



By Janie Sims, ORCF Grants Committee
Chairman

GIVING BEYOND THE GATES A Community Grants Committee Perspective

Established in 1994, the Ocean Reef Community Foundation's charge is to encourage and administer philanthropy by the Ocean Reef Community, supporting charitable efforts throughout Ocean Reef and the surrounding areas and helping Ocean Reef residents to meet their individual charitable goals. An integral component of this mission is the Foundation's Community Grants Program which facilitates giving "beyond the gates."

This year over 100 grant applications from non-profit organizations have been submitted to the Grants Program. A direct result of the generosity of the Ocean Reef Community, this program supports qualified charities in the immediate and adjacent communities where most of our Ocean Reef employees live. The program aims to address the root causes of community issues and to improve self-sufficiency and success.

While our complete guidelines and priorities are available on our website, the most frequently asked questions about the Grants Program and the Grants Committee include the following:

How is the Grants Program funded?

A significant and growing portion of All Charities proceeds along with donations from individual philanthropic Ocean Reef Members provides the funding.

How do organizations classified as tax-exempt apply?

Applications must be submitted online at the Community Grants page of the ORCF website by the annual application deadline of November 1st to be considered for grants awarded in the spring of the following year.

What are the specific geographic and project areas of interest considered?

Primary areas of interest for the surrounding communities of Key Largo, Florida City and Homestead:

- **Education:** preschool, primary, secondary and post-secondary education; job training, certification and continuing education; special needs education and other education issues
- **Youth:** youth needs and programs, child development, youth development and youth leadership development
- **Health & Family Services:** health care and human services that contribute to safe, healthy families
- **Community:** projects that identify and address community needs and/or improve the organization's ability to serve the community

The Grants Committee may also identify other areas when emerging needs and/or opportunities justify special consideration.

Continued on page 3



2022-2023 ORCF Board of Directors

William J. Nutt
Chairman

Steven A. Markel
Vice Chairman

Michael B. Berman
Vice Chairman

Thomas N. Davidson, Sr
Executive Vice President

Janie Sims
Executive Vice President

Stephen G. Woodsum
Executive Vice President

Cynthia Manzo
Treasurer

Alan J. Goldstein
Chairman Emeritus

Adele Acheson
James F. Anderton IV
Cindy Brammer
Robert B. Daugherty III

Edmund A. Hajim
Diane Hill

Teresa Holmes

Michael E. Jones

Amy Joseph

Sarina Kinney

Cynthia Lee

Linda Owens

Adelaide Skoglund

Katherine Weiland

Amy Upjohn

EX OFFICIO

Kelly Hertzman

Genaro Iglesias

Raymond C. Larkin, Jr

Anne R. Lovett

Barbara Olcott

Anne Marie Peretz

Alex Tonarelli

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

By Bill Nutt, Chairman



One of the most meaningful events the Ocean Reef Community Foundation hosts each year is a festive reception for our grant recipients that operate in nearby Monroe County, Florida City and Homestead. At the end

of each April, we invite the leaders from these organizations to visit us at Ocean Reef to receive their check in person and meet our Board Members and Members of the Grants Committee. However, you have to look much deeper than the flow of funds from the Foundation to these Charities. And that is exactly what our Grants Committee does each year, they take a very deep dive into each grant request and determine the value of that investment and measure the return in the form of help and hope delivered to residents in those respective communities.

Several years ago we moved our grant system from a laborious hand-managed process to a new online system that was developed by a company called Foundant. This company specializes in serving Community Foundations and non-profits through the development of state-of-the-art software packages. Their grant-making software worked so well for us, saving time in organizing the grants, making it easier for organizations to apply for grants and organizing all the data for our Grants Committee to help make the best decisions possible for the funds you generously donate through our All Charities event each February.

With that success, this past summer we took the next step with Foundant. After reviewing several other companies that offer accounting software packages for non-profits, we found that once again Foundant had the best solution for our unique needs. Over the summer, we began the process of converting our accounting from our original start-up in "Quick Books" non-profit edition to the

latest state-of-the-art Fund Accounting system from Foundant called "C SUITE". This specialized accounting software is specifically designed to manage the special needs of a Community Foundation. It allows for the separate management of Agency Funds, like the Cultural Center and Academy who both hold invested funds through the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, as well as our Donor Advised Funds and special Designated Funds, All Charities, and our operating funds and expenses. As you can see, your Ocean Reef Community Foundation has grown and evolved and this next step is part of the process to keep the organiza-

tion in line to meet the growing needs of the Ocean Reef Membership.

Part of that evolution also includes our need to remain transparent in the funds we raise through All Charities and the allocation of our ex-

penses and grant distributions. The costs related to this upgrade are minimal but the returns in more timely data, better reporting, more measurable tracking and even real time access for our Donor Advised Fund (DAF) holders are all part of the outcomes from this enhancement. Phase two of the implementation that we expect to complete next year will be a DAF portal where holders can make





contributions, request distributions and see their account balances in real time all online from their device of choice.

With all these changes the Foundation Board also began the exploration for a new Auditor. Again, the search was conducted with a desire to uncover specific expertise in working with Community Foundations. We found that expertise combined with a very attractive proposal from

Keefe McCullough in nearby Ft. Lauderdale. They will provide a more timely return of our audit for 2022 allowing the Board to review our status prior to the end of the coming season. This will assist with future planning and again ensure we have proper oversight on our actions.

We feel that these steps will provide the highest level of integrity and fiduciary responsibility and, in turn, offer the confidence that when you support All Charities and the Foundation's work your philanthropic investment returns the highest value to the Ocean Reef Community and our surrounding communities where employees of Club, ORCA and OR Chamber of Commerce businesses live and raise their families.



Giving Beyond the Gates, continued from page 1

How does the Grants Committee select the recipients of the grants?

Since the applications are online, each person on the 12-member Grants committee (see page 10) has access to the grant applications as well as all supporting documents (financials, taxes, etc.). Before the Committee meets, all members can read and thoroughly review the applications.

After several meetings of discussing, vetting, requesting more information, and evaluating while touring some charities with on-site visits, the committee begins selecting those applicants to receive funding. Then more meetings and more tours.

Community members are invited to accompany the committee on Charity Tours by passenger van to help evaluate the charities. Usually, at least three tours are conducted with dates and sign-up information published in the Ocean Reef Press (also find this season's schedule on page 10 of this issue).

Final recommendations can be made mid to late March, following a thorough review of applications considered the highest priority once we have the dollar amount available to grant.

What happens after grant recipients are selected?



Charities are notified after the Foundation's Board of Directors vote on the Grants Committee recommendations at the March Annual Meeting. Most award checks are distributed before the end of April at our annual Grant

Presentation Celebration at Carysfort Hall at the Ocean Reef Club. There is follow-up along the way, and Final Reports by grant recipients are due by March of the following year to be considered for additional funding in subsequent grant cycles.

