

400 Oceangate, Suite 800 Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 435-9033 www.longbeachcf.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 25, 2022

Marcelle Epley (562) 435-9033 <u>marcelle@longbeachcf.org</u>

Long Beach Community Foundation Announces New Chairman, Continued Growth, and New Initiatives for the Future

LONG BEACH, Calif.— <u>The Long Beach Community Foundation</u> (LBCF) is pleased to announce the appointment of Frank Newell as Board Chair and Suzanne Nosworthy as Vice Chair.

Frank Newell is the former principal and President of the law firm Newell, Curtis, Nelson & Burnight, now known as Curtis & Burnight, where he specialized in estate planning, business, and real estate law. Mr. Newell has served on many nonprofit and community boards, including serving as Chair or President of the Long Beach Bar Association, Long Beach Economic Development Commission, Rotary Club of Long Beach, Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation, and Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation. As long-standing philanthropists, Mr. Newell and his wife Margie were recipients of the California Conference for Equality and Justice's Humanitarian Award and the Long Beach Public Library Foundation's Durnin Family Award. Mr. Newell is a LBCF Founder and has been a Board member since 2015.

"I'm pleased to continue to serve on the LBCF Board under Frank's leadership," said former Board Chair Gary DeLong. "Both Frank and Suzanne understand the unique needs of the Long Beach community and will play an important role in furthering LBCF's mission."

Suzanne Nosworthy is a longtime volunteer in the Long Beach community. She currently serves on the Long Beach Ronald McDonald House Board of Trustees, is a voting member of the Assistance League of Long Beach, and is a member and past president of the Long Beach City College Board of Governors. Her recognition for community service includes Community Hospital Legacy Wall Award, Long Beach City College President's Award, Long Beach Press Telegram Amazing Woman, and Soroptimist International Woman of Distinction. Mrs. Nosworthy has been an LBCF Board member since 2019.

In addition to new Board leadership, LBCF reached a record high **\$70 million in charitable assets** under management. As a public charity, LBCF helps individuals, families, nonprofit organizations, and businesses manage their philanthropic giving today and as part of long-term legacy. Recent growth in assets is primarily related to an increase in legacy estate gifts, donor advised funds, and charitable funds held for nonprofit agencies.

"We are fortunate to live in a city that has a community foundation. LBCF's continued growth means greater impact for our city," said LBCF Board Chair Frank Newell. "LBCF offers a unique global approach in addressing community issues." LBCF's asset growth enabled the foundation to invest in new software platforms and two new staff members. Issis Vargas was hired as the Grants & Administration Manager. Ms. Vargas brings previous grants experience from working at another community foundation to this position. Deanna Bennett was hired as Foundation Services Associate and works closely with LBCF President & CEO Marcelle Epley and serves as Board liaison.

LBCF's core mission has been to initiate positive change for Long Beach through charitable giving, stewardship, and strategic grantmaking. Under this mission, **new initiatives** for the next three years include expanding LBCF's legacy giving portfolio, growing the LBCF Community Impact Fund which provides grant funding to address the most pressing needs in Long Beach, growing the professional advisor network, and remaining focused on our mission. Since its inception in 1996, LBCF has granted over \$30 million to charitable organizations locally and across the United States.

"We look forward to continuing to build a strong foundation to best serve philanthropists, charities, and the unique needs of our city," said LBCF President & CEO Marcelle Epley. "We are taking an innovative approach in planning for future growth while remaining responsive, flexible, and engaged."

About Long Beach Community Foundation:

LBCF operations are led by President & CEO Marcelle Epley and oversight is provided by Board Chair Frank Newell, Vice Chair Suzanne Nosworthy and Board members Gary DeLong Michele Dobson, Bob Foster, Tony Gales, Mark Guillen, Donita Joseph, Annette Kashiwabara, Steve Keesal, Kevin Peterson, Judy Ross, and Robert Stemler.

#