

CHANGE THE WORLD WITH A GIVING HEART



## **National Philanthropy Day®**

### **DISTINGUISHED VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISERS FOR 2017**

#### **American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter Fund Development Committee – nominated by American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter**

The **American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter** is celebrating their Centennial this year. The Board Fund Development Committee has gone beyond its fundraising commitments—opening their networks, hosting dinner parties and expanding outreach to highlight our mission. Committee members **Chris Carlton, Patti Fry, Camille McCormack, Larry Hebb** and **Terry Unter** spend their time volunteering at smoke alarm installations in at-risk neighborhoods, responding to home fires and lending a sense of hope to those affected by disasters both large and small. The committee goes above and beyond to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

#### **Ray and Liza Beshoff – nominated by Silicon Valley Children’s Fund**

**Ray and Liza Beshoff** believe that every child deserves the chance to live a healthy and happy life. To accomplish this, the Beshoffs leverage the generosity of others by hosting the ***Beshoff’s Annual Golf Tournament***. In 2016, they raised and matched over \$100,000 at the tournament and live auction, totaling over \$200,000 that was designated to support foster youth programs. What makes the Beshoffs extraordinary supporters is their willingness to try to understand the greatest challenges facing foster youth, their support of existing solutions and their work to develop new meaningful solutions.

#### **Paula Collins – nominated by Palo Alto Family YMCA**

**Paula Collins** exemplifies the qualities of a distinguished volunteer fundraiser. For 21 years, Paula has volunteered with the **Palo Alto Family YMCA’s *Annual Giving Campaign*** and served as a member of the Board of Managers. As a Y campaigner, Paula has raised over \$30,000, shared countless stories of impact and provided leadership as a team captain and campaign chair. In addition, Paula serves as the Diversity and Inclusion Champion for the Y. Her focus on creating a warm, welcoming community for all has led to her receiving the YMCA Andrew Carpendale Award in 2003 and the YMCA Red Triangle Distinguished Service Award in 2005.



**Keith Crow** – nominated by **Central YMCA**

Volunteers like **Keith Crow** do not come around very often. He is a true leader, an inspiration for the **Central YMCA** Board of Managers and the Y staff team. His commitment to the Y's mission has made him one of the Board of Manager's top leaders and fundraisers in the Annual Campaign. Because of his humble ability to "tell the Y story," he has secured a sizable recurring gift that has greatly benefitted the Y's summer learning loss-prevention program. The **Central YMCA** greatly appreciates Keith's belief in the cause and his willingness to engage and participate in efforts to build a stronger community.

**Andrew A. Cresci** – nominated by **Sequoia Hospital Foundation**

**Andrew Cresci's** decades-long relationship with **Sequoia Hospital** began with the birth of his daughter. During his tenure, Andy has witnessed the growth of the **Sequoia Hospital Foundation** from inception to a multi-million dollar development office, often with his active involvement and that of his late wife who previously served on the Foundation's Board. Andy has served with dedication on event and strategic funding campaign committees, including work on behalf of Sequoia's first linear accelerator and the construction of the new patient pavilion. In 2015, Andy was elected to serve on the Foundation's Board of Directors where he chairs the audit committee.

**Dr. Thomas M. Dailey** – nominated by **Breathe California of the Bay Area**

**Dr. Thomas M. Dailey** has served on the Board of Directors of **Breathe California Bay Area** since 1992 and spent the past 25 years combating lung disease. An avid cyclist, he rode his bicycle cross-country for a fundraising event in 1998. As Chief of Pulmonary Medicine at Kaiser-Permanente Santa Clara, Dr. Dailey has led a team of his emphysema/COPD patients—known as the "Wheezeless Walkers"—in the annual **Breath of Life Walk** for the past 15 years. An asthmatic himself, he seeks to demonstrate that lung conditions can be managed and that everyone with breathing conditions can benefit from exercise.

***Dave Severns Memorial Golf Tournament*** – nominated by **Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties**

The ***Dave Severns Memorial Golf Tournament*** was launched by family and friends in memory of **Dave Severns** to continue his passion to alleviate hunger in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties through support of **Second Harvest Food Bank**. This tournament has raised over \$118,000 over the past six years providing 236,929 meals to neighbors in need. In a short span of time, this small but mighty all-volunteer force has crossed the \$100,000 mark in donations to **Second Harvest** and has distinguished itself as one of the top community groups fundraising on behalf of **Second Harvest Food Bank**.



