

# Grateful Journeys

GRATITUDE IN ACTION

Volume II



## Juan De La Cruz, M.Ed.

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](mailto: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 Adventist Health White Memorial Charitable Foundation Board of Directors represents the very best of our philanthropic mission to the community. Through their guidance, unwavering support, and commitment to our shared vision, we are able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

Our Annual Board of Directors Retreat on March 10th, 2023, was a resounding success. Hosted at the Surf and Sand Resort in Laguna Beach, we explored the theme of "The Board of the Future." We engaged in fruitful discussions on expanding our board in diverse sectors, such as entertainment, manufacturing, and information technology. This effort is a testament to our deep commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and our aspiration to bring fresh perspectives and innovative thinking to our board. We also shared inspiring experiences and fellowship and recommitted ourselves to advancing the mission of Adventist Health White Memorial.

With this in mind, we proudly introduce our four newest directors in this month's newsletter, who embody our values and beliefs. I invite you to read about Dr. A. Paul Kurkjian and Frank Robinson and the inspiration they received from their fathers to live a life of service. Please take a moment to envision Lauren Trenkle working tirelessly during the peak of COVID to ensure our most vulnerable community members always had access to testing. Feel the excitement as you accompany Sean King and his family on their Californian adventure. But above all, I hope you see and feel everyone's passion for Adventist Health White Memorial and our shared mission.

Adventist Health White Memorial Charitable Foundation is incredibly privileged to have such a passionate and committed group of individuals guiding and shaping our philanthropic initiatives. Their generosity and commitment to our mission drive our ability to expand our programs, provide critical resources to those in need, and continue to innovate and grow.

Please enjoy their stories and thank you for being a part of the Adventist Health White Memorial Charitable Foundation family.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JDC'.

Juan De La Cruz, M.Ed.



White Memorial  
Charitable Foundation

Because of You...



**Board Member Spotlight**  
**Frank Robinson**  
**White Memorial Charitable Foundation**

As a young man, Frank Robinson dreamed of a lofty career in private bank wealth management and investment services. He envisioned working with millionaires, cutting checks, and cashing his hefty bonuses. However, a powerful conversation with his father, Frank Robinson Sr., early in his banking career altered Robinson's life and career goals forever. ([Click here to learn more](#)).

**Board Member Spotlight**  
**Lauren Trenkle**  
**White Memorial Charitable Foundation**

To the uninformed eye, a mobile morgue unit appears quite unassuming. It looks like a truck trailer and usually has a plain white finish with a discreet logo. But upon opening the doors, the full weight of its purpose becomes apparent. Suddenly, it becomes a haunting and somber sight. ([Click here to learn more](#)).



**Board Member Spotlight**  
**A. Paul Kurkjian, MD**  
**White Memorial Charitable Foundation**

A. Paul Kurkjian, MD, or Dr. K, as he is known to his patients and his staff, is a man of many worlds. He is a child of Armenian heritage, grew up in Latino communities in Los Angeles, and attended the prestigious St. Francis High School in La Canada. When his classmates returned to school, from summer break they had stories of their European vacations, while he had stories of his summer job. ([Click here to learn more](#)).

**Board Member Spotlight**  
**Sean King**  
**White Memorial Charitable Foundation**

Sometimes the greatest adventure is the one you were scared to take. For Sean King, his wife Kaitlin, and three kids, Eamon (9), Emma (8), and Brendan (5), 2019 was their call to adventure. So far, it's been an incredible journey. King began his professional career with PepsiCo upon graduating from Loyola University, Maryland, in 2007, working on his way up to Senior Market Director in 2019. ([Click here to learn more](#)).

