



Contact: Charee Gillins
951.241.7777
cgillins@iegives.org
www.iegives.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 23, 2023

Inland Empire Community Foundation Appoints New Regional Charitable Giving Officer for the Coachella Valley

Palm Springs, CA – Brie Griset Smith, Sr. VP of Charitable Giving of [Inland Empire Community Foundation \(IECF\)](#), has appointed John E. McGuirk to represent IECF in the Coachella Valley as Regional Charitable Giving Officer.



“We are delighted to welcome John to the Charitable Giving Team at IECF,” said Griset Smith. “John’s unique experience working with donors, non-profits and major foundations continues to position us to build the culture of philanthropy in the desert to benefit our region.”

Working from the Foundation’s Palm Desert office, McGuirk’s responsibilities will be to lead the Foundation’s asset development activities, cultivate donor relationships and provide exemplary donor services in the Coachella Valley.

McGuirk has served for the past seven years as adjunct faculty at Claremont Graduate University, teaching strategic planning and change management. Previously, McGuirk has held senior leadership positions at Community Foundation Sonoma County, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, James Irvine Foundation, and Arts Council Silicon Valley, directing more than \$400 million in charitable donations over the past two decades. He began his career working at Pittsburgh Symphony, Pittsburgh Opera, and the Community School of Music and Arts in Mountain View. John holds a bachelor’s degree in finance from Grove City College and a master’s degree in public management from Carnegie Mellon University. John recently relocated to Cathedral City with his husband, Richard, and they enjoy exploring their new home communities.

“I am delighted and honored to be joining the IECF team,” said McGuirk. “Now that we have made Coachella Valley our new home, I look forward to partnering with individuals and organizations dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of residents of the Coachella Valley.”

About the Inland Empire Community Foundation

Founded in 1941, the Inland Empire Community Foundation is the oldest and largest community foundation in Inland Southern California. We partner with individuals, families and corporations to build a culture of philanthropy. Since inception, we have given out over \$127 million in grants and scholarships. For more information visit the IECF's website at www.iegives.org. Be a part of our conversation on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

###