This rigorous and extensive review process assures that members of our Ocean Reef Community can donate to worthy causes, to people in need and can make a real difference "beyond our gates."





*Thank you to the
2022 Event Co-Chairs*



Adele Acheson & Diane Hill

*Welcome to the
2023 Event Co-Chairs*



**Kelly Hertzman, Anne-Marie Peretz,
& Barbara Olcott**

2023 PREVIEW

All Charities Weekend

Online bidding starts
Friday, February 3 at bidORC.org

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Opening Night Wine Tasting & Bourbon Tasting
Silent Auction Showcase
OpuLLence by Lester Lampert Jewellers
4 – 7 p.m. | Carysfort Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Silent Auction Showcase
OpuLLence by Lester Lampert Jewellers
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Carysfort Hall
NetJets Aircraft Display
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Ocean Reef Airport
Burgers, Beers & Bidding
Compliments of Ocean Reef Chamber of Commerce
Noon – 2 p.m. | Carysfort Hall

All Charities Gala

TICKETS ARE LIMITED

Cocktails and Silent Auction
OpuLLence by Lester Lampert Jewellers
5:30 p.m. | Carysfort Hall
Dinner, Live Auction & Dancing
7 p.m. | Town Hall

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Silent Auction Item Pick Up
OpuLLence by Lester Lampert Jewellers
9 a.m.-2 p.m. | Carysfort Hall

oceanreefcommunityfoundation.org
allcharities@oceanreef.com

2022 ALL CHARITIES EFFORT REPORT

In 2022 we left the “new normal” behind and emerged into the “next normal,” still cautious but excited and grateful to be in person again. Cherished traditions disrupted by the pandemic took on magnified meaning and All Charities Weekend was one of them. Members came together with a heightened appreciation for the opportunity to gather with friends and family. There was a renewed enthusiasm to celebrate and support the not-for-profits that make Ocean Reef so special and, through grants from Ocean Reef Community Foundation, scores of worthy charities focused on improving the quality of life for our neighbors in the surrounding communities. That enthusiasm channeled into the 2022 event helping us to break the record for most records broken. The amount raised at the Live Auction, the amount raised by one item at the Live Auction (the Africa trip sold three times!), the amount raised at the Silent Auction, the amount raised by one item at the Silent Auction (the Augusta Signature Jacket sold for \$110,000!), and the total in “Raise the Paddle” cash donations (20 percent more than the previous high) all shattered records from previous years. These led us to another record breaker, a total of over \$6.5 million in distributions to the All Charities Recipient Partners.

**2022 ORCF
\$2,562,634
GRAND TOTAL**

All Charities Recipient Partners	All Charities Weekend 2022	All Charities Fund Gifts via Club Dues	All Charities 2022 Total	2008-2022 15-Year Total
Ocean Reef Medical Center Foundation	\$1,336,356	\$254,579	\$1,590,935	\$14,195,342
Ocean Reef Cultural Center	\$757,865	\$192,135	\$950,000	\$10,653,201
Academy at Ocean Reef	\$610,925	\$124,888	\$735,812	\$7,034,812
Ocean Reef Art League	\$305,462	\$62,444	\$367,906	\$3,798,229
Ocean Reef Conservation Association	\$305,462	\$62,444	\$367,906	\$3,792,808
ORCAT	\$95,491	\$14,410	\$109,901	\$917,004
Ocean Reef Community Foundation				
Community Grants Program	\$1,312,859	\$249,776	\$1,562,634	\$14,117,599
Special Projects				
Future Special Projects/Impact Fund	\$650,000	–	\$650,000	\$1,501,667*
Chapel Fellowship Center	\$350,000	–	\$350,000	\$350,000
Special Projects: Baptist Hospital Helipad	–	–	–	\$500,000
TOTALS	\$5,724,420	\$960,675	\$6,685,095	\$56,860,662

* Subject to change due to potential pandemic-related refunds on unfulfilled auction items.



All Charities Recipient Partners

Standing (left to right): Ocean Reef Conservation Association Treasurer Cal Philips, Ocean Reef Community Foundation Vice-Chairman and Ocean Reef Medical Center Foundation Chairman Michael Berman, Medical Center at Ocean Reef CEO Keith Young, Academy at Ocean Reef Head of School Jerome Murphy, Ocean Reef Community Foundation Chairman Bill Nutt and Ocean Reef Cultural Center Chairman Tom Schievelbein.

Seated (left to right): ORCAT Veterinarian Dr. Lora Cummings, All Charities Vice-Chair Sarina Kinney, Ocean Reef Art League Treasurer Linda Kaplan, Ocean Reef Community Foundation Grants Committee Chair Janie Sims, and ORCAT Chair Luisa Bryant.

2022 ORCF COMMUNITY GRANTS TO UPPER KEYS, HOMESTEAD AND FLORIDA CITY CHARITIES

The Ocean Reef Community Foundation’s annual grants program is providing more than \$1.74 million to nonprofit organizations serving neighboring areas in 2022 thanks to the Ocean Reef community’s generous participation in the All Charities effort.

ORCF’s Community Grants Program funds dozens of worthy charities in the interest areas of Education, Youth, Health & Family Services and Community in the Upper Keys, Homestead and Florida City each spring. Including 2022 grants, this particular Foundation program has donated \$14.3 million to improve the quality of life in the communities where Ocean Reef employee families live since the All Charities collaboration began in 2008.

The ORCF Board of Directors approved the committee’s recommendation that the Foundation’s share of 2022 All Charities proceeds not reserved for larger Impact Fund projects be distributed, with additional donations to the Community Grants Fund, as follows:

