

# GIVING MATTERS

SPRING 2021



Providence  
Little Company of Mary  
Foundation



## THE HEART OF HONDA

Steve Morikawa, corporate philanthropist and community leader, recently retired from his role at American Honda

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A Look Back at a Partnership  
Nurtured for 40+ Years





Rich Severa,  
Chair, Foundation Board of Trustees



Kurt Hinrichsen,  
Chief Philanthropy Officer

## To Our Cherished Benefactors:

With pride and gratitude, we introduce you to our new Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation magazine, *Giving Matters*. We are excited to share news and stories that showcase the impact of your philanthropy as we thank you for your support of the life-saving work taking place within Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers in San Pedro and Torrance.

To say that 2020 was a year like no other would be an understatement. As the COVID-19 global pandemic presented unprecedented challenges, the Providence Little Company of Mary family remained steadfast in helping bring moments of great hope and inspiration to our community as we cared for our families and neighbors.

We also stand humble, yet proud of our many accomplishments as a foundation. With support from thousands of benefactors like you, we surpassed our annual fundraising goal, raising over \$16 million in philanthropic support for the benefit of our medical centers.

Thanks to the generosity of friends like you, we committed up to \$5 million to implement a comprehensive COVID-19 emergency response plan. Negative pressure rooms were created to safely and effectively treat our most critically ill COVID patients. Foundation funds were also used to purchase personal protective equipment for our frontline caregivers.

We also hosted our very first virtual Gala honoring our Caregiver Superheroes, which raised over \$450,000 to support medical center priorities, and celebrated the 60th Diamond Jubilee Anniversary of Providence Little Company of Mary, Torrance.

We have never been more optimistic for the promise of the future and our ability to continue to ensure that Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers remain at the forefront of innovation and our signature compassionate patient care.

Thank you for your tangible vote of confidence in our mission and for being valued partners in our life-saving work. We hope you enjoy this inaugural issue of *Giving Matters* and take pride in what your charitable investments have helped make possible.

**Rich Severa**  
Chair, Foundation Board of Trustees

**Kurt Hinrichsen**  
Chief Philanthropy Officer



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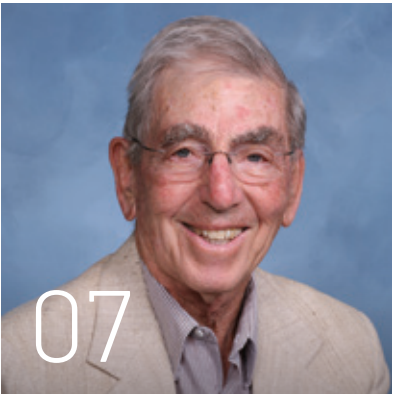
**COVER STORY**  
Steve Morikawa and  
American Honda



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**BOARD SPOTLIGHT**  
New board member Dave McIntyre





American Honda associates who have relied on care from Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers

## STEVE MORIKAWA AND AMERICAN HONDA

Partnership continues as longtime corporate philanthropist and community leader retires

Since the early 1980s, the American Honda Motor Co., Inc. has maintained a long and vibrant tradition of supporting Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers. Along the way, those efforts have been led by Stephan (Steve) Morikawa, who retired last summer from his role as the company's vice president of corporate relations and social responsibility.

Over more than four decades with American Honda, Steve has nurtured the company's community gift and regional contribution

programs while also reorganizing the associate volunteer program.

American Honda has demonstrated deep commitment to the vitality of our community in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to producing vast quantities of hand sanitizer, PPE items and ventilator components, American Honda has pledged \$1 million to address the immediate needs of our medical centers.

"We never just wanted to make a donation," says Steve, who serves on the Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation Board of Trustees. "We always wanted to make it where our company and our associates have a relationship with health care systems and other worthy causes. It's not just about the amount of support, but the relationship we build and foster with the medical centers."

Under Steve's leadership, Honda has continued to support the medical centers in a variety of ways, including a \$1 million gift that contributed to the successful completion of the *Heart to Heart* campaign and to the creation of the Del Vicario Cardiovascular Center of Excellence.

Honda's generous support guaranteed Providence Little Company of Mary's ability to offer the most comprehensive, state-of-the art cardiovascular care including a new electrophysiology lab, upgraded cardiac cath labs and the transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) program.

