in two SHORTSTOP sessions held at the Orange County Superior Courthouse. The classes, taught by attorneys and legal professionals, comprised of a tour of the courtroom (including the holding cell), explanation of the juvenile and adult justice systems, and review of juvenile and parental legal rights and responsibilities. Referrals came from Juvenile Court, the probation department, police departments, schools and parents. SHORTSTOP remains relevant and active today. Enhancements have been added, however, the core components of SHORTSTOP have lasted over four decades helping thousands of youth and families plan for a brighter future. It continues to be the premier juvenile crime diversion in the county, if not the state.

Our Story Continues

As the scope of the Foundation expanded, it seemed timely to change our name to match our public charity status and our affiliation as the charitable arm of the Orange County Bar Association. In 1985, our name was changed to the Orange County Bar Foundation (OCBF). At the time, we were receiving considerable support and guidance from the Orange County Bar Association. In October of 1988, the Orange County Bar Foundation received its own IRS tax status as a 501c 3 agency.

With the changing demographics and the growth of Orange County in 1989, the OCBF developed Programa SHORTSTOP, a Spanish-language adaptation of the nationally acclaimed juvenile crime diversion program SHORTSTOP. Both programs thrived and showed excellent recidivism rates, keeping nine out of ten youth from having further involvement in the justice system for at least a year after successfully completing the program.

Based on feedback received from the families served in the SHORTSTOP programs, the Parents' Legal Rights and Responsibilities Workshops were implemented in 1992 to educate parents in understanding the juvenile justice system before their children got into trouble. Workshops were offered to Orange County schools and community groups.

Through the years, the OCBF continued to experience demand for expansion of its diversion service to Orange County youth and their families. With the support of local foundations, the OCBF developed STOP SHORT of Addiction in 1999 to address the growing concern of youth substance use. The goal of the program is to divert substance abuse-related juvenile crime and to educate youth and their parents about the legal aspects of drug related offenses and lifestyle consequences of substance abuse. STOP SHORT of Addiction continues to meet the growing community need for juvenile substance abuse services to stop the vicious cycle of youth substance addiction.

In 1995, Project SELF was initiated to provide summer employment for high school students in law firms. The program has grown both in scope and size over the last twenty-five years and is more popular and impactful than ever. Efforts are underway to expand Project SELF beyond the law firms as a valuable employment preparation program.



Project SELF Interns



Higher Education Mentoring Program Participants

OCBF in the 21st Century

OCBF celebrated the 21st century with the implementation of the Higher Education Mentoring Program. In 2001, a new focus began; guiding low-income Latinas to pursue and succeed in higher education. The goal of the Higher Education Mentoring Program was to provide academic, social, and financial support needed for Latina female high school students to graduate from high school and earn their college degree.

OCBF also expanded by adding a full clinical department to address substance abuse and mental health issues. In 2003, clinical staff was trained to implement the clinical, evidenced-based counseling model BSFT (Brief Strategic Family Therapy). The model was developed at the University of Miami Center for Family Studies. OCBF received a grant to fund training of staff, as well as train staff to be national trainers and the rights to implement BSFT in Orange County. The goal of BSFT is to provide family counseling services in a structured, directive, problem-focused, and practical approach to the treatment of conduct problems, associations with antisocial peers, early drug use, and the accompanying maladaptive family interactions; all of which are recognized as high risk-factors for substance abuse. Our clinical department has grown to provide enhanced services in our diversion and health programs and continues to offer BSFT since as an evidence-based, early intervention treatment model it has proven to effectively reduce problems in Latino adolescents while strengthening the family unit.

OCBF continued to meet local needs by working with local law enforcement and schools to change the lives of Orange County youth and families. In 2006, the Youth Transitional Intervention Program was implemented to assist incarcerated youth as they transition out of detention facilities and back into their homes, schools, and community. Funded under a Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA) grant and later with funding from the State of CA. Although we no longer offer the Youth Transitional Intervention Program we still work with community leaders and community efforts to transition youth out of detention and into the community.



¡Cuidate! Participants

In 2007, The Hermana Project an HIV/ sexual health education program designed to meet the needs of young Latinas was implemented. The Hermana Program has evolved into the Madres Unidas Program we now offer to educate mothers on sexual health and HIV.

In 2010, OCBF Implemented Chicas con Fuerza, a health program for Latina girls funded through the Office of Women's Health. While the program is no longer offered, the health education it provided is still offered today through our ¡Cuidate! and Youth Making Proud Choices programs.



SHORTSTOP youth and parents gather in a holding cell to listen to volunteers on parole explain the realities of life behind bars.



Trudy Levindofsky,
OCBA Executive Director and
Karen Ruan, OCBF Executive Director

Also, in 2010 we launched a male, gender-specific version of the Higher Education Mentoring Program. Since then, the program has continued to thrive and grow, serving both males and females. As of 2019, over one million dollars has been awarded in college scholarships through Project Youth OCBF.



Daniel S. Robinson, Project Youth OCBF board member and Michael S. Rose, DrPH, LCSW Hoag's Director, Community Health and Community Benefit Program

In 2014, we began our partnership with Hoag Hospital. We offer our diversion programs on site at Hoag in Newport Beach, and Hoag supports us with funds for our diversion and women's health services. Also, in 2014 we implemented ¡Cuidate!, a teen health-education program. Funding came from the state for the project and gave us the ability to offer health education in the schools utilizing state-certified curriculum. In 2016, we implemented Youth Making Proud Choices, to expand teen health education through a SAMHSA grant.

Project Youth OCBF Today

Here we are today, providing impactful youth programs that elevate, educate and empower youth. In 2017, we changed our name from the Orange County Bar Foundation to Project Youth OCBF and moved into our new home we purchased in Santa Ana. These significant changes have set a course for us that ensures Project Youth OCBF has a long and lasting future, complete with a journey of successful programs and services that change lives for the better.



Higher Education Mentoring Program Participants

Key Employees—Past and Present

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
Helen Keller

Without a doubt the everyday nonprofit heroes are our staff. Individually, they are awesome. Together they are amazing. Every single day they make a difference. Project Youth OCBF celebrates not only 50 years of programs and services, but 50 years of remarkable people working together on a shared vision — making positive, impactful change happen.

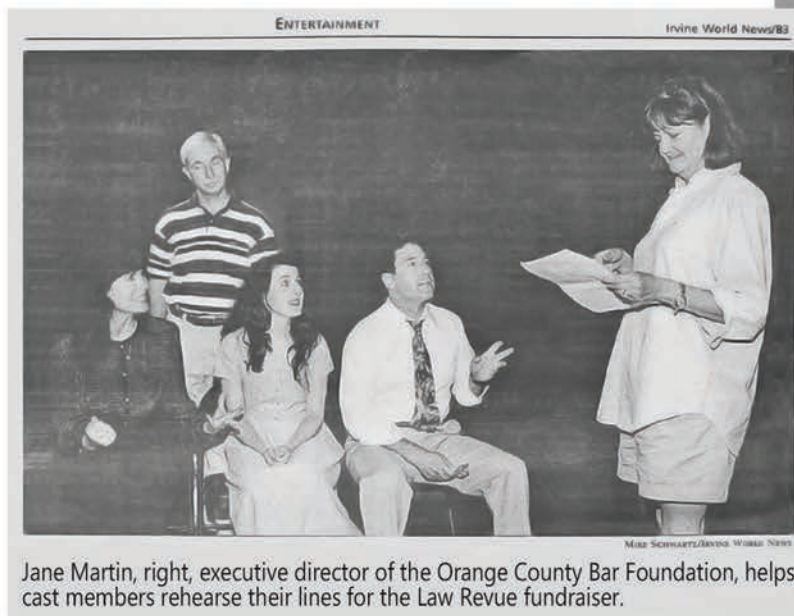
In the beginning, back in the late sixties and early seventies, the Orange County Bar Association (OCBA) volunteers made the George A. Parker Law Library Foundation a success by funding a law library. And they didn't stop there. By the mid-eighties they had developed and implemented both Legal Education for Youth, which provided legal education curriculum in K-12 public schools, and SHORTSTOP, our juvenile crime diversion program.

In 1985 Lynda C. Gilchrist, then the OCBA Executive Director, also took on the role as OCBF Executive Director. Nancy Woodworth was hired as the SHORTSTOP Director. It was a start. But soon it became clear that more staff was needed to accommodate the growth and success of our programs. In 1985 the Foundation's name was changed to the Orange County Bar Foundation (OCBF) and in 1986 Jane Mills Martin was hired to be its Executive Director. Talk about amazing! Jane built on the work started by those before her and the OCBF thrived. The Legal Education for Youth program expanded to other areas of California and was adapted by Chester County, Pennsylvania. Federal funding was secured to strengthen the educational model. Jane hired Margaret Bechtel as publishing coordinator to update all materials.

A Spanish-language adaptation of SHORTSTOP was developed, which was the start of what would be a long history of providing culturally and linguistically appropriate programming for Latino youth and families. Local Latino leaders like the Honorable Francisco Firmat (Ret.) and Jess Araujo, Esq., provided early efforts to get our new Spanish services out to the community. Further program enhancements included gang prevention, substance abuse prevention and treatment, and STI/HIV health education. Federal funding ensured our efforts were evidenced-based and proven effective.



Kathy Bonner and
Nancy Woodworth



Jane Martin, right, executive director of the Orange County Bar Foundation, helps cast members rehearse their lines for the Law Revue fundraiser.

Two major fundraisers were initiated — Law Revue, satirical sketches and musical parodies on current socio-political issues, and our fashion shows, where attorney models, often with their children, walked the runway to raise funds.

In addition to Jane Martin, Margaret Bechtel and Nancy Woodworth, by 1990 other key staff members were hired — a SHORTSTOP Coordinator, Kathy Bonner; a Legal Education Volunteer Coordinator, Linda Johanson; Programa SHORTSTOP Coordinator, Hector Jimenez; SHORTSTOP Coordinator, Karen Keup Ruan; and Staff Assistant, Sandra Hardacre. All this was put in place by 1990.



"In many cases, the Orange County Bar Foundation's programs offer kids what they need to build self-confidence and stay away from drugs, alcohol, and criminal behavior," said Jane Martin, the Executive Director. With her is Martha Madrid, right, Supervisor of the Project Youth Connect program.

Jane moved the OCBF forward in the 90's. SHORTSTOP and Programa SHORTSTOP were extremely well received by local law enforcement, schools, parents, courts and the community. Jane Martin and Linda Johanson kept the Legal Education for Youth curriculum vibrant, while Kathy Bonner and Karen Ruan grew the OCBF's efforts to provide legal education to prevent juvenile crime.

Through the nineties many key staff were hired to grow OCBF programs. Nancy Reed Garica, Martha Madrid, Rosa Martin, Frances Torres, Stephanie Powell, Alisa Ginex, Mario Chavez, Donna Ortega, Tom Biaz, Amy Heavey, Virginia Adame, Melissa DeMotte, Willow McJilton and Elizabeth Allen to name a few.

Fast forward to the 21st century. Together, seasoned staff and new staff generated even more programs and excitement. In 2004, Jane Martin handed the Executive Director reigns to Karen Ruan. Many key staff take the OCBF forward including Martha Madrid, Nancy Garcia, Michelle Hammond, Donita Riley, Dona King Grubbs, Cindy Stokke, Gil Carmona, Mario Chavez, Rosa Martin, Leo Villarreal, Frances Torres, Marth Veliz, Karyn Mendoza, Patricia Morton, Marcie Vargas, Adam Sattar, Santiago Sandoval, and Lisa Jones.

Fifty years pass and we retain many long-term staff and exciting new staff. Karen Ruan hits the 30-year mark, making her the longest serving employee in Project Youth OCBF history. Our current team is comprised of change makers with big hearts and helping hands. Project Youth OCBF has a bright future with our dedicated staff:

Karen Ruan, Executive Director

Managers

Nancy Garcia, Associate Director

Michelle Hammond, Research & Dev.

Martha Madrid, Associate Director

Marisol Parand, Director of Development

Nazly Restrepo, Associate Director

Kathleen Scatton, Controller

Staff

Rocio Aceves, Health Educator/Coord.