<p>A Chance for Therapy (ACT4Me)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Therapy programs for Homestead/ Florida City children with neurological and genetic disorders 	\$22,000	<p>Caring for Miami</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Smile Mobile Dental Unit visits for the Upper Keys, Homestead and Florida City 	\$35,000	<p>Domestic Abuse Shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention programs for Upper Keys youth and training for key providers of youth services 	\$10,000
<p>Adrienne Arshnt Center Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> STEAM curriculum and live <i>Kitty Hawk</i> performance field trip for 7th graders in Homestead/Florida City Title I schools 	\$10,000	<p>Chapman Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentoring Program at the Parent Institute at the Family Resource Center for families transitioning from homelessness 	\$10,000	<p>Family Central</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of the Benefits Enrollment Program to support vulnerable families in Homestead and Florida City 	\$25,000
<p>Advocate Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial assistance program for Veterans 	\$10,000	<p>Chapters Health Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Support services, including Valor program for veterans and first-responders, for the only a nonprofit hospice and palliative care program in Monroe County 		<p>Feeding South Florida</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food delivery and distribution to six partner pantries in Homestead, Florida City and the Upper Keys 	\$120,000
<p>The ARC of South Florida</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roof repair and new linoleum for Florida City school for special needs children 	\$36,000	<p>The Children’s Voice Chorus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To open choral program at Branches Florida City to additional children 	\$5,000	<p>Florida Keys Area Health Education Centers (Keys AHEC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-school primary medical and dental services program in Upper Keys schools One-time hardship grant due to unexpectedly being left out of State Budget 	\$50,000 \$50,000 ^{MR}
<p>Autism Society of the Keys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology and therapy for autistic youth 	\$10,000	<p>City Year Miami</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full implementation of the Holistic Student Assessment pilot program funded in 2021 at Redlands Middle School at Redland & Homestead Middle and Homestead Senior High schools 	\$30,000	<p>Florida Keys Children’s Shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation, Life Skills and Education “Coaching” Programs 	\$50,000
<p>Branches Florida City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow & Climb teen leadership development and employment mentoring program Tax Preparation/VITA and Savings Champion program for families 	\$25,000 \$12,500 ^{MR}	<p>The College of the Florida Keys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Towards the new Upper Keys Center for Hospitality and Business programs* 	\$25,000	<p>Florida Keys Foster Adoptive Parents Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unfunded needs for children in foster care in the Upper Keys 	\$15,000
<p>Bridge to Hope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food security solutions for Homestead/ Florida City including walk-in freezer and related electrical work, facility improvements and box truck program 	\$25,000	<p>Coral Shores High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletic Department Hardship Assistance Fund 	\$10,000	<p>Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper Keys Child Safety Equipment and Early Childhood Education programs 	\$22,500
<p>Burton Memorial United Methodist Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Pantry: Refrigerated truck usage to enable pick up of perishable donations from local grocery stores and funds to purchase needed food items when not available by donation Child Development Center: Summer enrichment program 	\$19,200 \$7,000	<p>Cox Science Center & Aquarium (formerly South Florida Science Center & Aquarium)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bringing the Science Passport educational program to Title 1 elementary schools in Homestead/ Florida City and the Upper Keys 	\$25,000	<p>Florida Keys Outreach Coalition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quick Assist program to prevent homelessness 	\$20,000
<p>Camillus House</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHEER educational initiative to assist formerly homeless children in attending school and catching up with peers 	\$15,000	<p>DMF Employment Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment initiative for individuals with intellectual and development disabilities 	\$20,000	<p>Genesis Hopeful Haven</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive life and career skills training and coaching program for youth aging out of foster care 	\$50,000
				<p>Girl Scout Council of Tropical Florida</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To bring evidence-based Girl Scout Leadership Experience to 18 underserved Homestead/Florida City neighborhoods 	\$10,000 ^{MR}

* This is an approved change of use from the originally announced project.

Greater Miami Youth for Christ		Mexican-American Council		Star of the Sea Outreach Mission	
■ Teen Indigenous Leaders development and employment mentoring program at West Homestead KIX	\$50,000	■ College & Career Readiness program for youth from families of farm workers at Homestead high schools	\$30,000	■ Upper Keys Hunger Relief Program	\$36,000
Greater Miami Youth Symphony		Miami Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired		Start Off Smart	
■ Expansion of music lessons program to additional Homestead/Florida City schools	\$10,000	■ Children's Vision Program for 800 in both service areas	\$10,000	■ Homestead Community Policing Crime Prevention Campaign for Youth & Families	\$25,000
Guitars Over Guns Organization		Monroe Association for ReMARCable Citizens (MARC House)		■ Two Police Academy Scholarships for locals committed to serving in the Homestead Police Department	\$15,000
■ Music instruction programs and mentors for at-risk Homestead/Florida City youth	\$25,000	■ Healthy shopping, cooking and eating nutrition program for developmentally disabled adults	\$10,000	Take Stock in Children (MCEF)	
Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys		The Motivational Edge		■ College scholarships (matched by the Florida Pre-Paid College Foundation) for Upper Keys youth mentoring program	\$75,000
■ Towards building affordable housing units in two Upper Keys neighborhoods	\$25,000	■ Transition to Adulthood Program to help prepare Homestead youth aging out of foster care for independence	\$10,000	Three Virtues Organization	
Health Information Project		MUJER		■ Towards Homestead summer camp enrichment activities	\$6,500
■ Peer-to-peer, comprehensive Health Education Program at four Homestead High Schools and expansion to Monroe County schools	\$25,000	■ Workshops and therapy for 60+ abused children and non-offending parents	\$46,976	TIPS Florida Keys Youth Basketball League	
Homestead Christian Academy		Ocean Studies (Public) Charter School		■ Youth Basketball	\$6,000
■ Two shade structures for playground replacement project for school serving low income, at-risk families including program for children in foster care	\$39,500	■ Materials to implement Arts in Education curriculum	\$6,000 ^{MR*}	Touching Miami with Love (West Homestead Site)	
ICU baby		PATCHES PPEC		■ Youth development job training program	\$25,000
■ Comprehensive support for Upper Keys and Homestead/Florida City families with babies in NICU in Miami hospitals	\$15,000	■ Therapy equipment for rehabilitation at pediatric daycare for medically complex children	\$8,535	■ Adult Literacy Empowerment program	\$12,029 ^{MR}
Jacobs Aquatic Center		Redlands Christian Migrants Association		United Way of Collier and the Keys	
■ Maintenance and safety projects at the Key Largo Community Pool	\$12,000	■ Shade structure and fencing for playground at Homestead Redlands Child Development Center	\$14,050	■ Dolly Parton Imagination Library program for Upper Keys pre-school students	\$4,500
Just Older Youth (JOY)		The Salvation Army		■ Success by Six School Readiness program for Upper Keys pre-school students	\$10,600
■ To expand program for senior citizens to incorporate after-school activities for teens	\$10,000	■ Pathway to Hope social services and financial assistance program for Upper Keys residents	\$7,000	Upper Keys Baseball Development Foundation	
Key Largo School		South Dade Veterans Alliance		■ Towards Steady Bats baseball program serving 75 youth	\$5,000
■ AVID college readiness program, college trips and teacher training	\$15,000	■ Towards SDVA Women's Initiative case management and support groups for female Veterans	\$10,000	VOICES for Florida Keys Children	
■ Summer Recreation program for up to 300 pre-K through 5th grade students	\$35,000	South Florida After-School All-Stars		■ Children's Welfare Program to assist families through the 16th Judicial Court Guardian Ad Litem	\$9,000
Kids 4 Kids USA		■ Afterschool enrichment programs for 60 middle school students at two Homestead schools	\$10,000	Volunteers of America of Florida	
■ Red Cross Certified Water Safety Swim Program for youth with special needs	\$15,000	South Florida Council of Boy Scouts		■ Renovation for temporary housing for case management services for Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness	\$27,500 ^{MR}
Kids Come First in the Florida Keys		■ Scouting expenses for disadvantaged youth in the Homestead area	\$20,000	Wellspring Counseling	
■ School supplies, basic and seasonal needs for disadvantaged Upper Keys youth	\$7,500	Special Olympics Florida Monroe County		■ Homestead & Upper Keys Counseling Financial Aid Program	\$20,000
Kristi House		■ Continued expansion of sports training and competitions for Upper Keys youth with intellectual disabilities	\$18,000	YMCA of South Florida	
■ Education and career programs for survivors of child trafficking	\$26,000	St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church Child Development Center		■ Homestead After-school Program scholarships	\$10,000
Ladies Empowerment & Action Program (LEAP)		■ Replacement of 15-year-old main playground structure for safety	\$34,370	■ Key Largo Summer Camp and After-school Program scholarships	\$55,000
■ Expansion of the Incarcerated Women's Chance for Change Initiative	\$25,000				

