

Press Release

February 21, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kai Stearns, 714-808-4829 or kstearns@nocccd.edu

Center for Entrepreneurship @ NOCCCD Receives \$10K Donation from Enterprise Bank & Trust

Anaheim, Calif. – The North Orange County Community College District’s (NOCCCD) Center for Entrepreneurship is pleased to announce a \$10,000 donation from Enterprise Bank & Trust. The check was received on February 7, 2024, during a joint ceremony with community members, District administrators, Enterprise Bank & Trust representatives, as well as NOCCCD Center for Entrepreneurship alums, mentors, and professional experts and presenters.

The NOCCCD Center for Entrepreneurship is a one-stop hub providing training, exploration, start-up incubation, resources, mentoring, and workforce access to underrepresented communities in North Orange County for the purpose of supporting social enterprises. It is part of a larger North Orange County Social Enterprise Zone in collaboration with NorthSTAR, which represents several aligned community entities.

The gift marks a growing partnership between the NOCCCD Center for Entrepreneurship and Enterprise, with both institutions sharing the goal of serving and supporting business and economic development for underrepresented populations. Specifically, the funds will support student and community participation in the Engineering and Makerspace Bootcamp and the Make An ImPact (MAP) series occurring in early 2024.

“We could not be more honored by this gift from Enterprise Bank & Trust which confirms a deep and shared commitment to providing access and opportunity for the breadth of participants across north Orange County,” noted Dr. Cathleen Greiner, Director for the NOCCCD Center for Entrepreneurship. Dr. Cherry Li-

Bugg, Vice Chancellor, Educational Services and Technology shared that the “Partnership is beneficial for the diverse communities served by the District as well as to the amazing array of small and start-up businesses the District and campuses support to enhance economic development.”

The relationship began at the regional Southern California Celebrates Entrepreneurship Annual Conference and includes several female banking executives presenting at the Women Founders Bootcamp in July 2024. “We discovered many areas of shared values and goals as we began working together to support women and disinvested populations across the region in the process of starting up or expanding a business entity. It is great to focus on the nuts and bolts of entrepreneurship and the realities of starting a new venture, along with the need for guidance, professional expertise, and support the banking professionals can provide. We are excited to work with NOCCCD’s Center for Entrepreneurship to expand opportunities and services to make a difference,” said Nora Perez, Vice President, Community Development Officer.

The NOCCCD Center for Entrepreneurship has served over 360 individuals over the past year through focused bootcamps and entrepreneurship series events. The NOCCCD Center for Entrepreneurship is now open on the 10th floor at the Anaheim Campus. For more information on upcoming activities and training, visit <https://nocccd.edu/center-forentrepreneurship>.

NOCCCD Background

Two of the state’s premier colleges and most extensive continuing education program combine to provide the quality educational programming of the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD). Nearly 62,000 students enroll each term at Cypress College, Fullerton College, and North Orange Continuing Education. College students are able to shape their futures in programs leading to associate degrees, vocational certificates, and transfer opportunities. Life-long learning also is possible in continuing education programs that range from high school completion and basic skills mastery through an array of vocational training and self-development courses. The NOCCCD campuses serve an area of over one million diverse people – each pursuing their own, unique ambitions.