Daniel Cacho, Instructional Assistant

Alejandra Diaz, Program Coordinator

Manny Gutierrez, Health Educator

Maricruz Hernandez, Health Educator

Gabriel Ruan, Instructional Assistant

Natalie Sanchez, Health Educator

Frances Torres, Health Educator

Sujei Vasquez, Program Assistant

Martha Veliz, Program Coordinator

Rosa Victor, Health Educator



Project Youth OCBF—The Early Years

Through the Eyes of Ann Avery Andres

In 1978, I was hired by the Orange County Bar Association (OCBA) to be their representative and to develop law-related lessons for K-12 public schools in Orange County. I was a new lawyer, having passed the bar in 1977, but I had been a high school teacher before going to law school. The project was called Legal Education for Youth. Collaborating on the project alongside me was the Orange County Education Department, the Sheriff's Department, and the Legal Aid Society.

My first responsibility was to form a committee of attorneys for each lesson beginning with kindergarten. Many attorneys throughout the county volunteered to participate; some would go on to become judges, like Linda Lancet Miller. The committee determined the lesson topics. I wrote the lessons and then our representative from the Department of Education, Cheryl Biles, tailored them to the different grade levels. The teacher presented most of the lesson and then volunteer attorneys went into the class rooms and presented a segment which had been written for them. The lessons for the attorneys in kindergarten and first grade involved using puppets.

After the first year, we decided that we needed a non-profit foundation to help us raise money to continue providing the Legal Education for Youth program. The Orange County Bar Association already had sponsored the George A. Parker Law Library Foundation. I contacted the Parker family who owned Orange County Title Company, which later became First American Title Insurance Company. There was no objection to us adopting the foundation and changing the name to Orange County Bar Foundation.

Each year, the president of the OCBA appointed a member to serve on the Foundation's Board of Directors. Some of the members of this early board were Jim Bear, Alice Marie Stotler, John Pitts, Art Gray, John MacDonald, and Mike Pursell. In the early days, the two organizations were very close and the Bar Foundation wouldn't exist without the Bar Association.

After about two years, we thought that we should attempt to develop a program for young people already in trouble, we called it SHORTSTOP. We met usually two or three times a week, often at our homes. We hired a young attorney named Stella Ruiz to draft the program curriculum. Later on, we were able to copyright the material.

We involved the Probation Department, Juvenile Court, Orange County Superior Court and various police departments. After reviewing the program and agreeing to make referrals, we were in business. The programs were held at night in the Superior Court building in Santa Ana. Both juveniles and their parents had to attend the two program sessions. For the first year, most of us attended the program to observe. Statistics showed that recidivism was down for our attendees.

We were very fortunate to be able to hire a full-time staff person and eventually Jane Martin, who was able to grow the staff and to develop more programs for at-risk Orange County youth. I am very proud of the accomplishments achieved by Project Youth OCBF over the years and am please I was able to participate during its formative years.



Ann Avery Andres
and Gene Andres



Mrs. Gullivan, Commissioner Gullivan, Gene Andres, and Ann Avery Andres attend the fashion show fundraiser.



The Honorable John C. Wolley (Ret) and Ann Avery Andres, accept a \$10,000 donation from Priscilla Chapman for SHORTSTOP.

Orange County Bar Foundation – The Middle Years

*by Jane Martin,
Project Youth OCBF Executive Director 1987–2004*

I began my professional career teaching school. I chose to work in Orange County because the school districts there were very forward thinking; it was an exciting time. At my school district, I was always on categorical funding, including teaching Headstart, through a federal action grant. The grant required written goals and objectives, a budget, job descriptions, timelines, an evaluator, quarterly reports, a grant monitor, required conferences and yearly grant renewal applications.

After teaching for eight years and having two children, I decided to retire from teaching and focus on community volunteer work. My family moved to Irvine, where my husband and I found many like-minded people. We volunteered together for theaters, museums, historical societies, and kids' sports groups. I also worked part time at the Volunteer Center of Orange County and was a council aide to Barbara Wiener, who sat on the city council. There, I gained additional grant writing experience.

I joined the Junior League of Orange County in 1974 and met Ann Andres. Ann was a league member, but also on the board of the Orange County Bar Association (OCBA). The Junior League was quite impressed with the Legal Education for Youth program. They liked how the program partnered with the OCBA to put volunteer attorneys in the classroom. They also liked how the program worked with the Orange County Department of Education to align its curriculum with the State of California standards, and used their distribution system to get the curriculum out to schools.

At that time, the Orange County Department of Education had written a grant to the US Department of Education to extend the Legal Education for Youth curricula to other Bar Associations in California. It initially planned for the OCBA to manage and implement the grant, but they didn't have someone with the expertise to run it. Roger Grable, the current OCBA President and Irvine City Attorney, said, "I know who can do this...my neighbor, Jane Martin!"

That's when I met Sam Barnes, the incoming president of Project Youth OCBF (then the Orange County Bar Foundation). At that point, Project Youth OCBF had received its own 501(c)3 to become a program foundation, while the OCBA had created the OCBA Charitable Fund to make grants.

Sam brought me on as the Executive Director of Project Youth OCBF. One of my biggest tasks was fundraising. Thankfully, Sam knew exactly who should be on our team. He wanted Joan Reilly and Judy Ryan to help with Law Revue, Tom Malcom and Cindy Stokke to head up the fashion show, Don Morrow and Marshall Schulman for a golf tournament, and Al Stokke for the marathon.

That was the start of my 19-year career at Project Youth OCBF and away I went with a handful of volunteers, fundraisers and good will ambassadors. It was a pleasure to grow Project Youth OCBF over those years and to work with so many incredible volunteers, staff and donors. I retired in 2004 with Karen Ruan stepping up to the role of the next Executive Director.

The Orange County Register Monday, April 19, 1999



**WORDS TO
LIVE BY:**

'Enjoy whatever life phase you're in and look forward to the future. The second half is a great opportunity,' says Jane Mills Martin.

NICK KOON/The Orange County Register

SECOND HALF



Jane Mills Martin

Reflections on the 3rd Decade of Project Youth OCBF 1989-1999

by Donald L. Morrow, Esq.

The size and role of Project Youth OCBF's Board of Directors was significantly expanded under the leadership of Sam Barnes, who was our president from 1989-1992. Sam was one of the county's most respected lawyers when he took the helm. He had been the President of the Orange County Bar Association in 1970, and knew every prominent lawyer and judge in the county. Sam called on several of his friends to join the board, and that is how I first became involved with Project Youth OCBF. I was honored to follow Sam as president in 1993, and started the practice of our presidents holding one-year terms. The Honorable Judy Ryan (Ret.) ably succeeded me, and thereafter some great Orange County lawyers served as president. Jess Araujo – one of the perennial stars of Law Review – was president in 1995. My friends Rodger Carey, Bob Whalen, and Bill Grenner were presidents in 1996, 1997, and 1998, respectively. And then Cindy Stokke, one of the great philanthropic volunteers in the history of Orange County, led our board in 1999.

During our third decade, we started two important annual fundraising events. In 1989, we held our first fashion show at Nordstrom in South Coast Plaza. Our directors and program volunteers, and their children, walked the runway attired in Nordstrom's latest and greatest fashions. The OC legal community turned out en masse to cheer on the aspiring models. Everyone received a discount on Nordstrom purchases, with a significant percentage going to the OCBF's programs. The fashion show was held annually until 1996.

In 1997, we held our first annual SHORTSTOP Golf Classic. Marshall Schulman and I were the chairs of the tournament. I continued as chair for the next 17 years, and watched it grow in size and money raised. Our first tournament was held at Tijeras Creek Golf Club in Rancho Santa Margarita. We then moved to Strawberry Farms in Irvine, where we held successful tournaments from 1998-2008. In 2000, John C. Herklotz became our title sponsor, donating over \$250,000 to the OCBF over the years. Our last eleven tournaments have been held at Oak Creek Golf Club in Irvine, where we recently held the 23rd Annual John C. Herklotz SHORTSTOP Golf Classic. In the early years, each golf foursome was paired with a celebrity – either a retired professional athlete or a TV or movie star.

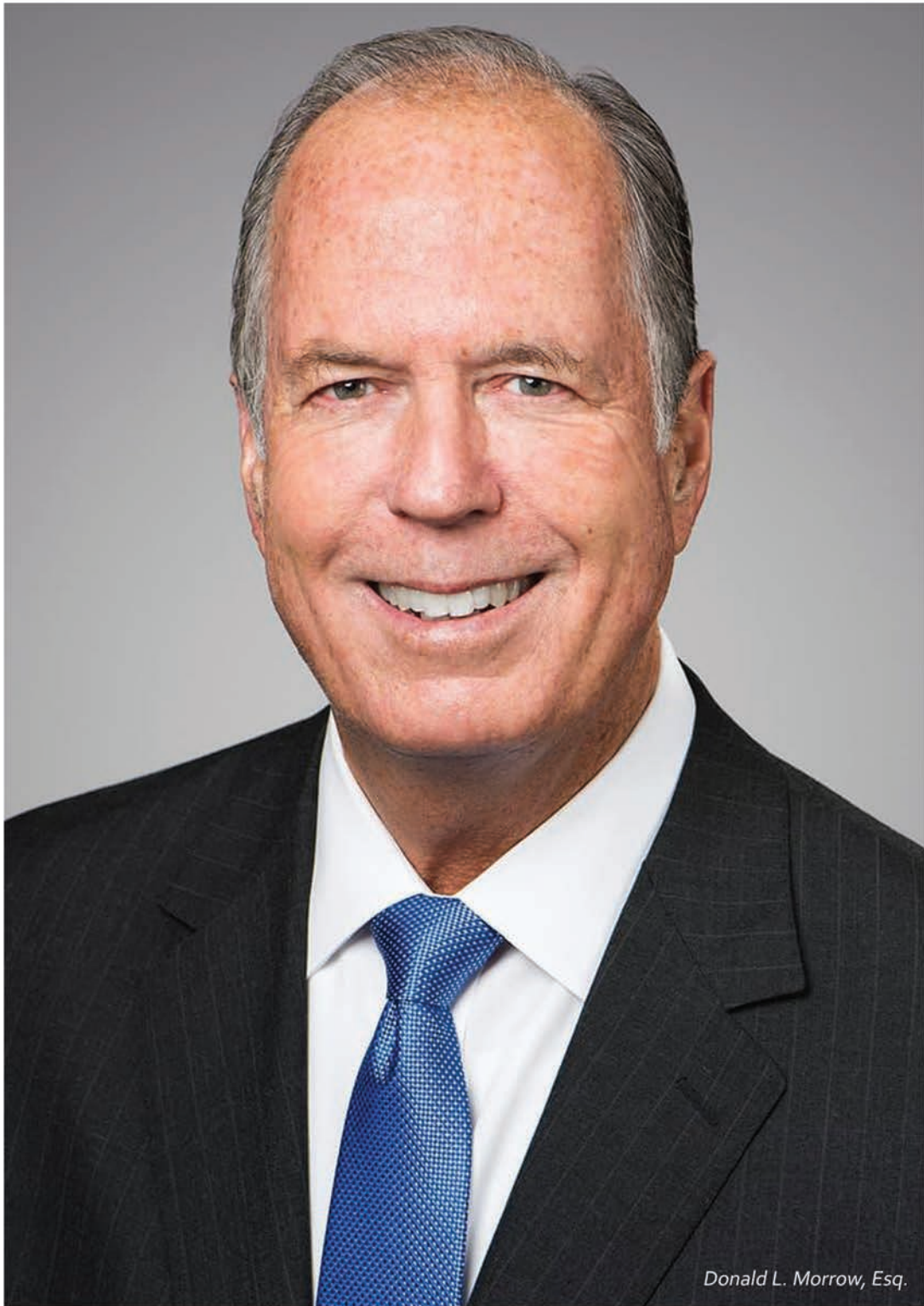
Some of our more notable celebrities included former Rams Vince Ferragamo and Lawrence McCutcheon, former Olympians Dr. Sammy Lee and Dwight Stones, and actors, including Hal Linden



Donald Morrow, Mike Hornak, Bill Grenner, and Allan Stokke

(TV's Barney Miller) and John O'Hurley (Peterman on Seinfeld) – who invariably would bid on and buy virtually all of our live auction items. My team, somehow, was always assigned Maggie Cameron as our celebrity, a former LPGA pro and Rams Cheerleader who's consistent 250-yard, dead-straight drives from the ladies' tee helped us to win the tournament more than a few times. Collectively, the golf tournaments have raised almost \$2 million for the programs of Project Youth OCBF.

Marshall Schulman was the first president during our fourth decade, in 2000. He was followed by a series of notable leaders of the Orange County Bar and business communities who have worked tirelessly to promote the work of Project Youth OCBF.



Donald L. Morrow, Esq.