**Total 2022
Community Grants:
\$1,742,984**

Grants Committee 2022-2023

Janie Sims, Chair	Cynthia Lee
Cindy Brammer	Linda Owens
Rob Daugherty	Amy Upjohn
Alan Goldstein	Kathy Weiland
Marie Jacobs	Steve Woodsum
Ken Karl	Kathie Markel

Grants Committee Chair Janie Sims notes that “In addition to setting a new record for funding going off the Reef for 2022, our committee vetted a record number of more than 100 applications requesting another record of \$3.5 million. I want to recognize and thank each of our members (listed at left) for their extraordinary service!”

After months of careful vetting by the committee of your peers, the organizations depicted on these pages were awarded grants for projects benefitting Youth, Education, Health & Family Services, and Community in the Upper Keys, Homestead and Florida City. Here we offer the opportunity to learn about the real-life impact of your participation in the All Charities program directly from the recipient organizations. Enjoy!

CHARITY TOURS After a hiatus during the pandemic, we are thrilled to once again offer the opportunity to visit charities in person on Charity Tours on **December 6, January 16, and February 6** this season. Member feedback from tours is a vital part of the Grants Committee process. Please call the office or email foundation@oceanreef.com for details and reservations.

The Arc of South Florida - ACE Academy South



Thanks to the continued support of ORCF, the children attending ACE Academy South are able to enjoy the safety of **new floors**, which promotes a safe appealing learning environment for our special needs students. The grant funding was also used to repair the leaky roof in our school, which prevents further damage to the structure ensuring that our children achieve their educational and therapeutic goals in a secure environment. With each donation we receive from the ORCF, we become all that much closer to our goal. Thank you for making a difference through your compassion and generosity!

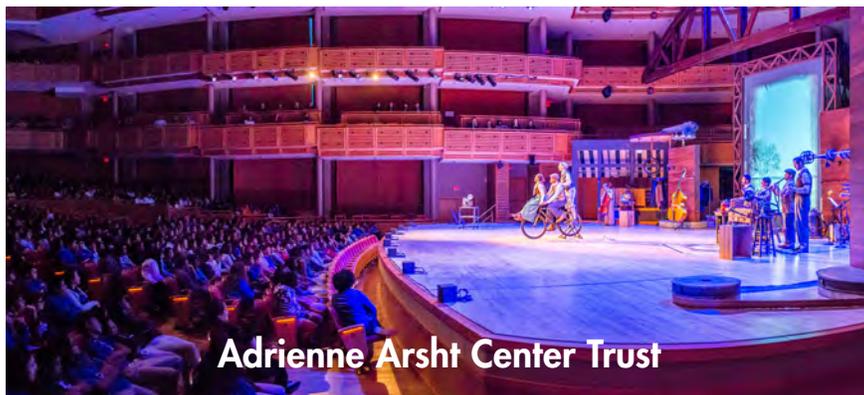
Maria Barros, Director of Florida City



A Chance for Therapy (Act4Me)

It was with great honor and joy that we received this Ocean Reef Community Foundation grant. Through it, six underserved children with disabilities are receiving a year of therapy. The effects are beyond belief, helping them reach their highest potential, and have a better life. When we started this endeavor thirteen years ago, we knew that we had a long road ahead of us. We have learned since then, that we do not have to travel that road alone, because organizations such as yours are here to accompany us. Thank you from all of us at Act4Me! Together we are making a difference in our community!

Maida Bignon-Berberian, Founder and President



Adrienne Arsht Center Trust

The Adrienne Arsht Center is grateful for Ocean Reef Community Foundation’s support, which enables us to ensure that all children in Miami-Dade County have access to high-quality performing arts experiences by eliminating financial and geographical barriers. We are thrilled to welcome up to 26,000 seventh graders to Knight Concert Hall for the live performance of *Kitty Hawk*. This specially commissioned Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math initiative leverages the arts as a tool for increasing awareness of STEM concepts, while equipping teachers with tools for enhanced instruction.

Beth Markowitz, Manager of Foundation Relations



Autism Society of the Keys (ASK)

Thank you Ocean Reef Community Foundation for your generous gift to help us support and improve the lives of Upper Keys children with autism and their families. Young people with autism are extremely vulnerable to changing situation and family upsets. Covid, families in financial stress, rising pricing, and unstable economies take their toll on whole-family units. The Autism Society of the Keys (ASK) is delighted to say that with your help our services have been bright spots in the lives of these negatively affected Upper Keys boys and girls...and their families.

Jill Campbell, Executive Director



The Advocate Program

Ocean Reef has helped veterans like Combat Army Veteran, Kimberly. Ms. Kimberly has many challenges which sometimes cause her housing environment to be unstable. With the assistance from Ocean Reef, Kimberly was assisted with her water and electrical bills. Kimberly told her case manager that the foundation funds were easy for her to access and very helpful. She doesn't know where you would have gotten help without the Ocean Reef Foundation Funds. Due to this assistance, Kimberly is able to maintain a healthy housing environment.

Asia Ariza, Case Manager

Branches Florida City



VITA Tax Savings Champions

Thanks to your continued generosity, Branches was able to provide a semi-virtual tax preparation model to help hardworking families and individuals secure tax credits which they used to pay down debts, start micro-businesses, invest in reliable transportation, make a down payment on a home, and save and invest in their future. This tax season, the VITA program assisted over 700 taxpayers, securing over \$1.5 M in tax refunds from Homestead, Florida City and the Upper Keys.

Christine Coronado, Associate Director of Financial Wellness



Grow and Climb

Neither of my parents have a college education but believed that an American education would create opportunities and open doors for their children. However, they did not know how to guide us or fully navigate the education system. Branches became the bridge for me and my brothers to incredible opportunities. Thank you Ocean Reef Community Foundation for funding life changing work in Florida City through Branches.

Geraldo Marcelin, Branches Alum and Graduate Residence Coordinator for the Pentagon Community at LSU



Camillus House

Thank you so much for helping ensure that hundreds of formerly homeless children and their parents served through Camillus House receive stability through safe and stable housing. Coupled with supportive after-school programming and everything the children need to thrive in school, the Ocean Reef Community Foundation helps families break the cycle of homelessness once and for all.

