



### A One-on-One Interview with Sal Provenza, Chairman

*Each year, NAIOP SoCal is pleased to announce its support of Building Block Foundation Fund. This important organization receives a portion of proceeds from our annual Night at the Fights event, to be held April 26 at Hotel Irvine. While there will be lots of great networking and sports entertainment, we are honored to also give back to such an important group. We invite you to learn more about Building Block Foundation Fund from its Chairman, Sal Provenza.*

#### **Tell us about Building Block Foundation Fund:**

Building Block offers the real estate community an opportunity to participate in performance-based giving that is sustainable, predictable and accountable. We raise funds to support at-risk youth in Orange County through partnerships with high-quality local charity partners. From providing onsite resources in affordable housing communities to converting at-risk youths into skilled workers with productive lives, our mission is to help all at-risk youth in Orange County. Since 2000, we have raised more than \$2 million toward this goal.

#### **How is the commercial real estate industry involved?**

Building Block has become an integral part of the commercial real estate community. It was founded by industry veterans in 2004 and remains primarily supported by the Southern California commercial real estate industry. Today, our all-volunteer board consists of industry professionals who donate their time and money to fulfill our mission. With long-term supporters such as NAIOP SoCal, we've become a recognizable bridge between the industry and those in need.

#### **Tell us about the charities you support:**

We support a variety of charity partners, all of which focus on at-risk youth in Orange County.

- **Project Access'** mission is to assist low-income residents of affordable housing developments to increase their self-sufficiency through on-site access to education, health and social services.
- **Boys Hope Girls Hope** is a children's services agency providing "arms-around" care, safe environments, first-class education and other support, empowering these young people to complete a college education.
- **Career Beginnings** is a mentoring program that works with the Santa Ana Unified School District.
- **The Joyful Child** is dedicated to preventing crimes against children through programs that educate, empower, and unite families and communities.
- **KidWorks** operates community centers that provide family support services to Santa Ana residents including tutoring, computer training, mentoring, leadership development and a safe refuge from dangers of the street.
- **Kids Konected** helps lost and lonely children cope with having a parent with cancer.
- **Orangewood's Guardian Scholars Program** provides college scholarships to foster youth.
- **Hope Builders** guides undereducated, unskilled and unemployed young adults who have taken the wrong path learn skills in construction, medical and computer technology.

#### **What additional initiatives help to support Building Block and its charities?**

Building Block's marquee event has always been its gala celebration. This event has evolved from the traditional sit-down dinner in a hotel banquet hall to what is now known as the White Party. The White Party is a fun, high-energy social event where the 400+ real estate professionals wear white while watching a fashion show. Nearly every major real estate company is a sponsor or represented in some way. The next White Party will be held on September 20, 2018. To learn more about this event and Building Block, visit [www.buildingblockfoundationfund.org](http://www.buildingblockfoundationfund.org).