A Look Back by Cindy Stokke

Congratulations to Project Youth OCBF on 50 years of service to our community! My involvement with Project Youth OCBF began in 1989 by participating in the many fun and memorable fashion shows, which were generously sponsored by Nordstrom. Many board members and their families, as well as lawyers from local law firms, were the models in the fashion show. We felt like pros walking the runway, while at the same time doing good for the community.

Together, my husband Al and I continued our involvement with Project Youth OCBF as board members. I served as President in 1999 and Al in 2006. Our commitment strengthened as we witnessed positive change in the youth we served. Kids in trouble turned their lives around and families became closer. Disadvantaged high school students were transformed into future college graduates. Summer internships at law firms helped youth set their sights on professional careers they didn't think were possible.

In 2007, Alan Crivaro and Al Stokke, along with other key board members, realized the importance of building an individual giving program to help sustain Project Youth OCBF's programs. They, and others, reached out to board members and attorneys in Orange County and successfully established the Society of Fellows. To this day, the Society of Fellows has successfully raised over \$440,000 over the past twelve years to fund our diversion, education and health programs.



1998 President Bill Grenner
and 1999 President Cindy Stokke

Stokke Finds Her Joy in Giving



“I want these kids to be in front, not behind bars. Kids are our future. My goal is to make them good citizens.”

Cindy Stokke
on her work with
juvenile crime
diversion

JEBB HARRIS/The Register

I grew up in Orange County in a low-income, Hispanic household. My father hauled oranges and my mother worked in a local packing house. Neither had the opportunity to graduate from high school because they had to work to help support their families. I learned the importance of staying out of trouble and getting an education at a young age. I was fortunate to have wise parents that emphasized this. Al was raised on a farm in North Dakota and grew up milking cows and helping with the harvest. He learned that hard work was necessary to succeed. But he also learned that education was the key to success.

As we became involved with Project Youth OCBF, the central themes of their programs resonated with us because of our lives growing up. Take responsibility for your actions. Get an education. Treat people with respect. Educate and involve parents. We believe the most important element of our programs is parental involvement, and the key to our success. That is why we have been so successful raising funds for our programs.

Project Youth OCBF has received substantial grant support from local foundations throughout the years. In 2004, Al and I, as founding board members of the OC Marathon, invited Project Youth OCBF to participate as a charity of the OC Marathon. We have been amazed at the willingness and enthusiasm of Project Youth OCBF staff and board members to work with the OC Marathon for the benefit of both organizations. Over the past thirteen years, we have raised over \$628,000 for Project Youth OCBF programs through the OC Marathon.

Our most recent collaboration has been with Hoag Hospital which has provided generous funding, as well as space at the Melinda Hoag Smith Community Center in Costa Mesa for us to provide additional SHORTSTOP and Madres Unidas services. We are grateful and privileged to have received support from these respected and successful organizations and look forward to new partnerships that lay ahead. We are also thankful for the numerous law firms and attorneys who have been generous and supportive of our mission.

Thank you, Project Youth OCBF, for providing 50 years of successful community service and for the lifelong friendships we've gained through our involvement.



*Cindy Stokke, J.D.
and Allan Stokke, Esq.*

Looking to the Past...Moving into the Future

by Judge Judith M. Ryan (Ret.)

1994 was the 25th Anniversary year of the Orange County Bar Foundation, now Project Youth OCBF, and I was privileged to be the president. We are now in our 50th year and looking to the future of our organization.

Much has been written about the many wonderful programs of Project Youth OCBF and their development through the years. At this point in its history, it is important to note how those programs have been supported through the years and to highlight the commitment of those who have been involved with the programs.

We have been fortunate to have two directors in our history, Jane Martin and Karen Ruan, in addition to a dedicated staff which has enabled Project Youth OCBF to meet the growing needs of our community. This has been accomplished through public and private foundations, as well as government grants. Donations from individuals are also obtained through the diligent efforts of staff and board members.



1998 OCBF President Bill Grenner and Sammy Award Honoree the Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret)



Pat Ryan, the Honorable Judith Ryan (Ret), and Mark Erickson

Early on, at a point when government grants were becoming hard to obtain, board members even stepped up to loan Project Youth OCBF money, ensuring that program services would never be disrupted due to lack of funds. Thus, the board became involved in a variety of fundraising endeavors that would not only financially support Project Youth OCBF, but also heighten our visibility in the community.

As stated above, Project Youth OCBF was initially funded primarily by various government grants. 1989 saw the first major donor campaign get underway to create supplemental funds that will increase the agency's "capacity for responding to law-related program needs in Orange." This endeavor was chaired by Jim Bear and Don Martens with the stated goal of raising \$50,000!



Crowd-pleasing dancers The Adjudicats are, from left, Carla Singer, Cheryl Leininger, Ellen Flynn, Eleanor Palk, Linda Miller, Judith Ryan and Sheila Sonenshine.

1989 was also a special year with the introduction of special events to support the programs and goals of Project Youth OCBF, namely the Law Revue and fashion shows held through a wonderful partnership with Nordstroms. It provided a fantastic evening of fashion, food and shopping. The first Law Revue was successfully produced at Chapman College with participants being lawyers, judges and paralegals from the Orange County legal community...singers, comedians, musicians and dancers. (That, of course, is when the Adjudicats, the chorus line of Orange County female jurists accompanied by the Hon. William Gray, was introduced to the donor world.)

It was during the rehearsal of one of the Law Revue shows that cast members Sam Barnes and Justice Sheila Sonenshine came up with the idea of another possible fundraiser, the Food and Wine Society. To date, the Food and Wine Society has raised a total of \$800,000 in support of our programs. It continues to this day, not only raising funds, but being a vehicle to introduce more individuals in the community to our services.

In 1989, Project Youth OCBF was also selected to be recognized at the re-opening of Fashion Island at an event titled, "Moonlight Over the Mediterranean". I was honored to represent Project Youth OCBF as the honorary chair of the event. There, we received a cash contribution from Donald Bren of the Irvine Company, as well as additional donations. The event itself received a lot of publicity and Project Youth OCBF received positive coverage. Presently, Project Youth OCBF holds our annual Golf Tournament, participates in the Orange County Marathon, continues our Food and Wine Society and has established the Society of Fellows. And yet, the fundraisers of the past cannot alone sustain the goals of the future. That is why our current campaign is so important.

Looking to our future, we also need to remember the vision of Robert "Sam" Barnes. Not only were his performances in Law Revue legendary, Sam himself was a legend. He personified everything that Project Youth OCBF stands for throughout his career. His vision and actions left an imprint that still guides us today. For those of us fortunate enough to have known Sam, we are eternally grateful. It was my honor, and the highlight of my term as president, to initiate the Robert "Sam" Barnes Award (the "Sammy"), and to personally present Sam with the very first "Sammy" Award. It is Sam's example that should guide us and inspire us moving forward. It is his vision that will guide us to a successful campaign for the next fifty years of Project Youth OCBF...and beyond.



Carolyn Clark McKitterick, Esq.



*Carolyn McKitterick and
Higher Education Mentoring Participant*

Happy 50th Birthday Project Youth! You've never been stronger.

by Carolyn Clark McKitterick, Esq.

Co-Chair Higher Education Mentoring Program
Co-Chair Elevate Educate Empower Campaign-Endowed Scholarships

It has been my honor to be affiliated with Project Youth OCBF for nearly two decades. From the very start, among Project Youth OCBF's myriad effective programs, my affinity for the Higher Education Mentoring Program was immediate. You see, at the time I became a member of the board in 2004, I was doing for my daughters at home what staff and volunteer mentors were providing through the Higher Education Mentoring Program for equally deserving, precious souls...kids who, without the Higher Education Mentoring Program, might have given up on their dreams to attend college.

The students we serve are motivated young people who have a desire to attend college and then, maybe graduate school – just like my kids. They are capable of admittance to and success in their college of choice – just like my kids. Here's the difference: almost to a person, these students are the first in their family to attend college, so they are not learning the nuances, intricacies and details about the application process at home, like my children did. And the workload of today's high school "college counselors" precludes them from devoting the personal attention required to properly do their job.



Miguel Prietto, Co-Chair
Higher Education
Mentoring Program

This is where Project Youth OCBF's Higher Education Mentoring Program comes in. Our gifted staff and volunteer mentors help our students register and prepare for the SAT, pick appropriate extracurricular activities, craft effective essays and select the right "reach" and "safety" schools. Our staff also works with parents, assuring them that their child's desire for higher education is a positive life choice, sharing important, practical information about student loan possibilities and the like, and in essence, demystifying the daunting and complicated process of attending college. Finally, our staff stays in touch with our Higher Education Mentoring Program students throughout college and after graduation. Often these post graduate students choose to volunteer their time mentoring right back where their incredible collegiate journey started – at Project Youth OCBF.



Maria Stearns

In her role as chair of the campaign endowed scholarships committee, Carolyn has helped to secure gifts from major donors --

Carolyn McKitterick

Maria Stearns

Bryan Cameron

John & Betty Altstadt

Our 2019-2021 Elevate Educate Empower Campaign presents us an opportunity we've dreamed about for years – sustainable endowed scholarships. As a leader of the scholarship prong of our campaign, our goal is to be able to assure our kids four or more years of scholarship support. In the first year of our campaign major donors stepped forward to get our endowed scholarships started...Maria Stearns, John and Betty Altstadt, Bryan Cameron and my family. A special thanks to those friends who helped me get the ball rolling.

So, happy 50th once again Project Youth OCBF, and here's to 50 more years of discovering, nurturing, propelling and providing scholarships to deserving and gifted young people who will certainly make this world a better place!

We've Come A Long Way

by William S. O'Hare, Esq.

I confess that I more or less backed into joining the board of what was then known as the Orange County Bar Foundation. It was the early 1990's and I was serving on the board of the Orange County Bar Association. A Bar Association officer suggested it would be a good idea to dispatch me to the OCBF. I joined the board pretty much blind to the work of the OCBF, though tried to be a quick study and contributor to the mission. Once I attended my first SHORTSTOP session at the Orange County Courthouse and saw its impact through tears on the faces of youth and parents, I knew I had become a part of something extraordinary.

Along the way, I learned that OCBF fundraising was fun. The marquee fundraising events at the time were the Law Revue, featuring what talent could be found within our bench and bar, and a fashion show hosted by Nordstrom. I spared my colleagues the spectacle of watching me perform in the talent show, but was coaxed into walking the runway. Both of these events died off, evidently having exhausted what talent and fashion sense could be found among us. The Celebrity Golf Tournament became our headliner in the late 1990's, with golf partners who were well-known, or at least fell into the "I've seen that guy somewhere" category. Aided by the highest attainable golf handicap (and some capable partners), my teams somehow managed to garner a few trophies along the way. The Golf Tournament (minus the celebrities) remains our lead fundraising event, joined by the OC Marathon, the Food & Wine Society, and a mix of other fun events organized by our Associate Board.

During my year as president in 2002, we began our journey from financial hand-to-mouth existence, during which the hat might be passed to board members to contribute or loan money to get through a rough patch, to the fully-sustainable Project Youth OCBF we see today. This began with our 2002 campaign to establish a \$300,000 reserve fund, the success of which was assured by a generous matching gift by our longtime patron, John Herklotz. In the years that followed, we broadened our base of both support and leadership with the establishment of the Society of Fellows and our Associate Board, the farm team for future leadership. The icing on the cake was a generous bequest (our largest gift ever) from the Jeffrey Carlton Foundation, enabling Project Youth OCBF to purchase a permanent home in Santa Ana.



*Bill and
Theresa O'Hare*



*Bill O'Hare and Tim Carlyle
at the SHORTSTOP Golf Classic*

All of that fun fundraising has made it possible for our gifted professional leadership and staff to expand and deliver programs that make a real difference to Orange County families. When I joined the board, we had but a few great programs – notably SHORTSTOP and its Spanish-language counterpart, Programa SHORTSTOP. Today, our diversion services are joined by well-established programs that provide higher education mentoring, paid summer internships for Santa Ana high school seniors, and health and substance abuse education... all with the focus of helping local, at-risk youth and their families make good decisions and build successful lives. I've been fortunate to serve alongside so many gifted professional staff and fellow board members. We are blessed with a slate of capable future leaders who will follow. I can only hope my contribution will be judged in light of my association with so many fine Project Youth OCBF colleagues (and not my performance on the runway or golf course).



William S. O'Hare, Esq.



Bill Grenner and Karen Ruan,
Project Youth OCBF Executive Director,
at the SHORTSTOP Golf Classic



Photo by JOEL CONE

William B. Grenner, 1998 president of the Orange County Bar Foundation, holds the Jack B. Lindquist Award won by the OCBF at this year's Disneyland Community Service Award ceremonies.