Christine Perez, VP of Development



Bridge to Hope

Words can't express the moment we arrive at a client like Martha's to deliver food. In her 80s, she and her husband are struggling to get by. We started delivering when we learned she was hospitalized due to malnutrition. Martha is always overjoyed and tells us she has never eaten so well. Because we go to her, we are aware of the many needs, like when we found out she didn't have a pair of shoes. We bought two pairs and brought them with the next meal delivery! Her health is improving. The generous supporters of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation are the heroes of her story! Thank you ORCF for making this work possible.

Vanessa Tinsley, Executive Director

Burton Memorial United Methodist Church

Food Pantry



We at Burton Memorial say thank you to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for their continuing donations towards our food pantry. Through our perishable donation program, we have been able to

secure 15.2 tons of food from Winn Dixie and Publix YTD, an innovative way to recycle food. These pictures show the refrigerated truck paid for by your generosity. On an average week, it makes one to two trips to collect the week's perishable food donations. Through this program, we provide families with meats, produce, bakery and deli foods that would have otherwise gone to waste.

Kerry Foote, Pastor

Child Development Center Summer Program

Your generous grant to the Burton Memorial CDC Summer Program helped to fund field trips and bus transportation, as well as provide the supplies for the many arts and crafts we did with the children. Our participants ranged between 20-30 school age children, ages 5-13. Every year we try to create fun and creative curriculums to ensure the children enjoy their summer with us while doing fun activities. Without this grant the activities we do and trips we take would not be possible. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the children and families of Burton Memorial CDC Summer Program.



Dominique Whitehead; Summer Program Teacher

Caring For Miami



A BIG thank you to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for providing us the necessary financial support to care for the underserved in Homestead, Florida City and the Upper Keys. It is because of your generous giving that Caring for Miami's Project Smile has been able to provide \$121,434 in donated care. Through your generous support 140 individuals are smiling wider and brighter! And we are on track to facilitate 410 more visits this year. Thank you for helping us transform lives, one smile at a time.

Mary Wick, Dental Outreach Coordinator

The Children's Voice Chorus



I would like to express my deep personal gratitude to everyone in the Ocean Reef Foundation for supporting our choral and early childhood music programs in Florida City. With the support of this grant, we saw the universal language of music at play and its power to bridge divides and create safe spaces for children. Our choir students beamed with pride during performances that highlighted their accomplishments and connected them with professional artists including Julian Marley. Thank you for giving our students the opportunity to be heard through song.

Jamie Sutta, Founder & Artistic Director

Chapters Health Hospice of South Florida

Chapters Health Hospice of South Florida is the only not-for-profit hospice provider in Monroe County. The Ocean Reef Community Foundation has supported Chapters Health Hospice since 2021 when it began providing quality home hospice care and no-cost bereavement counseling in the Keys. 2022 funding is enabling Chapters Health Hospice to provide greater community outreach and support to the Upper Keys communities and improve quality of life for patients, their families, and the community at large. Upper Keys patients represent 37 percent of the total patient census at Chapters Health Hospice.

Adam Stanfield, Vice President Development, Chapters Health System, Inc. and Executive Director, Chapters Health Foundation, Inc.



Chapman Partnership

Chapman Buddies is a mentoring model used within our Family Resource Center to build the resilience of children experiencing homelessness. They come to our doorstep longing for belonging and receive hope-inspiring care that mitigates the effects of trauma and promotes wellbeing. The impact is far reaching, like for Rafael, a Nicaraguan immigrant and his family who were found living on our streets. Safe and secure at Chapman Partnership for the past nine months, Rafael is excelling academically, having increased his proficiency in the English language and improved his math and reading scores!

Victoria L. Hopta, Chief Development Officer, Philanthropic Investments

City Year Miami

The City Year AmeriCorps team has been working incredibly hard to ensure that students at Homestead Middle School feel supported in and out of the classroom. Thanks to the generosity of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, the team has already been able to support over 200 students in their social-emotional growth! The team is looking forward to holding events where the students they serve will be able to have fun and learn at the same time.

Katherine Ellison, Impact Manager



The College of the Florida Keys



Thanks to the grant from the Foundation and the opportunity to redirect the funds to support Hospitality programming, The College of the Florida Keys was able to offer and staff courses in Managing Housekeeping, Leadership and Management Practices and Hospitality Internships first time and in face to face format at

the Upper Keys Center. The number of students in the Hospitality program in the Upper Keys doubled from Fall 2021 to 2022 and the number of students enrolled in the Business program has tripled.

Stephanie Scuder, Executive Director CFK Foundation and VP of Advancement

Cox Science Center and Aquarium

(Formerly known as the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium)



The Cox Science Center and Aquarium is honored to be an Ocean Reef Foundation Grant recipient and serve over 1,000 at-risk, Title 1 elementary students in Homestead, Florida City, and Key Largo this school year with the Passport to STEM program. During this program, students are eager to learn about medical science and technology. These moments and experiences in the classroom inspire students to go into STEM fields and become the future movers and shakers in the science industry in South Florida.

Carla Duhaney, Chief Operating Officer

Domestic Abuse Shelter

Many thanks to the ORCF for your funding. The ORCF funds make it possible to train professional service providers, law enforcement, and community members about domestic violence and the services DAS provides in order to provide a higher level of safety for survivors and their families. Also within this grant is the ability to provide prevention trainings to youth about healthy relationships.

Sheryl Schwab, Chief Executive Officer



DMF Employment Opportunities



Only 16 percent of individuals with disabilities have paid employment! DMF Employment Opportunities creates jobs for young adults with unique abilities. With your donations, we are serving 120 individuals in South Florida, many in Homestead. Thank you for giving us the power to overcome obstacles, help support our families, change our lives, grow into men and women that can be strong and contribute to society. Thank you for believing that we can work, drive, be as independent as possible by reaching our maximum potential and being part of our community. We want to live in a world for all!

Lileana de Moya, President and CEO

Coral Shores High School Athletic Department Hardship Fund



Please let me express my deep appreciation for the help you are providing student-athletes at Coral Shores. Your grant has allowed us to underwrite mem-

bers of multiple teams who otherwise wouldn't have financial resources. After speaking with our coaching staff and asking for unidentified needs, I found that we have a good number of young men and women in our athletic program who cannot afford three meals a day. Working with coaches, administration, school nurses and counselors, we've identified – and are also helping – several individuals with nutritional challenges.

Richard C Russell, Athletic Director



Family Central

Thank you so much for your generous donation to expand the reach of our Benefit Enrollment program to the most vulnerable residents of south Miami-Dade County. Your investment of a \$25,000 grant allows an additional 220 children and their families to be linked with essential referrals such as child care, food, medical insurance, housing, clothing, cribs/beds, diapers and transportation. With these basic needs provided, these families are now able seek employment and provide safer and more stable homes for their children. Thank you for joining Family Central in changing lives for a lifetime.