"Honda's leadership gift to the *Heart to Heart* campaign strengthened our community by enabling our medical center to provide the best cardiovascular care — right here in the South Bay — and eliminating the need to travel out of the community for quality care," says Providence Little Company of Mary chief executive Garry Olney.

Over the years, the partnership between Honda and our medical center has continued to grow. The corporation received the medical centers' Corporate Leadership Award for their long history of supporting the health and well-being of the South Bay community. In honor of the corporation's exceptional philanthropic support, Providence Little Company of Mary renamed its cafeteria the Honda Café in 2015.

"The medical center reaches out to the entire community and welcomes everyone, and their services address the needs of every person in the South Bay," says Steve. "We want to anticipate what our community will need and prepare for it today. We want to ensure that Providence Little Company of Mary remains at the forefront — just as they always have been."



“

It's not just about the amount of support, but the relationship we build and foster with the medical centers.

— Steve Morikawa

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## COMPASSION & EXPERTISE INSPIRE NEW DONORS

Steve and Amy Hogan's lives followed parallel paths. He was born in Tokyo and moved to Palos Verdes when he was two. Amy moved to the area from Chicago with her family when she was two. Steve got his undergraduate and graduate degrees from USC; Amy did the same at UCLA. They met later in life, were married and chose to stay in the South Bay area they both love.

These days Steve is with a private equity firm where he has worked for 25 years and Amy is an active community volunteer and has led several charitable organizations. They have five children, two dogs, and are deeply invested in the community.

"My parents' view on philanthropy really shaped mine, and it has affected both Steve and me," Amy shares. Her father, Jim Staes, has been involved with Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation since 1996 and was on the Foundation Board from 1996 until 2003. Her mom, Diane Staes, worked in the spiritual care department.

It was January 2019, however, that caused Steve and Amy to really think about the hospital and the central part it plays in the community. That month, Amy's mother had shoulder replacement surgery, her father ended up having an unexpected surgery, and most worrisome of all, Amy needed an emergency appendectomy.

"Amy woke me up at 5:30 am and said 'I've got some really bad pain. I think I need to go to the emergency room.'" They rushed to the Emergency Department at Providence Little

Company of Mary, Torrance. "Everyone there was very helpful trying to figure out exactly what it was," Steve recalls. The staff quickly pinpointed the issue and Lori Nolan, a nurse and current Foundation staff member, eased his mind by explaining that it was a routine surgery. "She gave me peace of mind and was matter-of-fact with me and Amy's parents. She was amazing."

Amy remembers the day after her appendectomy when a volunteer from the spiritual team came to visit and offered her communion. "I couldn't eat at that point. She was so kind and asked, 'would you like to pray together instead?' Being Catholic, that spiritual aspect at the hospital is very comforting."

These experiences had a big impact on Steve and Amy. "When we were looking at where we want to donate, we thought about that a lot." They spoke with Lori about needs within the Emergency Department and decided to make a gift. "The experience you'll have at the hospital is not only due to these wonderful doctors, nurses and staff, but also the fact that community members were willing to take their charitable dollars and put them at the hospital so things can be improved with new equipment, new facilities and expansions," said Amy. The Hogans' gift will support Emergency Department enhancements in Torrance. For information on supporting the Emergency Department or other programs within the medical center, contact Paul Millman, senior director of development, at 310-648-1206 or [Paul.Millman@providence.org](mailto:Paul.Millman@providence.org).

“

My parents' view on philanthropy really shaped mine, and it has affected both Steve and me.

— Amy Hogan

”



# YOUR IMPACT

Through your generosity, **\$16,435,669** was raised in 2020 to enhance patient care at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers, resulting from nearly 21,000 gifts.



I am grateful for the outpouring of community support received during the COVID-19 pandemic. Friends and neighbors responded generously to support our caregivers and help us respond to an unprecedented need for our compassionate care. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.



— Garry Olney, Chief Executive  
Providence Little Company of Mary  
Medical Centers

## \$5,000,000



### COVID-19 Support: Emergency Response & Preparedness

Renovated units to accommodate patient overflow by creating negative pressure rooms, acquiring additional patient beds and Mobile CT Scanners and hiring additional intensivists who specialize in caring for Intensive Care Unit patients – all needed to treat patients safely and effectively.