"We are pleased for the recognition this award brings to our programs. Particularly because we feel our programs are unique and innovative, a combination of the legal community and the general community working together on the issues that families face with their kids in today's society," said Grenner.

The Best Decision of My Legal Career

by William B. Grenner

As a young lawyer starting out with a big firm almost 30 years ago, I knew early on that I wanted to balance my law practice with a bent of public and volunteer service. It was one of the reasons I joined the progressive firm of Morrison & Foerster, which encouraged its lawyers to involve themselves in their community. I was fortunate to meet Tom Malcolm and Don Morrow early in my career – both lions of the Orange County legal community. Tom enlisted me to start the Orange County Bar Association's Pro Bono Committee, and Don encouraged me to join the Orange County Bar Foundation (now Project Youth OCBF). Both were tremendous opportunities with different priorities, but a common mission – serving the economically disadvantaged who deserved a level playing field and a chance to succeed.

I was fortunate to be raised by a hard-working, widowed mom, but we had limited means. I took advantage of good public education at University High School and followed it up at UC Irvine. I received some scholarships and became the first in my family to graduate from a four-year college. During college, I worked for Mark Robinson Jr., who was engaged on the landmark "exploding" Ford Pinto litigation and it sparked my interest in a legal career. I was accepted at Georgetown Law School and returned home to Orange County.

What does that have to do with Project Youth OCBF? Everything! Our talented staff identifies disadvantaged students with promise and opens doors for them to a brighter future. Our SHORTSTOP Instructors provide youth who made a poor choice with a second chance; there were plenty of times I skirted trouble in my early teens. Through Project Youth SELF, high school students are placed in professional internships to expose them to career choices and positive, adult mentors.

All of these endeavors spoke to me in a very personal way. I became a board member during my second-year practicing, served as president later on, and remain active to this day. I get tremendous satisfaction seeing our students start as summer interns, receive scholarships, attend college (many obtaining postgraduate educations), and then return to their communities and give back as much, if not more, than they gained. It is hard to describe the immense joy my wife Patricia and I feel when we attend a Higher Education Mentoring Program graduation. We see students return as speakers, motivating others to follow in their footsteps. And we sit next to families who are bursting with pride.

Today, Project Youth OCBF, with its colorful new name (thanks to the leadership of President Dan Robinson) and permanent building, celebrates 50 years of serving Orange County's youth and families. We help youth realize their dreams because of the talented and dedicated staff that promotes our mission. Executive Director, Karen Ruan, expertly guides each successive president through their tenure and often collaborates on a special mission for that year. She and Associate Directors, Nancy Garcia, Martha Madrid and Nazly Restrepo, plan our fundraising events and apply for complicated government grants that support Project Youth OCBF in turning its gears each day.

One of the projects I worked on was honoring Orange County's judiciary, who partnered and supported Project Youth OCBF. Specifically, the judges dedicated courtrooms to run SHORTSTOP, and its Spanish equivalent, Programa SHORTSTOP. I was tasked with commissioning a sculpture depicting this relationship. Through good luck, I found a talented artist, Angela Mia De La Vega, in Texas who captured, in bronze, the evolution of a troubled teen, helped by a volunteer attorney and judge, who then transform into a youth filled with promise. You can see that sculpture today in the entrance of the Santa Ana Superior Court. The Orange County judiciary remains a steadfast supporter and many judges are members of the Society of Fellows, who dedicate their time and resources to promote Project Youth OCBF throughout the legal community.

Now, we are all engaged in keeping this good work going for the next generation as we embark on Project Youth OCBF's comprehensive campaign to put in place dedicated private funding to expand and anchor our programs in the future. Our new building is more than an office – it is an ecosystem of classrooms, career planning, and hands on tutorials. We hope to use this new capital to reduce or eliminate the mortgage to dedicate those funds directly to furthering our programs.

With that, let me end where I began, getting involved with Project Youth OCBF gives me hope each day that our youth will have a better tomorrow and lead our community to a better place.

25 Years with Project Youth OCBF

by Martha Madrid. Associate Director

I remember attending the OCBF's fundraiser, **Law Review**, at Chapman University and watching attorney Jess Araujo do his stroll to the sounds of "Lowrider." What a night of hysterics and great entertainment! That was my introduction to Project Youth OCBF (then the Orange County Bar Foundation). Little did I know a few years later I would begin my epic journey as an employee.

It was July 1995, Karen Ruan, Director of **SHORTSTOP**, contacted me to talk about a part-time opportunity. By the time I started, the job had evolved into a full-time position. At that time, the OCBF was part of a collaborative partnership with the O.C. Probation Department, O.C. Department of Education and Constitutional Rights Foundation using students/peers to review and assign sanctions for young offenders in Peer Court (1995). As Peer Court Coordinator from 1995 – 2001, I provided case management for approximately 300 probation referrals per year. My other responsibility was supervising **Programa SHORTSTOP**. Executive Director, Jane Martin, our Board of Directors, and my supervisor, Karen, were always a step ahead of the local statistics and changing demographics, knowing our community needed bilingual and bicultural services which were not being offered elsewhere.

In 1998 Project Youth OCBF was awarded a 5-year grant from the federal office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for our **Project Youth Connect** (PYC) program, a mentoring model focused on preventing substance abuse among Latina girls. A strong relationship with renowned evaluator, Richard Cervantes, PhD., provided the opportunity to submit significant findings on our local Latina female population to the federal government that few programs nationwide were measuring. Interesting findings included the fact that many parents were less knowledgeable than their teen daughters in respect to reproductive health issues. Another finding was that many of PYC girls were not completing high school and had never been encouraged to attend college. These findings led us to pilot our **Higher Education Mentoring Program** (2002) to assist Latina girls to graduate from high school and enroll in college. Twenty years later, we are proud that 77% of our students graduate from universities across the state and country! This is tremendous, as the national college graduation rate among Latinas is less than 25%.

A third SAMHSA grant (2003) under the Minority Aids Initiative allowed Project Youth OCBF to continue our substance abuse prevention curriculum while integrating intensive HIV/AIDS education. Again in 2008, we were thrilled to be awarded a subsequent SAMHSA grant to continue providing HIV/AIDS health education and risk-reduction services to Latina women and girls. The **Hermana Project**, an adapted intervention for incarcerated women ages 15-25, utilized our well-established partnerships with the Orange County Sheriff's Department, Department of Probation, Health Care Agency and local HIV/AIDS service providers. Project Youth OCBF's Hermana staff was given instructor status at the Orange County Women's jail, at Juvenile Hall, and the Youth Guidance Center.

What we learned from rigorous evaluation of our programs was that Latina women desperately need comprehensive reproductive health information. **Madres Unidas** (2010) was implemented as a 6-week, Spanish-language substance abuse and HIV/AIDS health-education and risk-reduction program for Latinas ages 25-50. A graduate of **Madres Unidas** recently commented, "I learned a lot about taking responsibility for my own sexual health and how to communicate with my partner and children about these difficult topics. The instructor's patience and comradery with us was wonderful! Thank you for providing **Madres Unidas**."

In 2016, Project Youth OCBF received a five-year grant to initiate our **Youth Making Proud Choices** program. Its evidence-based curriculum provides adolescents with the knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to reduce their risk of pregnancy, HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

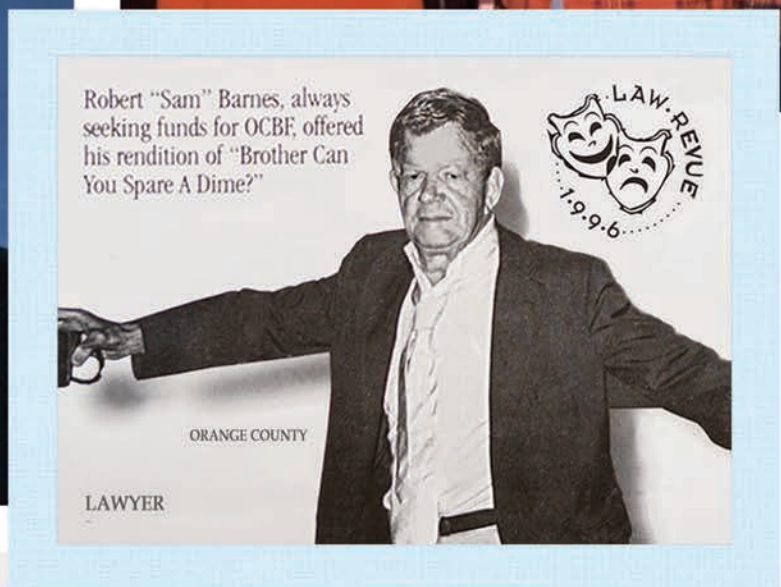
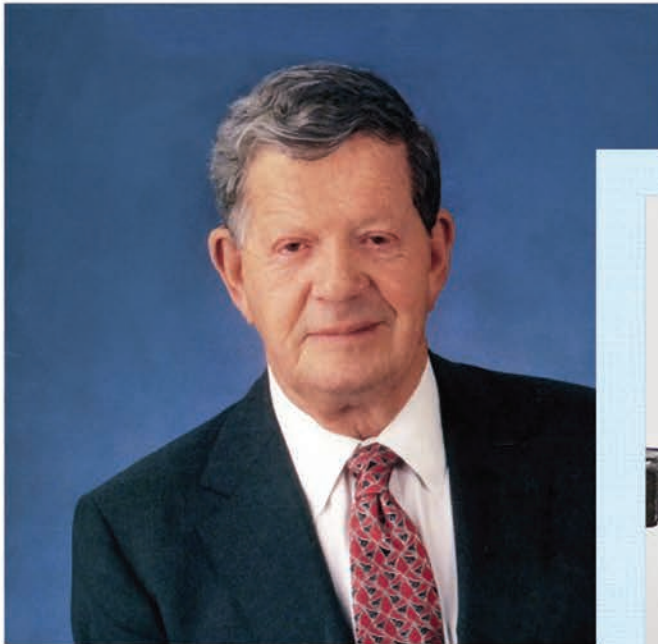
After 25 years, Project Youth OCBF continues to receive federal SAMHSA funding for some of its program. This is no small feat! I have had the opportunity to present our findings at numerous conferences across the country and represent Project Youth OCBF as a member of the National Steering Committee for the Federal Minority AIDS Initiative. Back in 1995 I was looking for a part-time job, but instead I gained a career serving our community with quality programming, cultural competence and measurable results! At the end of the day, it's a feel-good job that I love!



Martha Madrid

The Sammy Award

Project Youth OCBF's Sammy Award is given each year to a recipient who has contributed substantially to Project Youth OCBF to assist it in serving the youth and families of Orange County. The Sammy honors their commitment and unwavering support. This special award is dedicated in the loving memory of Robert Sam Barnes, a longtime supporter and friend who contributed greatly to Project Youth OCBF.



Bob Ware/For the Orange County Register

Jim and Mavis Obrien share a moment with Beverly and Sam Barnes at a fashion show and art auction Saturday night benefiting the SHORTSTOP juvenile crime diversion program.

Kathleen O'Leary, a former presiding judge of the Orange County Superior Court, worked with Sam Barnes on Project Youth OCBF's annual Law Review. She affectionately called him "a renaissance man," in part because of the vaudeville acts he'd perform.

"He was a remarkable tap-dancer and always very, very upbeat," O'Leary remembered. "In the revue there were the talents and the no-talents, and I was a no-talent; I announced the acts. But he would insist we all have talents. He was just an incredible cheerleader. It is hard for lawyers to be loved by everybody, and he really was."



Pictured from left to right: William S. O'Hare, Esq.; The Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret.); Jane Mills Martin; Donald L. Morrow, Esq.; Michael P. Maguire, Esq.; John C. Herklotz; Ann Avery Andres, Esq.; The Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret) and Ygal Soneneshine

Sammy Award Winners 1994-2019

2019	Eric V. Traut, Esq.	2012	Santa Ana Police Department	2002	John C. Herklotz
2018	William B. Grenner, Esq.	2011	James M. Skorheim, JD, CPA	2001	HITACHI
2017	Kyle S. Kawakami, Esq.	2010	Cindy Stokke, JD	2000	Orange County Superior Court
2016	Dennis W. Ghan, Esq.	2009	Michael P. Maguire, Esq.	1999	Ann Avery Andres, Esq.
2015	Carolyn C. McKitterick, Esq.	2008	William S. O'Hare, Esq.	1998	The Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret.)
2014	Mark E. Minyard, Esq.	2007	Michael D. Pursell, Esq.	1997	Donald L. Morrow, Esq.
2013	John B. Hurlbut, Jr., Esq.	2006	Ygal Sonenshine and the Honorable Sheila Prell Sonenshine (Ret.)	1996	The R.C. Baker Foundation
		2005	Paul and Jean Cleary	1995	First American Title Insurance Company & Nordstrom
		2004	Jane Mills Martin	1994	Robert Samuel Barnes
		2003	Irvine Health Foundation		



2020 Associate Board President's Message

by Anthony Modarelli III, Esq.