Wendy Salomon,
Chief Operating Officer



Florida Keys Children's Shelter

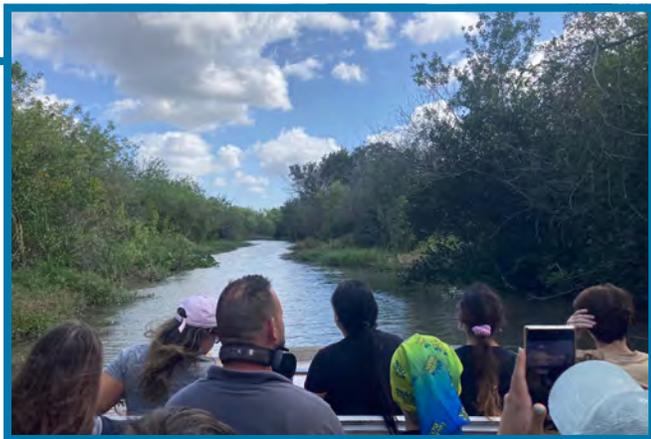
Youth going through unimaginable times depend on us for safety, housing, case management, food, and counseling. This past year, a total of 115 youth called us "home" in our residential programs, and hundreds of children received our preventative and intervention counseling. Our camps operated at full capacity for children ages 10-17 during all school breaks. All services are free and available regardless of gender, religion, or race. Your generous funding has allowed us to deliver high-quality programs to the children of the Florida Keys. Thank you, ORCF, for your kind and continuous advocacy!

Ben Kemmer, CEO

Feeding South Florida

Hunger does not discriminate. It knows no race, religion or age. The Ocean Reef Foundation's generosity aided our food distribution efforts, including our Children's Backpack Program, in the Upper Keys, Homestead, and Florida City. This support came at a crucial time, when the demand for food has increased significantly.

Paco Vélez, President and CEO, Feeding South Florida



Florida Keys Area Health Education Center

There are Angels in our Community. The Ocean Reef Community Foundation has had an unparalleled effect on our program. Support means that medical and dental services will remain intact and be available uninterrupted during the full school year. With nine primary care clinics and a full dental program, we have provided over 11,000 patient visits for over 70,000 services. The need has been so great that the dental program is almost fully booked with appointments extending into January 2023. Expansion is now being discussed. None of this would be possible without your generosity...Thank You!

Michael Cunningham, CEO





Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition

The Ocean Reef Community Foundation continues to honor its commitment to the health, safety, and well-being of Upper Keys families. Funds granted have literally saved lives by ensuring medical appointments have taken place, children are traveling safely in cars, and families receive child development education. Through our relationships, families trust us and can turn to us when they need extra help. Thanks to you, we are able to provide vital services that allow families to use their limited resources in order to meet their other immediate needs, such as housing, utilities, and food security.

Arianna Nesbitt, CEO

Florida Keys Foster and Adoptive Parent Association

Through your support we are able to provide a normal and successful future to kids like Christopher. He is achieving something he never thought possible. Just because he is in foster care he feared he would be left out of events and functions because he is not with family. We have the pleasure to show him, he is all deserving. Christopher, a high school senior, is a finalist in the 2022 Palm Beaches Student Showcase of Films. This is an extreme honor and testament to his talents in the area of TV production. The grant will help his future endeavors and all senior events.

Holly Estes



Florida Keys Outreach Coalition

The Florida Keys Outreach Coalition is grateful for the Ocean Reef Community Foundation's continued support in our goal to keep our neighbors housed and end homelessness in Monroe County!

Jeanette McLemon, Executive Director

Genesis Hopeful Haven

Thanks to you, our students have a haven where they form friendships, receive tutoring, vocational training and attend life skills training. With your help, 13 of our Butterfly Babies passed their learners permit exam, three purchased cars, 11 received high school diplomas, 11 got summer jobs, and 100 percent of our high school graduates began post-secondary education. We have 50 foster youth ages 15-17 enrolled in the Butterfly program. And with your support, we are excited to make a huge impact in their lives. Thank you for helping us foster new beginnings!

Fritzie Saintoiry, CEO



Girl Scout Council of Tropical Florida

On Sunday, September 18, Jaslen and Heaven from Girl Scout Troop 8058 hosted their Backyard Bash Silver Award Event in Homestead. The girls recruited community partners to host tables and created a brochure which summarized resources for local food, bill, and housing assistance. Girl Scouts of Tropical Florida is grateful for the support of Ocean Reef Community Foundation which has empowered girls in Homestead to better serve their community and earn their highest awards in Girl Scouting.

Chelsea Wilkerson, CEO



Greater Miami Youth Symphony

Programming for Greater Miami Youth Symphony is expanding at Florida City Elementary School. We are excited about the possibilities! Thanks to the generous support of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, we will be able to expand our program this year from two days a week to four days. Additionally, our regular recorder and bucket band classes will be expanded to include brass, woodwind and percussion instruments which will enhance the musical experience for each child. The students are eager to get started and we are looking forward to a fun and creative year!

Donald Mills, Music Teacher, Florida City Elementary School



Greater Miami Youth for Christ

City Life KIX gives a big THANK YOU to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation. Now that society has “socially distanced” from the pandemic, we’ve been able to rebuild our leadership program. More students are coming back which means there are more potential leaders in the building. With the help of Ocean Reef, we will continue to build off the momentum we have now in order to develop our leaders through our Leadership Academy, post-secondary planning, service projects, team building outings, college tours, and job training. Thank you for believing in the kids of West Homestead!

Jules Altidor, City Life KIX West Homestead Site Director

Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys



On behalf of Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys, thank you Ocean Reef Community Foundation! We are so appreciative of your generous donation. Your support goes towards the construction of two new properties. The Gardenia Place project will be located next to Plantation Key School, our elementary school. The Wrenn Street project is located next to Coral Shores High School. The Habitat homes being built (because of you) are in a quiet, safe neighborhood, where families will be able to prosper and enjoy all the fun things to do while living and working in the Florida Keys.

Lindsay Fast, Executive Director



Guitars Over Guns Organization

Ocean Reef Community Foundation has been instrumental in supporting Guitars Over Guns’ efforts to unlock the potential in South Dade youth. At our annual Student Showcase, Tati, a student at Homestead Middle School, was interviewed directly after her first ever public performance. Tati said, “I’m feeling so amazing. I really did that. I stepped out of my comfort zone and it felt so good to do. I messed up a little bit, but I kept going, because that’s what they taught me.” This is why we do it.

Walker Moseley, Regional Director





Health Information Project (HIP)

During this school year, HIP is educating over 60,000 9th grade students across Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and Pinellas counties. Because of partners like ORCF, high school students will receive comprehensive health education and the support they need to access healthcare. HIP focuses on prevention and ensuring that all teens are physically and emotionally safe and healthy. In light of the devastating impact of the pandemic on the mental health of teens, partners, like ORCF, are even more essential in supporting the critical work that HIP is doing in our schools.

