

Grateful Journeys

GRATITUDE IN ACTION

Volume I



Juan De La Cruz, MA

President - Charitable Foundation

Juan was born and raised in Boyle Heights and holds Adventist Health White Memorial in the highest regard. His youngest son was born at White Memorial, and he is determined to work with the medical center to further health care access and the quality of care.

Juan holds a Bachelor of Arts from University of California, Los Angeles and a Master of Arts in Education from Whittier College.

Feel free to reach out to Juan directly at delacrjc01@ah.org or 323-260-5739, ext. 2.

[Click here and Donate to White Memorial Charitable Foundation](#)

Letter from the Foundation President

Dear friends,

The new year provides a spirit of renewal that encourages us to reinvest in the mission of causes we care about. It is also a time of reflection and has enabled me to reflect on my first full year of service at White Memorial. It is an honor to be connected to the community that supports the mission at White Memorial.

I have greatly enjoyed partnering with the Foundation Board of Directors, collaborating with community partners, developing meaningful strategies with the medical center's Executive Leadership Team, forging relationships with physicians, nurses, and caregivers, while utilizing philanthropy as a tool to further healthcare access, and increasing the quality of care in Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles.

In 2022, the Foundation raised \$11,386,583 to strengthen meaningful programs at services at White Memorial. Highlights included but were not limited to:

- The Oscar De La Hoya Foundation's \$1M donation in support of the Cecilia Gonzalez De La Hoya Cancer Center that will enable us to increase cancer services.
- Collaborating with Congressman Jimmy Gomez, California's 34th Congressional District, Senator Alex Padilla, and Senator Diane Feinstein to secure a \$3M Community Benefit Earmark that will expand diagnostic treatment and operating room services.
- Expanding patient access to Behavioral Health Care with a priority area being Pediatric Mental Health Services.

Together, I am confident we can expand resources at White Memorial that further quality of life of our community. If you would like to learn more about our mission, and consider opportunities to engage with the Foundation, please feel free to reach out to me or my team. I wish you good health, peace, and prosperity in the new year,

Warmly,



Juan De La Cruz, MA



White Memorial
Charitable Foundation

Because of You...



Board Member Spotlight
Ruben Maciel
White Memorial Charitable Foundation

Ruben Maciel, President of The SL Group and current Adventist Health White Memorial Charitable Foundation (AHWMCF) Board of Directors Vice Chair, will assume the Chairmanship in June 2023. Ruben joined the Board of Directors in 2016 and has served the East LA and Boyle Heights communities with tremendous passion, empathy, and leadership. ([Click here to learn more](#)).

Stories of Philanthropic Impact:
Oscar De La Hoya Donates \$1M to the
Cecilia Gonzalez De La Hoya Cancer Center

We are thrilled to share our longtime supporter and boxing superstar, Oscar De La Hoya, has generously donated \$1M to significantly expand our cancer services to patients in the East Los Angeles and Boyle Heights communities.

To commemorate the occasion, the Cecilia Gonzalez De La Hoya Cancer Center at Adventist Health White Memorial partnered with Chaveltya’s Pink Hood to provide beautiful makeovers to breast cancer patients and survivors. ([Click here to learn more](#)).



Grateful Patient Stories:
Furthering Healthcare Access and
Enhancing the Quality of Care



Patricia Rogers, 66, lives in Laguna Niguel in Orange County. She’s a successful resort and spa specialty sales representative. She’s a wife, a mother to three daughters, and a grandmother to three grandchildren. She’s fiercely independent, confident, and doesn’t like to complain. To call her busy is an understatement. So, it makes sense that when she developed chronic shoulder pain, she powered through the discomfort.

In time, however, the pain was too much and Patricia was forced to seek medical help. She worked for Adidas and Nordstrom’s when she was younger, and would routinely lift bags that weighed up to 50 pounds. This left her shoulder overworked and completely strained as an older adult. Her arthritis didn’t help either. ([Click here to learn more](#)).



Because of You...



2023 Fundraising Events Spring Golf Tournament and Fall Gala

The Adventist Health White Memorial Charitable Foundation's Fundraising Events are comprised of a Spring Golf Tournament and Fall Gala. In 2022, the Golf Tournament was held at Friendly Hills Golf Course in Whittier. The event was a smashing success! It sold out with more than 144 supporters participating. Proceeds from the event supported Operating Room Expansion at White Memorial. Our capacity to respond to the surgical needs of patients were strained prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the pandemic exacerbated this essential need. ([Click here to learn more](#)).

Caring Under Pressure: A Nurse's Journey Nora Fabrigar, RN, Behavioral Health

Working in the behavioral health unit of a hospital can be one of the most demanding and rewarding experiences for a nurse. It takes a special kind of nurse to effectively, care for, and support the individuals who come through the unit's doors. At Adventist Health White Memorial, one such nurse is Nora Fabrigar, a veteran in the behavioral health unit who has been helping those in need for nearly 20 years.

Working with a diverse group of patients, Nora faces a unique set of daily challenges—from calming a panicking patient to creating a nurturing and calm environment for them to relax. ([Click here to learn more](#)).



Community Health Fair Photo Gallery

AHWM Mission and Spiritual Care partnered with White Memorial Church to provide free critical health services to over 100 Boyle Heights community members. Other teams from our hospital participated as well including our Cancer Center, Diabetes Program, Welcome Baby Program, and TELACU scholars. Additionally, 13 local vendors joined the event to help us provide even more resources. A total of 75 volunteers from AHWM and White Memorial Church came together to help our community and provide essential services they need to stay healthy.

Community attendees had the opportunity to access resources that can benefit their health from head to toe. Some of the services offered included vital signs, body composition, lipid panel and blood glucose screening, and health education. ([Please click here to learn more and review photos from the event](#)).