Opportunity: "a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something." Many underprivileged youth have yet to encounter an opportunity to better their life. Instead, they are faced with a set of circumstances that make it impossible to reach their goals. Efforts of the Project Youth OCBF Associate Board help to give youth that one opportunity to realize their dreams. I have never felt prouder to serve as a leader of a group of young professionals than I do as the President of the Project Youth OCBF Associate Board. Our Associate Board members dedicate their time, energy, and resources to creating opportunities for the youth in our community. This sends a message as to just how important one opportunity can be for a young individual.

Project Youth OCBF is in a transformative time with the growth of our organization's programs and the start of our Elevate Educate Empower Comprehensive Campaign. The goal of the Associate Board this year will be to increase awareness of our programs in the community at large, engage in the campaign's communication efforts, and to attract young professionals to help us create opportunities for youth through fundraising and volunteering. Since my involvement with Project Youth OCBF, I have seen tremendous progress in our outreach, and I am honored to lead the Associate Board in the fulfillment of our goals and the mission of Project Youth OCBF.

On behalf of the Associate Board and the thousands of youth whose lives have been forever changed by Project Youth OCBF, your continued generosity and support is greatly appreciated, and literally opens doors of opportunity for our local youth.



Anthony Burton
and Tyler Cesar



Kevin Grishow, Eddie Quillares
and Anthony Moderalli



Matt and
Andrea Stokke

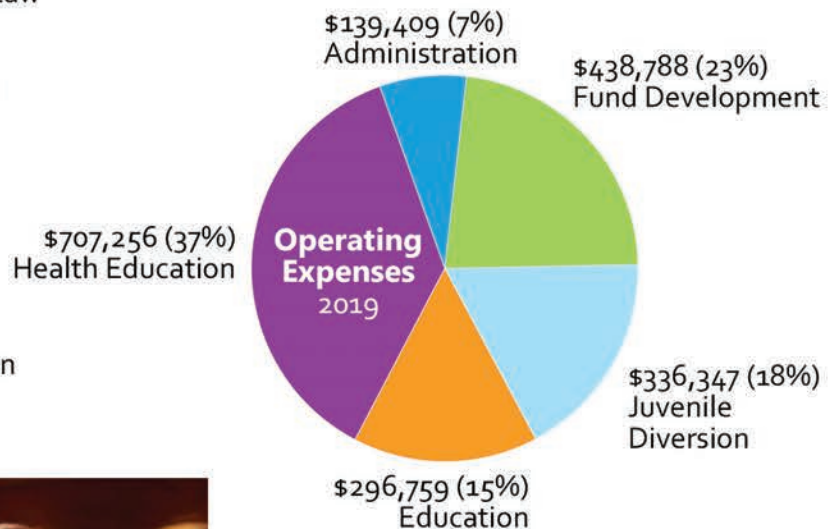
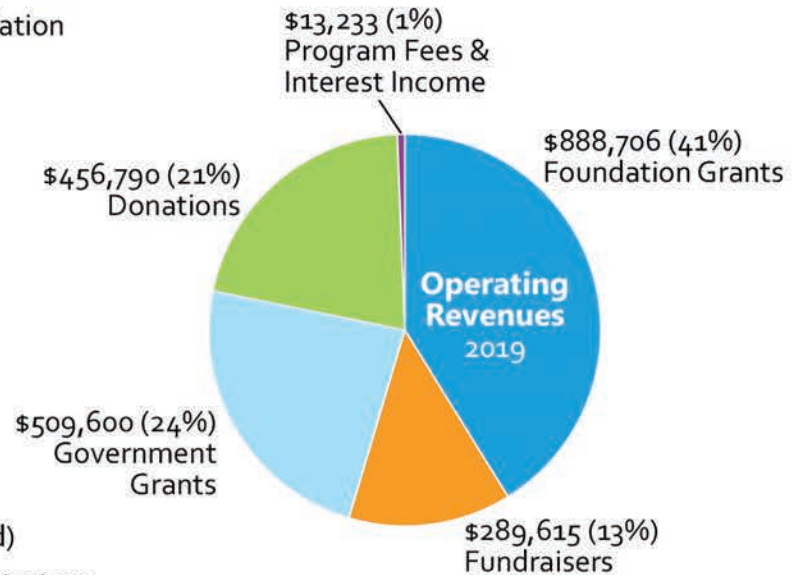


Taylor Dalton, Esq.; Andrea Paris, Esq.; Kristen Gomez, Esq.; Wesley Polischuk,
Esq.; Jessica Daley, Esq.; Anthony Burton, Esq.; and Jonathan Skorheim, Esq.
(All are Associate Board members except Wesley and Jonathan, who were on
the Associate Board and are now on the Board of Directors.)

Foundation Impact

We are grateful to the many key donor groups that have chosen to support Project Youth OCBF through the past few years:

Advanced Depositions • The Allergan Foundation
 Angels Baseball Foundation • Annenberg Foundation
 Aon • Arbonne Foundation
 Charitable Ventures - OC Resilience Fund
 College Futures Foundation
 Draper Family Foundation
 George T. Pfleger Foundation
 Green Foundation • Farmers & Merchants Bank
 Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, Inc.
 Hoag Community Benefit Program
 Jeffrey M. Carlton Foundation
 Lon V. Smith Foundation • Marisla Fund
 Orange County Bar Association (Charitable Fund)
 Orange County Chapter Assoc. of Legal Administrators
 Orange County Community Foundation
 Orange County Coalition for Diversity in the Law
 SDCCU OC Marathon
 Orange County Women Lawyers Association
 Pacific Life Foundation
 Health Education
 Robert Banyard Inn of Court
 State Farm Companies Foundation
 State Street Foundation
 TK Foundation • Ueberroth Family Foundation
 Union Bank • Wells Fargo



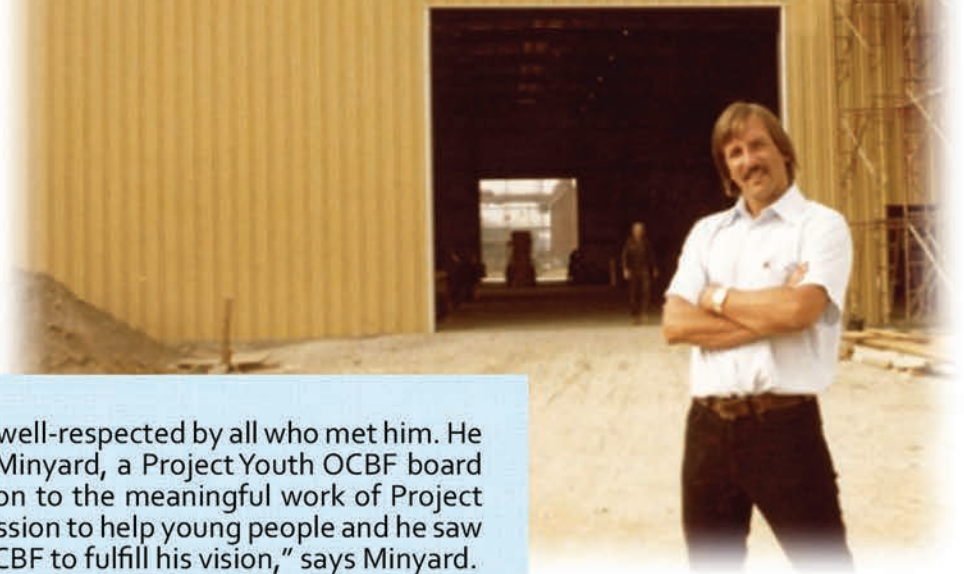
"We are proud to be involved with Project Youth OCBF for over 30 years and strongly embrace the success of their programs. Young lives have been transformed into a positive direction allowing them to lead productive lives through the SHORTSTOP juvenile crime diversion programs and through the Higher Education Mentoring Programs by providing the tools to attain a college education, all which will benefit our entire community."

~ Allan and Cindy Stokke

Jeffrey M. Carlton Foundation

A Historic Gift

In 2013, Project Youth OCBF received their largest gift ever, 15.3 million from the Jeffrey M. Carlton Trust, which formed the Jeffrey M. Carlton Foundation. Jeffrey M. Carlton, who passed in 2012 at age 61 of heart disease, was founder, Chairman and CEO of the largest U.S. metal forging servicer and supplier, Press Forge Company in Paramount, California, which makes parts for airplane planes and engines, as well as for oil and gas drilling.



Jeffrey lived in Long Beach and was well-respected by all who met him. He was a client and friend to Mark E. Minyard, a Project Youth OCBF board member, who introduced Mr. Carlton to the meaningful work of Project Youth OCBF. "I know he was on a mission to help young people and he saw the possibilities for Project Youth OCBF to fulfill his vision," says Minyard.

The Jeffrey M. Carlton Foundation gift helps "steel" the organization against some of the economic uncertainty that frequently impacts nonprofits and community organizations. The gift is distributed in 5 percent increments annually (approximately \$760,000 per year). Along with a \$4M annual fundraising goal, a lean and powerful leadership team, and 85% of all foundation resources going directly to program activities, Project Youth OCBF now starts each year in a stronger position of financial support thanks to the Jeffrey M. Carlton Foundation.

This extraordinary gift will remain a significant and impactful part of Project Youth OCBF's history. It will be honored not only on our history timeline, but on our 2019-2021 comprehensive campaign donor wall, prominently and proudly displayed at our headquarters in Santa Ana.

"The Ueberroth Family Foundation has been a proud supporter of Project Youth OCBF for decades. We value the youth and family programs they provide in our community and support their on-going efforts to improve the health, education, and safety of our youth. We are dedicated in our support and proud to share in their successes."

~ Ueberroth Family Foundation



"The Orange County Community Foundation congratulates Project Youth OCBF on the success of their efforts to help youth reach their full potential. Project Youth OCBF programs focusing on education, health and juvenile diversion, coupled with access to supportive volunteer mentors, help to build a stronger, more vibrant community for us all."

~ Shelley M. Hoss, President, OCCF

"Being involved with the board of directors, various committees, and acting as a mentor in Project Youth OCBF's Higher Education Mentoring Program, I could not be more proud of the successes this organization has experienced. I have observed first-hand the positive impact it's programs have had on thousands of Orange County youth and their families. Over the past 15 years, Project Youth OCBF has become a part of my family, and I look forward to continuing my support of such an amazing organization for many years to come!"

~ Jonathan M. Skorheim, JD, CPA

"We are proud donors of Project Youth OCBF and have been for a quarter of a century. We intend to continue our support for many years to come. Project Youth OCBF is an exceptionally strong nonprofit with impressive board members and volunteers. Their youth and family programs are impactful and so very relevant. It is easy to see how they have thrived for 50 years."

~ George T. Pfleger Foundation

Food and Wine Society

Project Youth OCBF's Food and Wine Society was created by Ygal and Sheila Sonenshine in 1996. This membership group was established to provide financial support to Project Youth OCBF by bringing together people who enjoy great wine paired with delicious food and the opportunity to support our community. Wine education is provided by our Cellar Master Ygal Sonenshine, who never fails to entertain while educating.



Ygal Sonenshine and
the Honorable Sheila
Prell Sonenshine (Ret.)



Pictured left to right – Ygal Sonenshine, Kathleen Peterson, Karen Ruan, Mark Minyard, Barbie Minyard, Mike Maguire, Cindy Maguire, Linda Sampson, Nancy Garcia, Sheila Sonenshine, Jim Garcia and Mark Peterson

Membership in the Food and Wine Society is limited to members of the bench and bar, and their spouses. An annual dinner fee is due in December, as well as a one-time, cellar fee that is non-refundable. The Society hosts two dinners a year.





Carolyn McKitterick



Cindy Stokke



Jim and Linda Skorheim

Project Youth OCBF

Annual John C. Herklotz
SHORTSTOP Golf Classic



Long-term golf committee chairs (pictured from left to right)
Brian Daucher, Jon Skorheim, and Don Morrow

Throughout the years, Project Youth OCBF holds several fundraising events to help support its programs. The annual SHORTSTOP golf classic leads Project Youth OCBF efforts in fundraising and is an outstanding example of a long-standing event that is successful every year.

