

Better together: Orange-based AO and Friendly Center unite to end generational poverty in Orange County



On Wednesday, January 8, 2020, Orange-based architectural services firm [AO](#) (formerly Architects Orange) presented a check for \$16,500 to [Friendly Center](#), a nonprofit providing stability, opportunity and hope to children and families in poverty for the past 95 years. To mark its 45th year, the architecture firm's 300 employees rallied throughout the month of December to raise money to benefit the more than 1,000 families that the Friendly Center serves each year through a host of programs and services falling under three main pillars: family support, food support and education.

AO has partnered with the Friendly Center for the past six years. To date, the firm has collected more than 45,000 food items and raised more than \$30,000 to assist the one in three households in Orange County that face hunger each day.

"Our firm was founded in Orange in 1974 on a relationship-focused approach and we've stayed committed over the year to both our community and our belief that great things come from the great relationships," said Jeff Rabbitt, partner at AO. "We're passionate about the Friendly Center's mission and vision to end the cycle of generational poverty in Orange County and look forward to growing our relationship with this high-impact organization."