**Doris Davis** – nominated by **Addison-Penzak Jewish Community Center of Silicon Valley**

Until 2013, **Doris Davis** was a member of the **Addison-Penzak Jewish Community Center of Silicon Valley (APJCC)** Board where she served for over 20 years. She still continues to be one of **APJCC**'s top five fundraisers. Doris is a major supporter who brings the arts to the **JCC** and is a role model leading by example. Doris was a major gift solicitor and one of the first to make a gift for the \$25 million capital campaign to build the **Levy Family Campus**. She and her husband continue to support several other causes including **Silicon Valley FACES**, **Symphony Silicon Valley** and **San Jose Opera**.

**Thé Hoang** – nominated by **Catholic Charities**

**Thé Hoang** worked tirelessly to build a bridge between **Catholic Charities** and the Vietnamese community in Santa Clara County. His commitment has inspired many to increase support for **Catholic Charities**' work to reduce poverty. Over the past six years, **Thé Hoang** has had a leadership role in **Catholic Charities**' largest fundraiser, the **Catholic Charities Annual Appeal** that raises over \$700,000 every year. It requires recruiting hundreds of volunteers who will speak on behalf of **Catholic Charities** at 52 parishes on a single weekend in May. **Catholic Charities** is blessed to have such a hard-working and inspirational leader within its community of supporters.

**Diane James** – nominated by **Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence**

**Diane James**—director of **Orchard City Community Chorus** and former director of the **San Jose Peace Chorale**—organized and presented a fundraising choral event in 2011. **For Love** benefits **Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence (NDS)**. Diane continues to present this event seven years later. The event has raised nearly \$21,000 for **NDS**. Diane also volunteers by serving on **NDS**'s Speakers Bureau making presentations and staffing information tables at community events, including **NDS**'s annual **Light Up the Night** event. **Next Door Solutions** is deeply grateful for Diane's dedication in supporting **NDS**'s mission of ending domestic violence.

**Mark Johnsen** – nominated by **YMCA of Silicon Valley**

**Mark T. Johnsen** has volunteered with the **YMCA of Silicon Valley** for two decades, currently serving on the **Y**'s Board of Directors and as Project Cornerstone Board Chair. As Project Cornerstone's Chair, Mark has strategized program expansion and secured \$42,500 in corporate sponsorships. As **Lewis and Joan Platt East Palo Alto Family YMCA** Capital Campaign's Major Gifts Chair, he helped raise \$17 million to build the **Y** facility, opened in 2007. As CEO of **Wealth Architects**, Mark graciously shares his time and talents with the **YMCA**, **MVLA Challenge Team** and **Children Now**'s Board of Directors to help democratize opportunities for our youth.



**Anita Krishnan** – nominated by **Fremont Union High Schools Foundation**

**Anita Krishnan** has served on the board of the **Fremont Union High Schools Foundation** since 2014. She has a knack for leadership and determination to raise funds for Fremont Union students. As the chair of the Foundation's annual fundraiser, Anita oversaw each of the event sub-committees, including: silent auction, logistics, food service, student volunteers, adult volunteers and ticket sales. Under her leadership she helped raise more than \$85,000, exceeding the revenue goal in year two of her chairmanship. All funds raised provide educational and co-curricular program support for students in the **Fremont Union High School District**, which serves more than 10,000 students across Cupertino, Sunnyvale, parts of San Jose, Saratoga and Los Altos.

**Seema Kumar** – nominated by **West Valley Community Services**

**Seema Kumar** joined the **West Valley Community Services (WVCS)** Board of Directors in 2015. In 2016, Seema assumed the role of External Committee Chair, with primary oversight of fundraising and marketing activities. The cornerstone of **WVCS's** fundraising plan is ***Chefs of Compassion: Cooking for a Cause***, an annual event where local chefs create dishes inspired by food found in the agency's food pantry. Under Seema's leadership, the event doubled its gross revenue in one year, to more than \$160,000, providing critical funds to support low-income and homeless individuals and families living in the West Valley.