Since 1997, the SHORTSTOP Golf Classic has raised almost \$1.8 million to help Project Youth OCBF strengthen our communities and improve the lives of those in need. It is our largest fundraiser.



Its success is due in no small part to our wonderful supporter, John C. Herklotz, who has been a very special friend of Project Youth OCBF, and a title sponsor of this event, for the past 20 years.

John recently passed, but his generosity and giving legacy lives on. John lived a full life and we were so fortunate to call him a friend. Thank you, John, for your many years of support! Your dedication to Project Youth OCBF has enabled us to better serve Orange County youth and their families.



Every fall, over 140 Project Youth OCBF supporters tee off for a fun-filled day on the course. The golf classic is a huge success, raising over \$90,000 annually.

Key Fundraising Highlights

Our success in providing long-standing youth programs has been based on our ability to sustain and grow our funding. Thanks to many generous donors, from individuals to foundations to government grants, as well as fundraisers and innovative fundraising, we are strong 50 years later.

In 2007, we implemented our Society of Fellows, an individual giving program modeled after other bar foundations across the country. Key board members Allan Stokke, Cindy Stokke and Allan Crivaro helped implement and recruit Founding Fellows who each contributed a onetime gift of \$1,000 to get the Society up and running. Over the years, additional members joined at various giving levels including a judicial level. Today we have over 220 Society of Fellows members who through a collective contribution have donated over \$440,000.

In 2013, Project Youth OCBF (at that time OCBF) received the largest gift ever through the Jeffrey M. Carlton trust (later set up as the Jeffrey Carlton Foundation). This gift was made possible through a key board member, Mark Minyard, who knew Jeff Carlton and introduced him to the work being done at Project Youth OCBF. This generous gift ensured that Project Youth OCBF would always have a future.



In 2019, we launched a comprehensive campaign, aptly named Elevate Educate Empower, to help secure our future and celebrate 50 years of services to the Orange County community. The goals of the campaign are threefold: (1) Pay off our mortgage for the agency home we purchased in 2017; (2) Create an endowed scholarship fund for the low-income, minority college students in our Higher Education Mentoring Program and increase the scope of our job-readiness projects; and (3) Expand clinical services in the area of mental health and substance abuse. Three couples who are loyal and long term supporters of Project Youth OCBF stepped up to chair the Elevate Educate Empower Comprehensive Campaign Alan & Cindy Stokke, James & Linda Skorheim and Patrick and Judith Ryan. The campaign has an ambitious goal of raising five million in new dollars to help secure our future.

Society of Fellows and the Jeffrey Carlton Foundation along with a successful 2019-2021 comprehensive campaign effort ensures Project Youth OCBF indeed has a bright future of serving the Orange County Community through impactful youth and family programs and services.



Clockwise from top left:

Jim Skorheim, Pamela Traut, and Dennis Ghan

*The Honorable Jamoa Moberly (Ret),
Dianne Daucher, and Brian Daucher*

Eric Traut and Dan Robinson

Andrea Paris and Janice Ramsey



Established in 2007, the Society of Fellows supports the programs of Project Youth OCBF through its members' annual contributions. Since then, our 230 members have provided over \$440,000 in funds directly to help Project Youth OCBF to fulfill its mission to empower Orange County youth and families.

Society of Fellows is an honorary professional membership comprised of attorneys, judges, and business professionals. Members are nominated by Fellows and elected by the Fellows committee. Together, Fellows demonstrate outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and to the highest principles of the legal profession. Each year Project Youth OCBF hosts a Society of Fellows event to honor members and present one Fellow and one Judicial Fellow to receive our Distinguished Fellows Awards.

We are often asked, "Where does my contribution go?"

In today's economic times, we know that donors want to be assured that their money is going where it's most needed. Each Society of Fellows member should be proud that their contributions have made a direct and positive impact on our programs. For example, our Higher Education Mentoring Program helps low-income youth attend and graduate from college; Project SELF gives high school students summer internship opportunities to work for local law firms and businesses; and our SHORTSTOP and STOP SHORT of Addiction programs keep at-risk youth off drugs, healthy and out of jail.



Tim and
Lyn Carlyle

Fellows receive a certificate of membership and a Society of Fellows lapel pin

Recognition at agency events and in our publications of being a professional member of Project Youth OCBF

Charitable tax donation

Invitation to special events and meetings

Association with an organization that has a direct, positive impact on both the legal profession and the community

Professional development and networking with prominent community leaders



Jason Caruso
and Alan Crivaro

Society of Fellows Award Winners and Judicial Award Winners

- 2019 – Arthur G. Kidman and the Honorable Nancy Webienstock
- 2018 – Timothy D. Carlyle, Esq. and the Honorable Judith M. Ryan (Ret.)
- 2017 – Michael T. Hornak and the Honorable Gail A. Ander, (Ret.)
- 2016 – John B. Hurlbut Jr., Esq. and the Honorable Steven L. Perk, (Ret.)
- 2015 – Steven G. Hittelman, Esq. and Commissioner Richard G. Vogl, (Ret.)
- 2014 – Jonathan M. Skorheim, Esq. and the Hon. Jamoa A. Moberly (Ret.)
- 2013 – Dennis W. Ghan, Esq. and the Honorable Lon F. Hurwitz
- 2012 – Eric V. Traut, Esq. and the Honorable Francisco P. Briseno (Ret.)
- 2011 – Alan J. Crivaro, Esq. and the Honorable James P. Gray (Ret.)
- 2010 – Allan H. Stokke, Esq. and Justice David A. Thompson
- 2009 – James M. Skorheim, JD, CPA and the Honorable David O. Carter
- 2008 – Mark E. Minyard, Esq.





Honorary Life Fellow

John C. Herklotz

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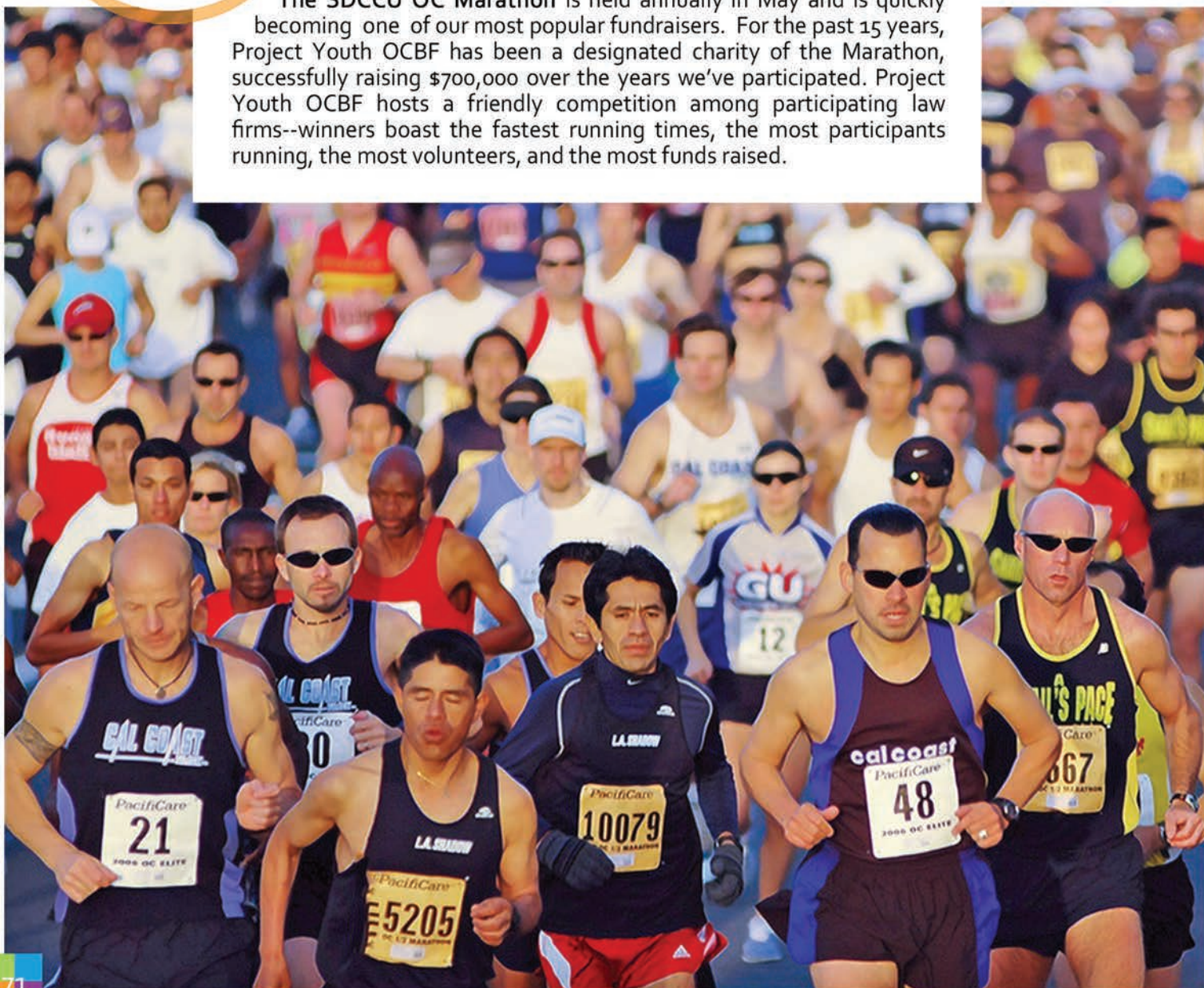
Judicial Life Fellow

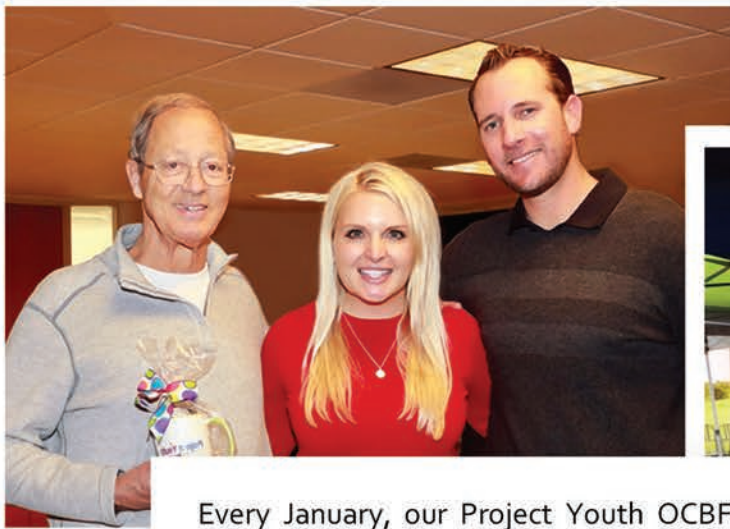
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The SDCCU OC Marathon is held annually in May and is quickly becoming one of our most popular fundraisers. For the past 15 years, Project Youth OCBF has been a designated charity of the Marathon, successfully raising \$700,000 over the years we've participated. Project Youth OCBF hosts a friendly competition among participating law firms--winners boast the fastest running times, the most participants running, the most volunteers, and the most funds raised.





Every January, our Project Youth OCBF associate board hosts our Game Day fundraiser at Advanced Depositions. The event features an NFL playoff game, food, games, drinks, and raffle prizes. On-site daycare is provided so the whole family can enjoy Game Day.



Every summer the Associate Board hosts an annual Rooftop Brewfest fundraiser. The event pours beers from local breweries and features food from selected local food trucks. Guests enjoy a rooftop venue, thanks to Gibson Dunn's generous support, that boasts an amazing panoramic view of Orange County.



Our Generous Benefactor *John C. Herklotz*

John C. Herklotz was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from high school at age 15, and entered DePaul University to study accounting. In 1943 he joined the U.S. Army, after which he returned to DePaul to finish his Bachelor of Science in Accounting. From there, he gained employment by Price Waterhouse, and obtained his CPA license.

John's professional career included working for the Chicago Tribune and its subsidiary companies, as well as WGN Continental Broadcasting. In 1968, John left corporate life to pursue a career as a media financial consultant and broadcast station broker. During the next twenty years, he rendered consulting and brokerage services to numerous radio, television, and cable companies.

In 1988, John formed the Cellular Financial Corporation and actively pursued opportunities in the rapidly developing cell phone industry. The federal government awarded John's company a rural telephone license in New Mexico covering 22,000 square miles of service area, including the cities of Santa Fe and Los Alamos. In 1990, he sold his company to Centel Corporation to pursue his lifelong dream of focusing his time and resources to charitable causes. Over the next twenty-five years, John established a legacy of helping numerous worthy causes.

John was also the Chairman of Tesuque Radio Company that operated a communications site on Tesuque Peak, New Mexico. In December 2017 Tesuque Radio Company was sold to X-Cell Towers II, LLC. In addition, John was the owner and CEO of Herklotz Enterprises, Inc., through which he produced the heart-warming feature film, "The Giant of Thunder Mountain." John's most recent production, "In A Booth at Chasen's," highlighted the real-life Hollywood romance of Ron and Nancy Regan.

John's charitable undertakings were vast and included numerous nonprofits, colleges, hospitals and community efforts as well as his role as financial contributor and Chairman of the Board of Directors of American Happenings. We were so fortunate that for over two decades, John donated significant support to Project Youth OCBF as title sponsor of our "Project Youth OCBF John C. Herklotz Golf Classic." In 2002, he provided a \$150,000 challenge grant to our Sam Barnes Campaign, which raised funds to build a reserve account. Perhaps closest to John's heart is the creation of the Dale Melbourne Conference Center, which is named for John's beloved wife. The Center is located on the University of California at Irvine, which is also the home of the Herklotz Research Facility.

John passed in late December 2019 and we miss him dearly. Rest in peace, John. You were dearly loved.



Mike Maguire
and John Herklotz



John C Herklotz



Higher Education Mentoring

Developed in 2001, the **HIGHER EDUCATION MENTORING PROGRAM** is a six-year program that provides Latino high school students from the city of Santa Ana with the academic, social and financial support needed to enter college and earn their college degree. This after-school program offers highly individualized services for youth and parents, as well as leadership training for our volunteer mentors.

The Higher Education Mentoring Program is unique in that it matches high school juniors and seniors with university student or young professional mentors who are familiar with Latino culture, have overcome traditional educational barriers, and know first-hand what it takes to succeed in college. Many past program graduates serve as mentors or volunteer speakers, offering training and guidance to our students.

Our success is attributed, in large part, to the fact that each student receives 18 months of highly-individualized services prior to entering college. Services focus on the academic, social and financial preparation needed to succeed in college:

- Individual mentoring sessions
- Group mentoring focused on financial literacy
- Emphasis on STEM coursework and careers
- Evening workshops for youth and their parents
- FAFSA workshops
- College campus tours, career panels, and Latino cultural activities
- Opportunities for paid summer internships
- Clinical support services

Upon entering college, students are offered continued support and campus coaching throughout their undergraduate studies with the goal of graduating from college. Services include:

- Individualized support with academics, financial aid, resume skills, and employment
- Volunteer opportunities
- Leadership training and opportunities to return to the program as a mentor or workshop speaker

Our Impact

The Higher Education Mentoring Program provides youth with intensive academic, social, and financial support during high school and throughout their undergraduate studies. Our goal is to not only help youth get into college, but to provide the support and resources needed to beat the odds and graduate.

The Higher Education Mentoring Program changes lives; its impact is far-reaching. Project Youth OCBF is proud to report that 100% of the students that successfully complete the program attend college. Moreover, 75% of these students complete their bachelor's degree, compared with the 21% college completion rate of Latinos statewide.

"When my daughter told me about the Higher Education Mentoring Program helping her to attend college, I was surprised. As an immigrant to the United States my focus was on working long hours to support the basic needs of my family and I assumed my children would do the same. Turns out a college education was the best thing for my daughter and our family. She graduated and also had the opportunity to study abroad. She now works with special needs children and is applying to graduate school. I eagerly share my family's story to promote the value of youth obtaining a college degree. Thanks to the support and investment Project Youth made in my daughter, she now has a higher standard of living than I had. I am truly grateful to Project Youth for helping to build a new generation of educated young people."

~ Parent, Higher Education Mentoring Program



Workshop Career Panel

"I was raised by a single mother. My mom left my father when he became abusive. Unsurprisingly, my father did not pay child support and then he was incarcerated. Throughout my life, my mom has been my sole source of support. She didn't graduate from high school, so by middle school, I realized that while she supported me following my dreams, she could no longer help me academically. Entering high school, I did not know the slightest thing about college. Nobody had ever explained to me what college was, why it was important, or how to get there until I joined the Higher Education Mentoring Program. Here I was given access to adults who guided me on the path to college. My mentor provided me with information and advice that nobody else had been able to give me. Aside from mentoring me on college, she became another source of support and she continues to cheer me on and provide me with any help I need. I've stepped into the college world now, where I'm building my future. I plan to study psychology, so that one day I can become a school psychologist."

~ 2019 Higher Education Mentoring Program participant

"The Higher Education Mentoring Program taught me how to use a credit card, how to manage my time and how to study better. By attending the monthly workshops, I learned how to become a more responsible adult."

~ Higher Education Mentoring College Student



College Campus Tour



Since 1995, **Project SELF (Summer Employment in Law Firms)** has offered summer internships at local law firms, and other related businesses, to qualifying high school seniors from Santa Ana. Each internship lasts for eight weeks, during which interns are paid for their work. Participating law firms and businesses pay the interns' wages.

Internships are made possible through our longstanding collaboration with the Association of Legal Administrators Orange County Chapter. Through Project SELF, the legal community is making a significant impact on the lives of Santa Ana youth. Interns are introduced to a professional working experience while enhancing their knowledge, skills, and self-esteem.

Interns are introduced to a professional working experience while enhancing their knowledge, skills, and self-esteem. Project SELF internships offer these exciting opportunities:

- Access to paid, professional work environments.
- Career exploration within the legal field.
- Meaningful relationships with professional mentors, reinforcing the ethics of hard work, responsibility, and task completion.
- Hands-on training in the areas of resume development, professional conduct and dress, interviewing skills, business communications and basic office skills.

Students that are selected to participate in Project SELF attend an initial information meeting with their parents to discuss the program. The internship then begins with an orientation, where interns are introduced to their legal administrator.

Interns set their schedule with their employer and work 24-30 hours per week. They also attend the Mid-Summer Education Day, a one-day event where they tour the Court of Appeals or Santa Ana Justice Center; attend mock traffic courts, drug courts, and a felony trial; and explore scholarship and employment opportunities. At the conclusion of the eight-week internship, Project Youth hosts a dinner to recognize the interns' accomplishments and support of our internship providers.

Our Impact

Since 1995, we've placed approximately 1,000 interns in Orange County law firms and businesses.

At the conclusion of the internship surveys are administered to both the participating businesses and interns. A year after, a follow-up evaluation survey is sent to the interns. Results from these surveys confirm that Project SELF consistently meets its program objectives. Youth report increased professional skills, motivation to attend college, and self-confidence. Moreover, the program benefits our participating businesses by giving their staff the opportunity to become positive role models and mentors to youth that desperately need them.

Each year, increasing numbers of disadvantaged high school students are completing Project SELF internships, graduating from college, and starting their professional careers. This success has provided our students, and their families, with an improved standard of living. Moreover, they now contribute to the Orange County economy, are positive role models for other minority youth, and hold positions of leadership in the community.



"The summer before my senior year of high school, I had the opportunity to be part of the Project SELF program and was assigned to intern at The Traut Firm. This was truly a defining point in my life where I finally came to know what I wanted to pursue as a career. I knew from a young age that I wanted to go to college but never knew exactly what I would study and that is why I am grateful for Project SELF. Thanks to the help from my assigned firm, I decided to pursue a career in law.

"I am currently pursuing a double major in political science, as well as criminology, law and society at UCI. After my internship at The Traut Firm I've continued working there for the past three years, now as their file clerk. My experience with the firm gives me an opportunity to get an outlook on the type of career I want, while also learning valuable skill as their file clerk. Education is such an important asset in my life and if it were not for Project SELF, I'm not sure whether I would have found my path towards this career."

~ 2016 Project SELF intern

"Through Project SELF, I learned how to communicate and become more independent, it taught me to be punctual and enhanced my computer skills. I have grown so much in a matter of 8 weeks. I can see how much my confidence has changed since I started my internship."

~2019 Project SELF intern

"For me, Project SELF meant a chance to live my dream of working in a law firm with people that have accomplished what I want to accomplish. Project SELF also gave me the chance to mature a little bit more as a person. It also meant that I didn't waste my summer doing nothing, like I had in other years. Instead, I invested my time in something that was worthwhile."

~ Project SELF intern, Paul Hastings LLP


"We have participated as internship providers for several years. Each year, we benefit from the extra help we get from the interns, the good will we earn from our employees for participation, and the support we give to Project Youth OCBF and the OC-ALA."

~ Andrea Bryant, Snell & Wilmer LLP



*Daniel Robinson and
Project SELF Intern*

SHORTSTOP



*SHORTSTOP Instructor
Mel Sarabia describes the
realities of incarceration to
youth participants*

Since 1980, **SHORTSTOP** has set thousands of youth offenders back on the right path before they have strayed too far. This unique juvenile crime diversion program provides a cost-effective alternative to prosecution and utilizes evidence-based models for reducing delinquency among youth. By completing SHORTSTOP, youth are able to move forward in a positive direction, without serving jail time or having a criminal record.

SHORTSTOP works to break the cycle that turns youth into repeat offenders. It's a wake-up call that has proven to be extremely successful. In fact, studies show that alternatives to detention are not only cost-effective, but they are much more effective than incarceration at facilitating long-term behavior changes. SHORTSTOP is an integral part of larger system reform, participating as a key stakeholder on Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative efforts in Orange County. Its success has positioned Project Youth OCBF as a leader, not only in Southern California but throughout the nation, in providing successful youth diversion programs that are replicable state and nationwide.

The overwhelming success of SHORTSTOP is due, in large part, to mandatory parental participation. Together, first-time juvenile offenders and their parents participate in diversion sessions led by volunteer attorneys and legal professionals. SHORTSTOP is provided in English and Spanish by bilingual, bicultural staff. Services include:

- Two 4-hour program sessions are held in a courtroom and include a visit to the holding cell, presentations from paroled convicts, a trial simulation, and numerous family strengthening exercises. Sessions focus on providing legal education (including parents' legal rights and responsibilities), promoting personal responsibility, and increasing protective factors (self-control, peer refusal skills, parental monitoring, school bonding, and participation in pro-social activities).
- Another critical part of SHORTSTOP is what happens at home. Mandatory homework assignments include reading legal education materials, family communication exercises, interview a working professional in the community to explore future career paths, and complete goal-setting assignments.
- An individualized restorative justice plan is created for each youth (financial restitution, victim apology letters, and community service).
- As needed, case management and referral services are available for youth and families for mental health, family therapy, or other wrap around services.

SHORTSTOP Instructors

Javier Orozco (Current)

Eddie Nunez (Current)

Kevin Stinson

Juan Villegas



Early days:

The intensity of the CYA wards' personal stories had a definite impact on the families attending a recent Programa SHORTSTOP session, taught by Officer Dan Correa.

Our Impact

Evaluation studies have shown that SHORTSTOP makes a measurable difference in the lives of local youth and families and to the well-being of our community. The results of our most recent recidivism study with the Orange County Probation Department show that 94% of our program participants are successfully diverted from the legal system for at least one year.

Recently, Mateo* called Project Youth OCBF's office to inquire about an internship with SHORTSTOP. Seven months earlier, he had attended the program after being caught spraying graffiti on street signs with his tagging crew. "Ever since I went through the program, I've known that I wanted to work with teens that were caught up like I was. I know that if I hadn't got caught, I would be kickin' it with the wrong group. Some of my closest friends are now in the gang that was recruiting us. Because of SHORTSTOP, my life is going in a different direction." Since completing the program, Mateo had graduated from high school and enrolled at Golden West College. He plans to transfer to a four-year university to study criminal justice. *"I just needed someone to tell me that I could make it. That's what SHORTSTOP did...it gave me confidence."*

** Participant's name has been changed*

"SHORTSTOP was a pivotal and humbling experience for my family. I can say with all certainty that it was a game-changer. Our daughter went from flirting with dangerous choices to being an honor student setting off to college this fall. SHORTSTOP illustrated where the dead-end path she was on was leading. It was a life-altering intervention, for which we are deeply grateful."

