



# ORANGE COUNTY VISIONARIES

BEACH CITIES COMMERCIAL  
BANK'S JEFFREY REDEKER

BIG INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION,  
SMALL BUSINESS, ENERGY

FASTEST-GROWING  
PUBLIC COMPANIES IN OC

2024 OC VISIONARIES

## EDUCATION AND NONPROFIT



**Bonni POMUSH**

Chief Executive Officer  
Working Wardrobes

**B**onni Pomush, the chief executive officer of Working Wardrobes, has brought transformative leadership to the organization since stepping into the role. Under her guidance, Working Wardrobes has enhanced its operational effectiveness, earning accolades such as a spot on the Orange County Business Journal's "Best Places to Work" for 2024 and being named Best Charitable Organization by the Orange County Register. Pomush's approach focuses on empowering clients with job skills and confidence, not just clothing. Last year, the organization served a record 5,579 individuals. With over 25 years in government and nonprofit leadership, her data-driven approach has achieved significant fundraising successes and improved organizational performance. She was named the "Most Influential Person of 2023" by the Orange County Register and a "Kickass Woman" by Orange Coast Magazine.

### Maricela RIOS-FAUST

Chief Executive Officer | Human Options

**M**aricela Rios-Faust, CEO of Human Options since 2006, has transformed the organization into Orange County's leading domestic violence service provider, doubling its budget and expanding survivor access. Her notable achievements include securing \$1 million for Design Thinking to develop new support tools, leading a \$1-million fundraising campaign for housing and economic stability and initiating the HOME cohort to improve housing outcomes. Rios-Faust has expanded services to nine Family Resource Centers, enhanced healthcare training and partnered with local law enforcement to improve domestic violence response. Recognized as one of Orange County's Most Influential, she also serves on several boards and is the board president of the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, continuously strengthening Human Options' impact and services.



### Gregory C. SCOTT

President & CEO  
Community Action  
Partnership of Orange County



**G**regory C. Scott, president & CEO of Community Action Partnership of Orange County (CAP OC), brings a unique perspective from his own experiences growing up in poverty. Over his six years at the helm, he has led CAP OC through significant challenges, including the pandemic's impact on the county's economy and an ongoing housing crisis. Scott's leadership has been crucial in expanding CAP OC's services, which now support over three million people across 34 cities. Under his guidance, CAP OC has made substantial strides in addressing food insecurity, providing essential resources like the OC Food Bank and OC Diaper Bank as well as disbursing over \$1 million in rental assistance. Scott's work ensures that vulnerable populations receive comprehensive support, from housing and healthcare to education and workforce development.

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### Sona SHAH

CEO & Founder  
My Private  
Professor, LLC



**S**ona Shah, founder of My Private Professor (MPP), transformed her expertise in business litigation into a philanthropic endeavor dedicated to enhancing educational access. MPP provides high-quality tutoring to students from all backgrounds, ensuring equitable support. Beyond individual tutoring, the company partners with employers to offer free and discounted services to employees' families and collaborates with nonprofits to provide tutoring to students experiencing homelessness. Since 2023, MPP has sponsored over 680 hours of tutoring for these students. Shah's dedication extends to her roles as president of the Tustin Public Schools Foundation, board member of Orangewood Foundation and founder of Inspire Philanthropy Foundation. Her philanthropic efforts, including the "Inspired Teacher Grants" and the "Lifelong Learners Fund," have earned her numerous accolades, including Ernst and Young's Entrepreneur of the Year Nominee.



### Angie ROWE

President & CEO  
Beyond Blindness

**A**ngie Rowe, president and CEO of Beyond Blindness, has driven significant growth and impact since joining the organization nearly five years ago. Under her leadership, Beyond Blindness has experienced record-breaking milestones, including a complete rebranding, the expansion of its board and the launch of innovative programs. Rowe's strategic vision includes a \$1-million expansion of the Low Vision Optometry Clinic, the creation of a new training program for Teachers of the Visually Impaired and the implementation of a five-year plan to reach 2,680 children and families by 2027. Her commitment to advocacy extends beyond Beyond Blindness, as she serves on multiple boards, including the California Association of Private Special Education Schools and First 5 Orange County.

**I**n 2024, Lucy Santana celebrated 25 years as CEO of Girls Inc. of Orange County (GIOC), where her visionary leadership significantly expanded the organization's impact. Under her guidance, GIOC grew from serving 1,500 girls in 2001 to 9,000 in 2024, increasing services by nearly 15%. Santana has secured substantial funding and built key partnerships with major companies to support transformative programs in education, career readiness and personal development. Notably, she co-created Project Accelerate, which aims to boost the presence of women of color in leadership roles and has doubled its participation in its second year. Santana's efforts have also led to expanded programs like Girls Meet the Workforce and College Bound, and she has been a powerful advocate for women's and girls' issues.

### Lucy SANTANA

Chief Executive Officer  
Girls Inc. of Orange County



**F**ounder & CEO of the Crime Survivors Resource Center, Patricia Wenskunas is a survivor of an attempted murder in 2002 and was able to transform her trauma into a powerful force for victims of violent crime. Recognized as an expert, she is frequently invited to speak to law enforcement about crime and victim issues and is a leading advocate for victims' rights, including education on Marsy's Law, a California constitutional amendment. Under Wenskunas' leadership, Crime Survivors has significantly expanded its services, offering direct assistance, referrals and resources to victims, particularly children, women and minorities. Her recent focus has been on enhancing victim rights advocacy amidst evolving legal protections for criminals, leading to substantial growth and increased impact on the organization.



### Patricia WENSKUNAS

Founder & CEO  
Crime Survivors Resource Center

### Debora WONDERCHECK

Founder & CEO | Arts & Learning Conservatory



**I**n 2004, Debora Wondercheck founded the Arts & Learning Conservatory (ALC), an award-winning nonprofit that provides equitable performing arts education to students of all ages and backgrounds. Her personal journey began when her mother fled an abusive relationship, taking only their instruments. The comfort Wondercheck found in the arts during this challenging time fueled her passion to offer similar opportunities to all youth. In 2022, she was honored as Alumni of the Year by Vanguard University, Woman of the Year by Costa Mesa, Woman of Distinction by the California Legislature Assembly and appointed Commissioner of the Arts for Costa Mesa. Her achievements include producing county-wide performances, like "Gospel Voices of OC" and "Music of the March," and the creation of a new theater that opened in August.