



PHILANTHROPY

By Kim Haman



Innovative Partnership

► Cameron Merage, CEO, founder, First Team Real Estate; Michael Mahan, president, First Team Real Estate; Julie Hudash, CEO, founder, Team Kids; Joe Burke, VP, Team Kids board of directors

First Team Real Estate partnered with Team Kids, donating \$100,000 to the Team Kids Challenge, a six-week program where children participate in weekly challenges geared toward addressing community issues, including homelessness, hunger, literacy and the environment. Approximately 25,000 children in 38 schools in Orange and Los Angeles counties and Arlington County, Va., take part in the program.

Through the Team Kids Superhero Program partnership, First Team Real Estate agents will serve as mentors to children in their communities, guiding them through challenges to help them make a difference and earn recognition doing so.

“As a real estate organization, we are passionate about the notion that it is our distinct privilege to support (our communities) in every way possible,” said First Team Real Estate President Michael Mahon. “The Superhero Program we’re participating in through Team Kids gives all 2,000 of our sales associates the opportunity to give back in a way that’s truly meaningful.”

United to End Homelessness

Dux in Tux

► Fox TV analyst Guy Hebert; Tim Ryan, CEO, Anaheim Arena Management LLC, executive VP/COO, Anaheim Ducks Hockey Club LLC; Connie Yu, event guest, and her husband, Michael



More than 500 guests attended the 18th annual Dux in Tux on Feb. 22. The sold-out event, which was held on the ice at Honda Center, raised \$475,000. The funds will support the work of the Anaheim Ducks Foundation, including programs such as Ducks S.C.O.R.E., Learn to Play and Top Flight.

The evening featured renowned Orange County and Los Angeles chefs who donated their time to the cause. Each chef was paired with an Anaheim Duck who acted as “sous chef” to help prepare a six-course meal for a table of 14. Participating restaurants included Anaheim White House Restaurant, Anepalco, Ember BBQ, Haven Gastropub, Maggiano’s Little Italy, Orange Hill Restaurant and URBANA Mexican Gastronomy & Mixology.

Bits & Pieces

CHOC Children’s was honored by the Regional Center of Orange County with a Spotlight Award at a dinner-dance on March 2 to highlight CHOC’s work to advance quality of life for people with developmental disabilities. ... On Feb. 1, Wells Fargo presented Casa Teresa with a check for \$14,000 as part of a special grant. ... The Literacy Project teamed up with the Angels Baseball Foundation to put together Readers in the Outfield, when 100 Anaheim second-graders will compete against Angels baseball alumni, community leaders and executives, showcasing newly acquired reading skills. ... Community leaders recently read from Dr. Seuss books to children enrolled at KidWorks in observance of National Read Across America Day.

Kim Haman can be reached at philanthropy@ocbj.com.