

March 24, 2020

### **Reflecting on These Extraordinary Times**

With all the upheaval in our lives right now, I wanted to share a few thoughts with our cherished family of donors, grantees, professional advisors and many friends.

We face many unknowns. What I can say with great certainty, however, is that The Foundation's mission – staying focused on meeting donors' needs and assisting our nonprofit partners to navigate this time of significant challenge – is unwavering. We have a strong leadership team and staff in place to steer The Foundation through these uncharted waters. Like most of you, we are working remotely from our homes, connected with one another, and continuing to respond to communal needs that are more urgent than ever.

The Foundation possesses a unique perspective, sitting at the crossroads of philanthropy where a range of community stakeholders—funders, grant seekers, and social innovators—come together to repair the world. From this vantage point, we are witnessing enormous activity by nonprofits, lay leaders and donors intensely focused on addressing this situation despite difficult circumstances. And it is truly heartening to see so many dedicated individuals working mightily on behalf of others.

To that point, I am enormously inspired by the outpouring of compassion, love and concern for those who are suffering – and putting themselves in harm's way – from heroic healthcare professionals caring for the sick to selfless grocery clerks making certain our stores remain stocked with basic provisions. It is a unique moment in human history where we need to take care of each other – sometimes in the most fundamental ways.

No one knows how long it will take for the coronavirus pandemic to pass. In the meantime, though, we can all take steps to protect ourselves, our loved ones and our communities by following the advice of our healthcare professionals and the directives of our state and local governments.

We are indeed all in this together, and we will persevere.

Sincerely,

Marvin I. Schotland  
President & CEO  
Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles