

A Monthly Bulletin Exclusively for LuskinOIC Directors, Trustees and Advisors



#### Craig Ehrlich Gifts \$25K to Gala



LuskinOIC is grateful for the dedication and commitment of our esteemed Board leadership. Craig Ehrlich, chair of the Board of Directors, set a leading example by recently pledging a Silver-level sponsorship for the Gala with a generous gift of \$25,000.

Earlier this year, Craig Ehrlich hosted a reception at his award-winning home to celebrate Dr. Bernthal's appointment as UCLA Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery. Mr. Ehrlich is also a strong advocate for the Ortho High School Bonter Scholarship program and the partnership between UCLA Women's Basketball team and LuskinOIC.



"Not only does Craig have keen business acumen, but he also has a heart for Los Angeles and tremendous dedication to LuskinOIC's mission," said Dr. Tony Scaduto, president and CEO of LuskinOIC.

Craig Ehrlich's support and involvement are instrumental in advancing our mission and making a meaningful impact on the communities we serve. We are truly fortunate to have his leadership and commitment at LuskinOIC.

L-R Dr. Anthony Scaduto, Meyer Luskin and Craig Erlich (top left); L-R Coach Cori Close, Ozzie, Christeen Iwuala, Nicholas Bernthal, Anthony Scaduto, Angela Dugalić, Craig Ehrlich (top right)

Philanthropy Forward





#### Zytko Family Supports the Gala with \$25K Commitment

Mark Zytko, chair of LuskinOIC's Board of Trustees, along with his family, has announced a \$25,000 commitment to the 2024 Gala. Mark and Nancy Zytko have been dedicated supporters of LuskinOIC and our mission to provide top-tier orthopedic care to our patients.

While Mark leads the Board of Trustees, Nancy actively contributes by event planning as part of the Gala Committee. "LuskinOIC thrives on leaders and supporters like Mark and Nancy Zytko. They give their time without hesitation, and they never waiver in their loyalty to our mission. We are honored by their generous donations," said LuskinOIC Vice President Michael Sullivan.

This year marks the third consecutive year that the Zytko family will attend the Stand for Kids Gala as a major sponsor. We are profoundly grateful for the Zytko family's steadfast and continued support of LuskinOIC. Their contributions make a significant impact on advancing our mission and providing critical care to our patients. THE SILLETTI FAMILY



Philanthropy

Forward

# Silletti Family Commits \$15K to Gala

LuskinOIC's immediate past chair of the Board of Trustees, Jason Silletti, and his wife and Gala Committee member, Shawn Silletti, alongside his sister, Megan, have become Bronze Sponsors of the Gala by generously committing \$15,000. The Silletti family, long-time advocates and supporters of LuskinOIC, are deeply appreci-ated for their dedication and contributions.

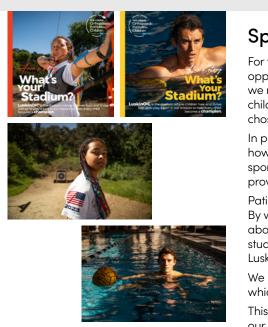
"We are so grateful for the Silletti family sharing their time, treasures, and talents with us," said Assistant Vice President Mary Beth Perrine. Jason and Shawn demonstrate their support for LuskinOIC in multiple ways; Jason not only serves on the Board of Trustees but is also a member of the Board of Directors and chairs the Investment Committee for LuskinOIC. Shawn is actively involved in the Gala Committee, ensuring the event's success and flawless execution. Megan has been a loyal supporter of LuskinOIC since 2016.

The Silletti family has been attending every Gala since 2016, consistently sponsoring the event each year, making a significant difference in the lives of children supported by LuskinOIC. Their ongoing commitment and involvement are instrumental in advancing our mission and impact.

Shawn and Jason Siletti attend Dr. Bernthal's reception in January

Mark and Nancy Zytko

# **Footnotes**\*



Aria Easter (top left, middle) and Alex Heenan (top right, bottom) bring this year's LuskinOIC Foundation Spring Appeal to life

### Spring Appeal: What's your Stadium?

LuskinOIC

For the LuskinOIC Foundation, annual campaigns like the Spring Appeal provide a timely opportunity to connect with our community. Through various channels, including direct mail, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to providing exceptional orthopedic care to every child in need. Our mission is clear: every child deserves the chance to play and excel in their chosen pursuit, which we highlight in our campaign.

In preparation for these campaigns, our teams carefully select stories that vividly illustrate how LuskinOIC's daily efforts empower children to pursue their dreams in their chosen sports—their personal "stadiums." We collaborate extensively with patients, families, and providers over weeks to share stories that celebrate their courage and determination.

Patients like Aria Easter and Alex Heenan exemplify unequivocal courage and perseverance. By working with our providers and physical therapists, they continue to be passionate about and excel in archery and water polo, respectively. Their determination as high school students and athletes not only inspires their loved ones but also resonates deeply within the LuskinOIC community, where we embrace their success as our own.

We partner with Aria, Alex, and their families to express gratitude for your ongoing support, which makes their stories and our work possible every day.

This year, the Spring Appeal encourages you to consider a monthly donation to sustain our services as a steadfast resource for many children and youth, regardless of insurance or socio-economic status. As our campaign emphasizes, "LuskinOIC is the stadium where children heal and thrive. Join us in playing a vital role in our mission to empower every child to become a champion." View the Aria/Alex video <u>here</u>.



#### Gala Adds Local UCLA Sports Stars, Honors LA Chargers

Sports fans will be thrilled with the exciting lineup at the Gala!

First, we are proud to announce that the Los Angeles Chargers will be honored with the Stand for Kids Gala Community Inspiration Award for their outstanding contributions to the community. Their commitment to creating access and opportunities that positively impact youth in under-resourced neighborhoods is truly commendable. The Chargers share a vision of a more inclusive and supportive society, ensuring every young person has the chance to thrive. It's a privilege to celebrate their achievements at our Gala on June 8th at SoFi Stadium!

Additionally, we are excited to welcome UCLA Quarterback Ethan Garbers to join us at the Gala. Ethan will engage with attendees by throwing footballs, signing autographs, and mentoring our Patient Ambassadors during the "pregame show" at the Gala's Kid's Zone, located on the 50-yard line of SoFi Stadium.

Joining Ethan in the Kid's Zone and on stage during the show are several UCLA Women's Basketball players. They will interact with attendees and high-light our Patient Ambassadors. The Women's Basketball Team has been a valuable partner of LuskinOIC for nearly a year, participating in events and inspiring our young patients.

Community Engagement



#### Youth Soccer Club Partners with LuskinOIC

In our dynamic partnership with the DTLA Youth Soccer Club, LuskinOIC participated in a practice session on April 3rd to engage with players, parents, and coaches. Our support has significantly contributed to the club's growth, with over 40 new members joining this season, bringing their total count to almost 500. This collaboration underscores our mission's core focus: ensuring that children remain healthy, active, and thrive.

The **Downtown L.A. Soccer Club**, established in 2007 and affiliated with the California State Soccer Association (CalSouth), caters to young athletes aged 6 to 18. They currently compete in the Coast Soccer League (CSL), the largest and most competitive club soccer league in the U.S.

The primary objective of the Downtown Los Angeles Soccer Club is to provide a positive soccer club experience for young athletes, primarily from underserved communities in Los Angeles. LuskinOIC's partnership supports these players by funding field rentals, supplying training equipment, and providing injury prevention and wellness resources to players and their families through online platforms. You can watch the recap video here.

Club group photo (top); boys' team poses for a photo (bottom)

Angela Dugalic (left); Camryn Brown (center); Ethan Garbers (right)

# **Footnotes**\*



### Relaunching an Upgraded LuskinOIC.org

LuskinOIC is excited to announce the launch of our upgraded website, made possible through a recent partnership with the Sustainable Progress and Equality Collective (SPEC). SPEC is a community-driven organization committed to empowering individuals to develop skills, build careers, and become leaders in sustainable social impact. They have redesigned our website using open-source tools, which are accessible technologies that can be used, modified, and shared by anyone. This project not only enhances LuskinOIC's online data structure but it also creates transformative opportunities for SPEC's community members, many of whom are early in their careers and come from diverse backgrounds. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with SPEC to further optimize our online presence.

The new LuskinOIC.org website is designed to be more userfriendly and accessible for patients, referring physicians, and supporters alike. Each specialty page features a horizontal menu at the top, providing an immediate overview of disorders, including common types, symptoms, diagnosis, and LuskinOIC's specific approach to treatment. These menu items and descriptions incorporate new SEO keywords to increase site visibility.

Further down the page, we emphasize why patients and referring physicians should choose LuskinOIC for treatment, highlighting the Institute's treatment approach, expert staff, and available technology across its different centers. The revamped website aims to enhance discoverability, navigation, and usability, offering valuable information to our community.

The updates to LuskinOIC.org will have a significant impact by featuring profiles of current and former patients and providers, fostering our supportive community with highlighted donation and volunteer opportunities, and promoting our mission to heal champions and fuel athletes. Visit our new website <u>here</u>.



Community Engagement



On Wednesday, April 28th, LuskinOIC celebrated the outstanding achievements of over 100 talented adult and student volunteers who reached significant milestones, ranging from 100 to 3,500 hours of service. These dedicated hours were contributed through various activities, such as assisting staff, spending time with patients, fundraising, and serving as board or committee members.

The event started with heartfelt testimonials from Ortho High volunteers Isabel Marquez and Kimberly Ferreira, and then speeches from long-time volunteers, Jeffrey and Claudia Prestine. Dr. James V. Luck, Jr., the keynote speaker, spoke about the rich history of LuskinOIC and the profound impact of its volunteers, recognizing them as the backbone of LuskinOIC's identity and work.

Four awards were presented during the ceremony: the Exceptional Dedication & Commitment Award went to Nancy Rossi and Debbie Clark for their enduring support through the Charitable Children's Guild; the Adult Volunteer of the Year went to Danya Fatehi; and the Youth Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Rocio Gomez. To conclude the awards portion, President and CEO Dr. Anthony Scaduto honored the Prestine family–Joan, Doug, Jeff, Claudia, Lulu, and Mateo Prestine–as the LuskinOIC Family Volunteers of the Year.

Closing remarks were delivered by Board of Directors Chair Craig Ehrlich, who expressed gratitude and admiration for all the volunteers, acknowledging their pivotal role in advancing LuskinOIC's mission to promote health equity one child at a time.

Volunteers from CP camp (top left); volunteers from Ozzie's Birthday Eggstravaganza (top right); volunteers gift wrapping (bottom)



Pau Gasol with Paralympian Ezra Frech (top left); activites at regional adaptive sports events

### Partnering to Advance Equity in Sports

Community Engagement

LuskinOIC is steadfast in its commitment to empowering impactful organizations serving the disability community throughout Southern California.

Recently, LuskinOIC had the privilege of sponsoring the inaugural Long Beach Adaptive Sports Festival hosted by the Playmakers organization. Nearly 300 athletes with disabilities gathered at Long Beach City College to participate in over a dozen adaptive sports. In collaboration with Thrive Adaptive, 25 medical students from Southern California medical schools provided first aid support and gained valuable firsthand experience within the disability community by participating alongside the athletes. You can view the recap video <u>here</u>.

LuskinOIC also proudly sponsored the Triumph Foundation Wheelchair Sports Festival in Santa Clarita, which brought together over 500 athletes across 30 sports for a weekend of inclusive fun.

Further demonstrating its commitment, LuskinOIC sponsored the fifth annual Angel City Sports Gala, featuring NBA Hall of Fame member Pau Gasol as the keynote speaker.

# Footnotes\*

Engagement







## LuskinOIC Hosts Linked Learning Program

For over a year, LuskinOIC has hosted approximately 80 LAUSD teachers and staff from the Linked Learning Program for their professional development trainings in our Luck Family Conference Center. Last month, Linked Learning completed their final training session of the year and were welcomed by LuskinOIC Vice President Michael Sullivan. He expressed gratitude to the teachers and staff and invited them to a surprise cookout during their lunch break.

The LAUSD Linked Learning Program aims to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality, industry-relevant career pathway through an interdisciplinary program of study that integrates experiences at every educational level. Since 2023, the Linked Learning Program has funded over 12 paid internships for students from Orthopaedic Medical Magnet High School at LuskinOIC. Recently, two interns, Rocio Gomez and Selene Sandoval, joined Linked Ortho High's Linked Learning Coach Leanne Setiarto, CTEIG Coordinator Joanna Reese, and LuskinOIC's Director of Corporate and Community Engagement, Michael Willis, at the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown Hotel to present on our partnership. View the recap video here.

L-R Michael Willis, Joanna E. Reese, Selene Sandoval, Rocio Gomez, Leanne Setiarto (left); LAUSD teachers enjoying a surprise BBQ from Michael Sullivan (center); LAUSD teachers Linked Learning in session (right)

*Footnotes* is a monthly publication of LuskinOIC. To learn more about recent happenings, follow us on social media or check out our website! Have an idea for a story to feature here? Reach out to eunha.choi@mednet.ucla.edu.