Risa Berrin, Founder & Chief Executive Officer

Homestead Christian Academy

The students, staff and families at Homestead Christian Academy would like to extend our greatest thanks to Ocean Reef Community Foundation for providing funds to enhance our outdoor play area for at-risk infants and children. These funds to install shade structures will allow children to enjoy the outdoors with much needed protection from Florida's harsh UV rays. Additional outdoor enhancements include outdoor seating and play equipment to facilitate outdoor learning and development. We anticipate these enhancements to impact between 175-200 youth annually in our community.



Nicole Vasconcellos



ICU baby

The grant from Ocean Reef Community Foundation has helped ICU baby unite parents with their baby in the NICU. With gas prices at an all-time high and Miami traffic at its peak, travel back-and-forth from home in Homestead to the area's largest NICUs is harder than it's ever been. The financial stress placed on a family for this travel is eliminated and they are able to be at their baby's NICU bedside as frequently as they are able to engage in

their baby's care. Thank you for helping our community's tiniest members have a positive bonding experience with their parents from the start of life.

Elizabeth Simonton, CEO

Jacobs Aquatic Center

Your funding of our project "Maintenance and Safety" has allowed us to better serve the community with the safest, most fun filled experience possible. The addition of shade structures has been very well received. The replacement and additional safety mats have significantly reduced slip and falls and also allows us a surface which is safer but also cooler. Honestly, without Ocean Reef Community Foundation's thoughtful generosity, these expensive repairs and additions would be only possible in 3-4 year stages. We completed it totally in six months!

Greg Hallock, Manager



Just Older Youth (JOY)

We thank the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for their vision in funding a most innovative program. The project revolves around teaching teens which has proven very effective in behavioral changes. It involves an inter-generational component; the seniors from the Just Older Youth center providing tutoring; school teachers; families; students and during the last phase of the program, community presentations. You could not find a more inclusive program!

Blanqui Gálvez, President, JOY Board of Directors



Key Largo School

Summer Recreation Program



The Key Largo Summer Recreation program is extremely grateful to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for helping students in the Upper Keys to attend the program during the summer. The program offered educational and typical summer recreational sports for approximately 200 students. Children were able to participate in field trips to Jacobs Aquatic Center, Aquarium Encounters, and Theater of the Sea. Without the help of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, this program would not exist. The program is a fun, safe learning environment for everyone involved

Ryan Smith



Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)



This past year, the 8th grade AVID students participated in a college tour of the University of South Florida. They also toured the University of Miami. The 7th grade AVID students and the AVID Excel class did a campus tour at Florida International University, and the 6th grade AVID students learned about environmental careers in the realm of our National Parks in the Everglades. We are extremely grateful to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for the opportunity to build students' mindsets toward college and career opportunities.

Tiffany Zepeda, VP

Kids 4 Kids USA, Inc.

Last year, ORCF support was instrumental in making our pilot program possible. This year ORCF support was HUGE for allowing our program continue to grow, serving 16 families and counting. The grant will send our director to the American Red Cross Instructor Trainer Academy for the certifications necessary to build more Upper Keys swim instructors and more swim opportunities locally! At camp this summer, our swimmers' parents said it best: "Staff was amazing! I am forever grateful!", "Really great staff! Knowledgeable, loving, and highly motivated". Thanks ORCF!

Tana Bleser Carson



Kids Come First In The Florida Keys

KCF and Upper Keys schools are very grateful to the ORCF and the generous, caring donors for providing hundreds of students with pride, confidence, and smiling faces. Each school has a Kids' Closet, stocked with backpacks, supplies, new clothing, shoes, and personal items provided as needed on a daily basis. Teachers, counselors, and school staff identify student needs and items are discreetly provided. While students are our mission, the Kids' Closet also benefits teachers by providing happy students with the tools to succeed and less stress for parents facing financial adversity. A heartfelt thank you!

Roxane Posada, Executive Director



Mexican-American Council

Thank you to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for your continued support and investment in South Dade youth through the MAC College and Career Prep. This year, 29 farmworker youth were recognized with 2-year and 4-year scholarships to use for their post-secondary education. Your kindness and generosity are making an impact in our community that will touch lives for generations to come. We are breaking the cycle of poverty through hard work, discipline, and access to a quality education. Thank you!

Edward C. Garza, Executive Director



Kristi House

ORCF's support of Kristi House's Project GOLD services in Homestead has helped young female trafficking survivors in overcoming horrific exploitation and abuse, providing them with job training, career planning, wraparound supportive services and hope for the future.

Amanda G. Altman, Esq., CEO



Ladies Empowerment & Action Program (LEAP)

When I went to prison, I lost my self-esteem and identity. I was lost and scared my son would never talk to me again. LEAP has allowed me to find myself, to heal, rebuild my relationship with my son, and pursue my goals for a successful future. Having this community of people who believe in me has helped me to believe in myself again! After being home for a little over a year, I am now employed with LEAP as an Administrative Assistant and through my position I am able to work with other women who have experienced incarceration. I am able to share with them the hope that I now have for my future.

Danielle Estes, LEAP Graduate of in-prison program and current LEAP Administrative Assistant



Monroe County Education Foundation (Take Stock in Children)

The Monroe County Education Foundation expresses its extreme gratitude to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for its steadfast and generous support of the Take Stock in Children program serving our most deserving scholars in the Upper Keys. Three of the sixteen TSIC graduating scholars from Coral Shores High School were recognized as ORCF Named Scholars. Your support has covered four years of tuition, fees, and two years of housing at FAU, FIU, and FGCU for these three ORCF Named Scholars, allowing them to pursue their dream of a college degree and career while incurring little to no debt. Thank you!

Chuck Licis-Masson, Executive Director

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Thank you Ocean Reef Community Foundation donors for supporting delivery of our Florida Heiken Children’s Vision Program, enabling the “gift of vision” for 800 schoolchildren helping them advance and thrive in school, at home, and in their community. Funding will help provide free comprehensive eye exams and free prescription glasses for students in Homestead, Florida City, and the Upper Keys, creating life-changing impact. Seventy-seven percent of students will show academic and social improvement after receiving eyeglasses through our eye health services.

Virginia A. Jacko, President and CEO



Monroe Association for ReMARCable Citizens

We cannot thank you enough for helping us feed our clients with developmental disabilities a nutritious lunch five days a week. We are teaching both how to prepare and enjoy nutritious food while learning how to take care of their bodies.

*Kylie Hungerford, Program Director
MARC Upper Keys Program*



MUJER

We are incredibly grateful for the Ocean Reef Community Grant. Without it, the community would suffer tremendously. The generous funding provided by Ocean Reef allows us to perform individual therapy for clients recovering from domestic violence and sexual abuse, as well as to run a preventative education group for children teaching them how to recognize this abuse and how to express their emotions in a family dynamic in a healthy manner. We provide critical psychological tools that assist human beings in coping, overcoming, and healing from trauma, which alters the course of their lives.