**Ladies of Charity (President Terrie Woods)** – nominated by **Sacred Heart Nativity Schools**

Established in 1931, **Ladies of Charity**, an all-volunteer auxiliary organization, serves "the needy" in our Valley. For 84 years, they raised funds for **St. Elizabeth's Day Home**, the first child care center of its kind in San Jose, which provided early childhood education for low-income families. Since the 2015 closure of **St. Elizabeth's**, **Ladies of Charity** elected to "help break the cycle of poverty through education" at **Sacred Heart Nativity Schools (SHNS)** serving low-income Latino students in the Washington/Gardner neighborhood of San Jose. Through a variety of fundraising activities **Ladies of Charity** has donated over \$83,000 to **SHNS** to date.

**Rozalyn Mendence** – nominated by **Valley Medical Center Foundation**

**Rozalyn Mendence** was inspired by the life-saving care provided every day in **Valley Medical Center's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)**. She learned that the **VMC Foundation** was raising funds to replace the aging Giraffe Bed isolettes that house premature newborns during their first weeks of life in the NICU. Roz coordinated a ***Lobster Feed*** fundraising event with the goal of purchasing one piece of



equipment for \$40,000. She was so successful at raising funds for the project that—with over \$100,000 in donations—they were able to purchase *two* Giraffe Beds to house VMC’s fragile premature newborns.

**Steve Montoya – nominated by Athena Academy**

**Steve Montoya** is deeply involved in giving back to the community. His past service includes **Big Brothers Big Sisters, Child Advocates of Santa Clara Valley, The Community Foundation of Silicon Valley, SV2 at Silicon Valley Community Foundation** and as Trustee of the **UC Davis Foundation**. Steve is currently a key member of **Athena Academy’s** Board of Trustees and an outstanding fundraiser and donor. Under his leadership this “startup school” now has a culture of philanthropy. To the dyslexic children enrolled at the school, Steve is a donor, a board leader, a fearless fundraiser, a joy and an inspiration.

**Priyanka Rana and Simran Thandani – nominated by El Camino Hospital Foundation**

This year, **El Camino Hospital Foundation** and the **South Asian Heart Center** decided to completely reinvent the annual fundraising gala with donors Priyanka Rana and Simran Thandani leading the charge. With the help of an energetic gala committee, they created an exclusive **Scarlet Masquerade Ball** at **The Mountain Winery** in Saratoga. Inspired by the Center’s mission to cure the epidemics of heart disease and diabetes that disproportionately impact South Asians in the Bay Area, 304 attendees enthusiastically bid on auction items and raised paddles for the fund-in-need appeal. The event raised more than \$304,450, the most ever since the gala began nine years ago.

**Leah Verhoeven – nominated by YMCA of Silicon Valley, Project Cornerstone**

**Leah** has passion and commitment to ensure that all youth in our community have access to role models, experiences and opportunities they need to succeed and thrive. Leah’s consistent leadership of the **Asset Champions Breakfast** has made this event one of the best in our community, and it sold out this year with over 1,250 attendees. Additionally, Leah joined the **Project Cornerstone** Steering Committee in 2003, and she continued to be a member when it became the **YMCA Project Cornerstone** Board Committee. **Project Cornerstone** launched an Annual Giving Campaign in 2015, and Leah’s leadership efforts contributed to the campaign exceeding its goal each year.

**Hung Wei – nominated by Northwest YMCA**

**Hung Wei** was instrumental in helping the **Northwest YMCA** in meeting their annual campaign goal, a goal that wouldn’t have been achieved without her leadership. Hung raised over \$15,000 this year and supported their new Executive Director in re-connecting with the community, including some former



board members. In addition to raising needed funds, she secured support from four former board members who collectively raised over \$17,000. Through her leadership, she has reignited the spirit of the **Northwest YMCA** Board and the organization.

**Carol Zimring** – nominated by **JW House**

**Carol** is a cherished **JW House** Ambassador who has brought dozens of people to tour the facility with many becoming involved to support the mission. Carol's hundreds of personal business contacts have led to over \$100,000 in in-kind items that she acquired, including a solar project and items for our raffles and silent auctions. As a board member, Carol has also solicited tens of thousands of dollars in donations for **JW House**. Her extraordinary efforts have brought more awareness and support of **JW House's** mission of keeping families together during medical crises.