### COVID-19 Support: Caregiver Wellness

Provided 213,700 masks, 3,269 face shields, 925 pairs of goggles, 31,000 pairs of gloves and hundreds of sanitizers for our heroic caregivers on the front lines.



## \$749,817

### Kinevo 900 Robotic Visualization System

Purchased this state-of-the-art system that combines optical and digital visualization modalities, including QEVO, a unique microinspection tool, with surgeon-controlled robotics, delivering precise positioning.



## \$604,586

### Cardiovascular Equipment

Acquired the Cardiohelp System, essential for patients in need of respiratory/circulatory support, and upgraded two echocardiography machines that capture advanced images of the heart, shown to improve detection rates of heart disease.



## \$42,900

### NICView 2 Cameras

Purchased state-of-the-art cameras with 24/7 video streaming to help families feel more connected to their babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.



# DR. SAMUEL WIRTSCHAFTER

## Beloved gastroenterologist leaves legacy to benefit medical center for generations

Though he left this world in May of 2020, Dr. Samuel Wirtschafter established a profound legacy at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center, San Pedro that lives on to this day. Known to his friends and family as Sam, he was a beloved presence at San Pedro's sole hospital, where he took an active role in building it into a world-class medical center.

Dr. Wirtschafter's love of learning and genuine care for the people in his community informed the remarkable effect he had on our medical center over the years. Through a generous estate gift that is now benefiting the medical center, Dr. Wirtschafter has ensured that the impact he had over more than four decades of caregiving will carry on well into the future.

Dr. Wirtschafter received his MD from USC in 1957 (graduating second in his class), and also received his PhD from the UCLA Department of Biology while in medical school. He was in his final year of medical school when he met his lifelong friend and colleague Dr. Milford Wyman.

Dr. Wyman opened the first cardiology/internal medicine practice in San Pedro in 1959. When Dr. Wirtschafter completed a fellowship in gastroenterology in 1961, Dr. Wyman invited him to join as a partner in the practice. Both of them were immediately affiliated with what was then San Pedro Peninsula Hospital, and became a driving force in the hospital's growth and evolution for decades to come.

Dr. Wirtschafter founded the hospital's gastroenterology program. He was involved in



major administrative decisions for the hospital as the head of the Gastroenterology Department, the chief of the department of Internal Medicine and eventually as a member of the hospital's board of directors.

Dr. Wirtschafter was a pioneer in finding minimally invasive ways to treat patients. With the establishment of the Outpatient Surgery Department, he introduced the San Pedro community to the performance of outpatient colonoscopies and gastroendoscopies, taking biopsies as needed to detect early signs of cancer.

Throughout all of his postings and initiatives to elevate care at the hospital, Dr. Wirtschafter remained committed to treating a large community of patients, often devoting attention to them for years at a time. "He took very close and personal care of his patients," said his colleague Dr. Phyllis Monroe, who met Dr. Wirtschafter in 1976. "He had a great reputation for being funny, wise and gentle."

In addition to his work as a physician and hospital administrator, Dr. Wirtschafter was also a devoted educator. He taught medicine at USC from 1961 until his retirement, eventually becoming a full professor with a specialty in gastroenterology. Dr. Wirtschafter would frequently have medical students and young doctors from USC shadow him in his San Pedro practice for months at

a time, helping them gain hands-on experience for full exposure to the nuances of the emerging gastroenterology field. He also served on several medical boards, volunteered at the Long Beach Free Clinic and worked with students from the South Central Scholars program.

In his free time, Dr. Wirtschafter loved to fish and was deeply interested in oceanography and marine biology. He even volunteered at the Marineland Aquarium, where he applied his knowledge of medicine and biology to seals, dolphins and whales — including saving Bubbles the whale by using a modified endoscope to remove a towel from her stomach that she swallowed.

Knowing his love of community, his friends Dr. Richard Ellis and USC professor Bill McClure joined with Dr. Wyman in forming a weekly Thursday morning breakfast group. They and others would meet for a lengthy morning meal and spirited conversation about life in medicine. "Sam loved to get together and discuss anything under the sun, within and beyond medicine," said Dr. Monroe. "It was a real marker of his intellectual curiosity, and the deep care and interest he had for the people in his life."