- SHORTSTOP parent

"I am so thankful for SHORTSTOP. It helped me in so many ways. At the start of the program when I had to put on an orange jumpsuit and was handcuffed, I saw my mother look at me and I burst into tears. At first, the instructor treated us like we were really in juvenile hall. This was a reality check for me, especially because I'm now 18 years old. The guest speakers helped me understand that with every decision I make there are consequences. My actions have changed. I don't hang out with the same people, and I am more focused on school than ever. I'm so glad I got this second chance to turn my life around."

- SHORTSTOP youth

SHORTSTOP Instructor, Mel Sarabia, educates parents on legal rights and responsibilities



STOP SHORT of Addiction



STOP SHORT of Addiction Coordinator, Martha Veliz, works with youth and their families to prevent further substance abuse.

Since 1999, STOP SHORT of Addiction has provided state-certified alcohol and drug services to Orange County youth and families. This unique substance abuse intervention targets youth offenders, ages 12 to 18, who are in the early stages of drug use. Parental participation in the program is mandatory. In fact, the overwhelming success of STOP SHORT of Addiction is due, in large part, to the fact that we incorporate families into our program services. Youth, together with their families, gain the tools needed to prevent them from regressing back to unhealthy and destructive behaviors.

STOP SHORT of Addiction is based on our award-winning SHORTSTOP program. It serves as an effective alternative to incarceration, providing education to both youth and parents on the legal aspects of drug-related offenses and the negative lifestyle consequences of substance abuse. Parents gain a better understanding of the signs, symptoms, and behaviors associated with drug use. As a result, they are better able to recognize and address any future problems as soon as possible.

STOP SHORT of Addiction is administered by bilingual, bicultural therapists, with assistance from legal experts, the Sheriff's Coroner and local law enforcement narcotics officers. Guest speakers are also provided from the Youth Guidance Center and Volunteers on Parole. Program services are offered in both English and Spanish. STOP SHORT of Addiction provides youth and their family members with the following:

- *Clinical Intake Assessment (1 hour)*

During the intake, the therapist gathers important information about the youth's drug history, emotional stability, at-risk behaviors, family dynamics, and school functioning.

- *Three Substance Abuse Intervention Sessions (4 hours each)*

Program sessions focus on providing legal and substance abuse education, group therapy, as well as healthy communication and coping skills to maintain a drug-free lifestyle. Sessions highlights include visiting a courtroom to hear incarcerated minors discuss how delinquent behavior and drug use led them to criminal activity and incarceration, a County Coroner presentation illustrating the biological and psychological effects of drug abuse, and a panel of recovered teens that discuss the choice to stay drug free.

STOP SHORT of Addiction Instructors

Erica Arellano (Coroner)	Juan Villegas
Rene Bonilla (Current)	Tony Sanchez
Mark Case	Mel Sarabia (Current)
	Lesley Trejo (Coroner)

- **Mandatory Homework Assignments**

Another critical part of STOP SHORT of Addiction is what happens at home. Youth read substance abuse prevention materials, engage in family communication exercises, interview a working professional in the community to explore future career paths, complete goal-setting assignments, and attend two AA or NA meetings.

- **Individualized Restorative Justice Plan**

A personalized plan is created for each youth requiring financial restitution, victim apology letters, and community service. On average, each of our youth completes 21 hours of community service during the course of the program.

- **Family Therapy Services (up to eight, 1-hour sessions)**

Family therapy is available as needed and as resources allow. Our evidence-based Brief Strategic Family Therapy model has proven effective in increasing protection against youth substance use and providing the tools to overcome individual and family problems.

- **Exit Plan and Case Management/ Referral Services**

As needed, youth and families are linked to additional substance abuse treatment and behavioral health services. Our partner agencies include Phoenix House, La Familia, Human Options, Planned Parenthood, Working Wardrobes, Radiant Health Centers, and Santa Ana Parks and Recreation.

Our Impact

Evaluation studies show that STOP SHORT of Addiction makes a measurable difference in the lives of local youth and families and to the well-being of our community. The results of our most recent recidivism study with the Probation Department indicates that 92% of our program participants are successfully diverted from the legal system for at least one year. In addition:

- 87% of youth participants remain drug free at least six months after program completion.
- 97% of parents report increased knowledge of drugs and addiction
- 84% of youth report being more aware of the dangers of drug use.
- 87% of youth report changing their friendships with drug and alcohol using friends.



Successful STOP SHORT of Addiction client with his proud parents.

Not only did he benefit from the program, but his parents did as well. "Parents benefit tremendously from this program. The goal is to really help the family as a whole."

After Alan completed the program, he became more involved in school and eventually joined the Orange Police Explorers. Fast forward seven years. At age 20, Alan is in college and plans to pursue a career in law enforcement. He has also interned as a part-time instructional assistant with STOP SHORT of Addiction. "The most important thing I received from this program was the amount of dedication and care from the coordinators. They provided my family and me with great resources for additional help, and continued to follow up with me long after I had finished the program. Being an intern helped me to not only develop career skills, but gave me the opportunity to help and mentor youth who are in trouble just like I was."

When Alan was 13-years-old he was referred to STOP SHORT of Addiction in lieu of prosecution for a drug offense. He knew he was making poor decisions and hanging around the wrong crowd. He felt lost and desperately needed direction. While in the program, he listened to a panel of detained youth.

"I can recall youth who were around the same age as I was talking to us and I realized that they didn't get the second chance that everyone in STOP SHORT of Addiction was getting. It was then that I realized the severe consequences of my actions. Being given this second chance motivated me to keep moving positively forward."

Health Education

Francis Torres,
Health Educator



Madres Unidas

Madres Unidas provides Latina mothers with sexual health education and HIV/STI risk-reduction services, as well as family therapy, to foster healthy and safe behaviors and positive family functioning. Madres Unidas means Mothers United, which is the theme of this culturally-based program. Madres Unidas helps prepare Latina mothers to discuss difficult topics generally considered taboo (such as drug and alcohol use, sex, HIV/AIDS and STDs) with their teenage children and partners.

Services are offered to all Latina mothers in Orange County. Madres Unidas offers six weeks of health education sessions focused on preventing HIV/STD infection and substance abuse, followed by family therapy, as needed. Services also incorporate:

- Emphasis on ethnic and gender pride
- Assertiveness training and coping skills
- Behavior management skills
- Free onsite HIV testing and healthcare linkages

Our Impact

90 women served annually

97% of participants report increased HIV/AIDS knowledge

84% of participants report improved confidence and ability to use condoms correctly

"Madres Unidas has helped me to have a better relationship with my family. Now, I know how to talk to my son about the dangers facing young people today. I know more about alcohol and drugs, as well as HIV/STIs. I highly recommend this program."

~ Madres participant

"In Madres I learned a lot about drugs, risky sexual behaviors, STI's and HIV. My son learned about the same topics in Youth Making Proud Choices. Thank you for these excellent programs!"

~ Madres participant and Youth Making Proud Choices parent

¡Cuídate!

¡Cuídate! is an evidence-based, HIV/STI risk-reduction, and comprehensive sex education program for at-risk Latino youth, aged 12-18, that attend a continuation school, a school in the Santa Ana Unified School District, or are involved in the criminal justice and/or foster care system. It also integrates substance abuse prevention.

¡Cuídate! consists of 9 modules that are each 1.5 hours. It focuses on taking care of oneself and one's partner, family, and community. It also addresses all of the California Healthy Youth Act and CA Health Education Code requirements. ¡Cuídate! emphasizes Latino cultural beliefs to frame abstinence and condom use as an effective way to prevent unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease, including HIV/AIDS.

Youth Making Proud Choices!

Youth Making Proud Choices! is an evidence-based program that provides youth with the knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to reduce the risk of pregnancy, HIV, and STIs through abstinence or engaging in safer sex practices. It emphasizes sexual responsibility while teaching youth to respect themselves and others. It discusses drugs and their effect on sexual responsibility, including injection drug use and needle sharing.

Youth Making Proud Choices! meets the requirements of the CA Healthy Youth Act and other laws pertaining to sexual health education, including inclusivity of LGBTQ youth and information on affirmative consent. It is presented in group format with two trained, bilingual facilitators in nine (9) weekly 90-minute sessions.



¡Cuídate! Participants

"Youth Making Proud Choices! helped me to be much more aware of STI's. Before I'd only worried about not getting my girlfriend pregnant. But now I make sure to wear a condom to protect myself and my girlfriend."

~ Program participant

"¡Cuídate! helps teens feel comfortable asking important questions. Project Youth OCBF is a safe place. I have learned a lot and now I know I can be safe in the future."

~ Program participant

Youth Making Proud Choices! Session



Our Impact

640 youth are served annually through ¡Cuídate! and Youth Making Proud Choices!

Increased knowledge of HIV and STI transmission, including intravenous drug use.

Reduced substance use.

Increased awareness of the dangers of risky sexual behavior and safer-sex practices.



"I grew up in Mexico City. I have three sons who were born here in Orange County. When I attended Madres Unidas, it was at my youngest child's school site. I did not know a lot about what was presented. It was a great experience. It did not feel like the program facilitators were lecturing us, but instead it felt as though a good friend, who had this great information, was just excited to share it with us. There are many

things we did not speak of in our family, including alcohol, drugs, sex, and STIs. Through Madres Unidas, I learned that it is not only important to know about these things, but it is also important to share this knowledge with our family and friends... how to protect oneself, how to recognize the things that put us at risk, be in control, and how to get out in time. I'm now a health educator for Madres Unidas. I have been empowered and I am proud to help do the same for other women in my community."

~ Rocio Aceves,
Madres Health Educator

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2020 COVID-19 Pandemic

We Help Because We Can

The COVID-19 pandemic hit the world the winter of 2020. By March, the United States had issued orders to shelter in place, and for months business as we knew it came to a halt. Our families were struggling financially before COVID-19. The pandemic threw most into even more dire straits. Jobs were lost, students were unable to attend school, and businesses closed, all while fear and anxiety raged alongside the virus.

Project Youth OCBF found ways to help.

Since we couldn't see clients or hold program sessions, we worked quickly to adjust our services to those new parameters. We reached out to our youth and their families. In the first month alone, we conducted wellness checks with over 750 of our youth and family members. We were there to offer emotional support, COVID-19 health information and resources, linkages to community services, and program components that could be done at home.



We also provided two food drives per month, serving over 100 families monthly, and provided gift cards for groceries and essentials. Faithful Project Youth OCBF donors and new donors stepped up to contribute to keep our food drives plentiful and our gift cards stocked for months. Gift cards included Target, Costco and Northgate Market. We extend a special thank you to Northgate Market, who stepped up in a big way by donating gift cards to our families. Food drives were made possible through our long-standing partnership with Hands of Mercy.

COVID-19 is now part of our world history, never to be forgotten. The 2020 pandemic was a tough time for all. But through it we learned even more that kindness truly matters and how we help matters.



Let us introduce you to Anne...

Anne was a Higher Education Mentoring Program college student and living far away from home when the pandemic hit. She was allowed to stay on campus, rather than going home, because she couldn't afford to fly home and, more importantly, because travelling would be dangerous given her compromised health. When our staff reached out to her, we learned that staying on campus had proved to be really difficult. Her campus job had closed, and without it she had very little money. She was hungry and didn't have transportation or anyone to help her. She didn't know what to do.

Staff at Project Youth OCBF immediately emailed her a Target e-gift card so that she could have food delivered. They worked with the campus dining hall to design a meal program for her. Our counselors were also able to provide much needed emotional support. The most important thing was that Anne felt supported and safe so that she could focus on her studies. "I was hungry, felt very lonely and stressed out," she said. "I'm so grateful."



Food that was delivered to Anne
by Project Youth OCBF

Anne was one of many of our Project Youth OCBF youth in need. One of our board members who helped support Anne summed up the experience perfectly. "I like to think that we are doing what we would have done for our own kids. When we help our Higher Education Mentoring students realize their college dreams, our work does not end. It is as important, or perhaps even more important, that we do what we can to help them succeed in college. That is all that the Project Youth OCBF family has done here. We were in a position to help, so we did. And Anne has done a great job of helping herself as well. We'll continue to work in partnership with Anne to ensure that she has the tools and support to be successful in college and beyond."

1969

George A. Parker Law Library Foundation is established by the Orange County Bar Association (OCBA)



1981

Agency receives 501(c)3



1986

Agency changes name to Orange County Bar Foundation (OCBF)

1985

OCBF becomes independent non-profit and is no longer managed by OCBA



1976

Legal education programs are initiated

1979

Youth diversion services are offered

1995

Summer internships are provided at local law firms

Project Youth
OCBF

Empower Youth to Make Positive Choices

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