

MAY 30, 2022

www.ocbj.com

ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS JOURNAL 11



## PHILANTHROPY

By Kim Stemper | philanthropy@ocbj.com

### Up to the Challenge

► *Chris Simonsen, CEO, Orangewood Foundation; John Luker, CFO, Orangewood Foundation; Matt O'Malley, owner, SoCal Energy Partner; Patrick Yorkey, VP, senior relationship manager, Union Bank*



The Orangewood Foundation hosted **The Orangewood Challenge at Newport Dunes** on March 26 and raised more than \$337,000 to benefit the organization's educational service programs. The event featured a multi-sport team-based adventure course in which teams of four ran, navigated, and tackled challenges along a course.

The event was introduced in 2016 by Orangewood **Paul Tobin**, of counsel at **Buchalter** and vice chair, Orangewood Foundation, as a fundraiser to support Orange County youth. Tobin launched a similar event series in Australia in 2008 which continues to attract adventurous community leaders looking to compete for a good cause.

"I am inspired by the resilience and strength of Orangewood's youth, so each year I form my own personal team and take this challenge for them," Tobin said. "Not only did we exceed my personal team's fundraising goal this year, but together all teams helped raise \$337,059 on behalf of Orangewood Foundation to help foster and community youth reach their greatest potential."

Each participant of the challenge donated \$2,000 as an entry fee and set personal goals to raise \$8,000 from their family, friends, and colleagues. The race included 12 teams of four who put their physical and mental strength to the test in teamwork-based challenges designed for competitive adults of all ages.

The 2022 Orangewood Challenge was made possible by many sponsors and donors including the **Samueli Foundation, Lennar, Arthur Gallagher & Co.** and more.