After his first wife passed away, he was able to enjoy many happy years with his second wife, Margo Miller. He passed away on May 26, 2020. He is survived by his son, David, David's wife Dominique, and their twin daughters, Kauri and Ryan.

To ensure that his legacy endured, Dr. Wirtschafter worked with gift advisors at Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation to establish a significant gift that would benefit the hospital after his passing, in the form of proceeds directed out of his individual retirement account (IRA).

"He was really thoughtful about how he wanted to support the medical center and handle his estate plans in a strategic way," said Joe Ward, executive director of planned giving for the Foundation.

As his friend and colleague Dr. Phyllis Monroe notes, "Sam's legacy is a hospital and physicians who are deeply engaged in their community and devoted to elevating their practice."

## An impact for the future

Retirement assets offer a tax-savvy way of creating a meaningful legacy. Distributions from retirement plans can be subject to income tax, estate taxes and fees when left to an individual other than a spouse.

When Dr. Wirtschafter designated Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation as a beneficiary of a portion of his retirement plan, 100 percent of the balance was received tax-free and available to support the highest priorities of the San Pedro medical center.

Like Dr. Samuel Wirtschafter, you can have an impact that extends far into the future. Joe Ward and his colleagues are always ready to provide guidance for completing this process, including how to specify the exact use of your gift for the department or program of your choice.

## To establish this type of gift:

- 1 Contact your plan administrator to obtain a beneficiary designation form.
- 2 Name Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation as beneficiary, or contingent beneficiary.

**For more information, contact Joe Ward, executive director of planned giving, at 310-793-8117 or via email at [Joseph.Ward@providence.org](mailto:Joseph.Ward@providence.org).**



## HOSPITAL NEWS



Event Sponsor and board member  
Steve and Mary Morikawa



Event Sponsor Priscilla Hunt, sitting by  
the fire with her daughter Brenda and pups



Kevin Lannigan  
is Buzz Lightyear

# CELEBRATING SUPERHEROES

Over \$450K was raised at our first-ever virtual Gala

On November 14, 2020, Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation hosted our first virtual Gala — Celebrating our Superhero Caregivers! Together, we raised more than \$450,000 to support Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Centers in San Pedro and Torrance. Headliner Justin Willman zoomed in straight from his Netflix hit show “Magic for Humans,” multi-talented Emergency Department physicians Will Conrad, MD, and Mike Tarnay, MD, served as Gala hosts, and all were inspired by the story of Manhattan Beach’s Chris Barra and his life-saving experience in our Emergency Department.

The Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation, Board of Trustees and community are so proud of the incredible dedication of our Superhero Caregivers who work bravely and compassionately to care for the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Special thanks to our many sponsors and supporters, including the American Honda Motor Company, Inc.; Little Company of Mary Sisters, USA Region; Driftwood Healthcare Center; the Jacqueline M. Glass Family; Rosalind F. Halikis & Family; Advanced Imaging of the South Bay, Inc.; Emergency Physicians of Providence Little Company of Mary, Torrance; the Donald and Priscilla Hunt Family; plus Tom and Mary Ann Jankovich.

To view the full list of sponsors, please visit our Foundation website: [plcmfoundation.org](http://plcmfoundation.org).

2021 PROVIDENCE LITTLE COMPANY OF MARY FOUNDATION

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

New board member Dave McIntyre



Dave McIntyre was born in the San Gabriel Valley and studied at California State University Los Angeles. His sales prowess and entrepreneurial spirit led him and a partner to acquire ToroAire in Long Beach. They’ve grown the business into one of the largest providers of commercial HVAC engineered products in the South Bay.

Nearing retirement, he sees his many blessings and realizes how important it is to pay it forward. “It’s my hope that my lifetime of executive experience helps the Foundation in some small way,” Dave said.





# GIVING MATTERS



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## SAVE THE DATE



**GOLF OUTING**  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021



**CELEBRATION GALA**  
NOVEMBER 13, 2021

For more information, please contact Emily Tann, special events manager,  
at [Emily.Tann@Providence.org](mailto:Emily.Tann@Providence.org) or call the Foundation office at 310-303-5340.