

Grateful Journeys

GRATITUDE IN ACTION

Volume IV



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 or 323-260-5739, ext. 2.

Click here and
Donate to White
Memorial Charitable
Foundation

Letter from the Foundation President

We're thrilled to present our July edition of Grateful Journeys, brimming with inspiring stories and news of Adventist Health White Memorial's work in the community.

Caregiver Spotlight

Celebrating Cleft and Craniofacial Awareness and Prevention Month, we bring you the story of Irmina Flores, RN, BSN. Over the past 25 years, Irmina has illuminated our Cleft Palate Program, first as Nurse Coordinator and now as Supervisor. Her relentless passion and undying commitment have echoed through the corridors of our hospital, touching and transforming innumerable lives.

Philanthropic Partner Support

Our journey towards a healthier community wouldn't be possible without the generous support of our philanthropic partners.

- **An applause for Bank of America**, whose generous grant of \$70,000 will revolutionize our Workforce Development Program. This substantial contribution will introduce paid stipends for interns, further catalyzing their learning and engagement.
- **We are grateful to Walmart** for empowering our fight against food insecurity. Their donation of \$25,000 will amplify the outreach of our Community Resource Center's Prema Pantry Program, facilitating the expansion of goods offered to the community.

Adventist Health White Memorial Charitable Foundation Board of Directors Updates

We're honored to introduce the newest members of our Charitable Foundation board:

- Dr. Daniel H Kim, the esteemed Medical Director of the Cecilia Gonzalez De La Hoya Cancer Center
- Dr. Ciriaco "Cid" Pinedo, the dynamic President and CEO of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation.

Their diverse expertise and shared passion for community health herald an exciting era for our board and the broader community.

Final Thoughts

Let's congratulate Adventist Health White Memorial President John Raffoul for his recognition in the 2023 Los Angeles Business Journal LA500 List! This accolade is a testament to his exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication, embodying our mission in every stride.

As we chart the course for an even brighter future, we remain deeply grateful for your continued support. Your unwavering commitment helps us make Adventist Health White Memorial an extraordinary place for the people we serve.

With heartfelt appreciation,



Juan De La Cruz, M.Ed.

Adventist Health 

White Memorial
Charitable Foundation

Stories That Inspire



Caregiver Spotlight

Providing compassionate care for children with cleft lip and palate: Irmina Flores, RN, BSN

Irmina Flores joined our Cleft Palate Program 25 years ago, driven by a desire to help children and families. In doing so, she unknowingly found an extended family in those she set out to aid, illustrating the profound bonds that can form through dedicated service. ([Read about Irmina's relentless passion and undying commitment have echoed through the corridors of our hospital, touching and transforming innumerable lives.](#))

Philanthropic Partner Support

Bank of America grants \$70,000 to the Adventist Health White Memorial Workforce Development Program

Navigating an uneven economic landscape, East Los Angeles and Boyle Heights youths often grapple with choosing between immediate income and future careers. Bank of America's grant has now significantly simplified that choice. ([Read about how this generous grant will revolutionize our Workforce Development Program, catalyzing youth learning and engagement.](#))



BANK OF AMERICA

Walmart grants Community Resource Center's Prema Pantry Program \$25,000 to combat food insecurity

Amid rising food prices and limited access, food insecurity haunts many in East Los Angeles and Boyle Heights. Walmart's support for the Prema Pantry Program aims to alleviate these fears. ([Read how this grant will amplify the outreach of our Community Resource Center's Prema Pantry Program.](#))



Latest News

We're honored to introduce the newest members of our Charitable Foundation board

Inspired by the blend of science and human connection, Dr. Daniel H Kim, esteemed Medical Director of the Cecilia Gonzalez De La Hoya Cancer Center, has set his sights on transforming Adventist Health White Memorial into a community wellness hub in his new role as a board member. ([Read Dr. Kim's story here.](#))

Informed by his experience as a first-generation college graduate and son of Mexican immigrants, Dr. Ciriaco "Cid" Pinedo, the dynamic leader of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation, now lends his expertise to the board of directors. ([Read Cid's story here.](#))

Adventist Health White Memorial President John Raffoul recognized in the Los Angeles Business Journal LA500 List

Earning a spot on the LA500 list once is impressive, twice is unusual. John Raffoul has now earned this achievement for the fifth consecutive year. ([Read about John's prestigious recognition.](#))



White Memorial
Charitable Foundation