Jan Rodriguez, Children’s Therapist



The Motivational Edge



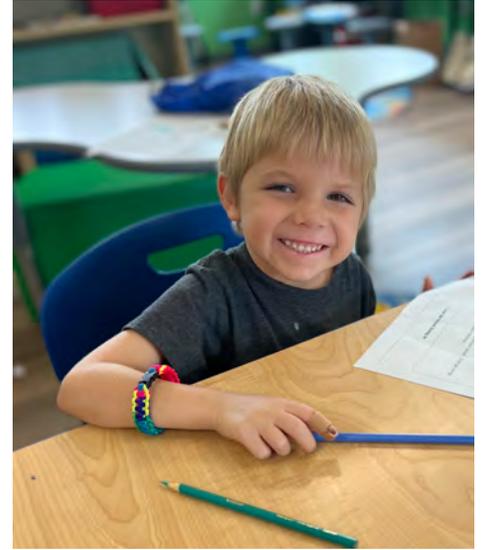
The Motivational Edge would like to extend its warmest gratitude to those donors, sponsors, and supporters of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation. Due in part to your gracious generosity, we have been able to extend our scope of work and make a powerful impact to those less fortunate in the Homestead community. This includes providing dozens of marginalized youth and teens, including those in crisis situations, with positive life skill development, continued mentoring and the building of their self-confidence; which leads to a more hopeful outlook in their lives. The Edge Fam thanks you!

Jessenia Francisco, Chief Relationship Officer

Ocean Studies Public Charter School

We are SO excited and looking forward to providing our elementary and middle school students with the opportunity to learn fine arts through our core curriculum. Integrating the arts into English, Math, Science and Social Studies classes will help our children be exposed to crafts such as drama, dance, music, and painting in meaningful ways! SO MANY THANKS for helping us find creative ways to bring the fine arts into our children's learning lives – we couldn't have done it without the Ocean Reef Community Foundation! (Professional Development Classes are scheduled.)

Jessica Martinez, Programs Coordinator



Redlands Christian Migrant Association

Thanks to your donation, we will be able to purchase a shade structure for our pre-school children at Redlands Child Development Center. Although we have an array of playground pieces, the intense heat that sunny South Florida provides year-round usually does not allow the children to use the slides and climbers that are part of the playground equipment. Because the equipment can become too hot to the touch, the shade structure will provide continuous coverage and allow the equipment to stay at an acceptable temperature, where the children can fully enjoy the outdoor play environment at all times of the day.

Guadalupe Leal, Area Coordinator



PATCHES PPEC

We would sincerely like to thank Ocean Reef Community Foundation for this opportunity. This grant has provided more opportunities for the therapists at PATCHES to improve the lives of the children at the center. New, upgraded toys (therapy equipment) has allowed us to help address the limitations our patients have while allowing them to "play". These therapy "toys" have allowed the therapists to create new and innovative techniques to motivation and increase participation from the children at PATCHES. You truly have opened a new world for our kids. These toys light up their lives.

Charrie Sanchez, MS, OTR/L, Director of Therapy Services

South Florida Council Boy Scouts of America



Thank you for your continued support of the Scouting program for Redland Elementary School. Scouting is a program that progresses with each grade and offers challenges for the girls and boys to strive for achievement towards their badge of rank. It is always rewarding to see the Scouts' smiling faces as we gather after the long summer break. New adventures await with the direct support of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation. Thank you!

Jeffrey Berger, Scout Executive



South Florida After-School All-Stars

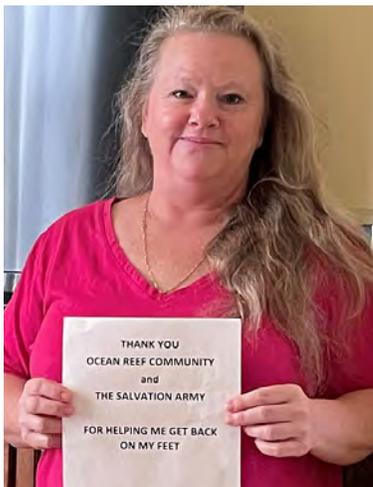
We are grateful to Ocean Reef Community Foundation for providing much needed resources to two under-resourced community schools, Redland Middle and Mandarin Lakes K-8. Children who attend these schools are often from struggling, impoverished families. Through resources provided by Ocean Reef Community Foundation, transformative opportunities are being provided to these students, free of charge, that help deepen comprehension and promote critical thinking, allowing for a broader exploration of future careers, college, increased engagement in learning, and narrowing the achievement gap.

Gussie Flynn, Director of Development & Marketing

South Dade Veterans Alliance

I no longer feel alone. It is great – the planned events, and comradery that these ladies have for one another make it so easy to feel welcomed. I know they understand what I am saying and my perspective when speaking. Due to the outings, and events we have I can see places, and experience things I would not have without being a part of this group and organization. They give so much information and directions as well as connect you to where you need to go for personal assistance. I am so thankful to be a client of SDVA and I look forward to continuing my journey with them.

LaTonya Belvins, Client of South Dade Veterans Alliance



The Salvation Army

Thank you, Ocean Reef Community Foundation for recent grant funding. These funds assisted 16 Monroe County residents with rent, mobile home lot fees, much-needed furniture, and mortgage payments. A resident without a home for 10 months was able to receive desperately needed furniture. A family who lost their home to fire was provided mortgage assistance. Other families survived their struggle to pay the bills due to COVID. The Ocean Reef Community Foundation's generous funding made significant impacts in the lives of these very grateful families.

Loretta Geolis, Case Manager

Special Olympics Florida Monroe County

Special Olympics Florida Monroe County would like to thank the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for their generous support of our athletes, persons with disabilities ages two to end of life, in the Upper Keys. Through this year's grant award, we have been able to resume operations that were severely damped by COVID. Unified Soccer Teams from Key Largo School and Coral Shores High School were able to conduct a full season, culminating in competition at State Games in Orlando, along with an in-county Unified Soccer Tournament, hosted by Key Largo School, all funded by the award.

Laurie Dunn, Special Olympics Florida-Monroe County Coordinator



Star of the Sea Foundation



SOS is extremely grateful to ORCF for generously supporting our Upper Key Hunger Relief Program, which makes recovered fresh food and supplemental shelf-stable items available to St. Justin's pantry clients on a weekly basis. Clients are estimated to save a \$60-70 trip to the grocery store with each pantry visit, enabling them to put those savings towards other costs of living such as rent, utilities, childcare, and healthcare,

while simultaneously preventing chronic illnesses associated with poor nutrition. Since March, SOS has sustained about 2,600 household visits with this program!

Lisa Niederman, Director of Programs

St. Justin Martyr Preschool

To all those who generously donated to the St. Justin Martyr Preschool playground grant request – thank you, thank you, thank you! It is hard to put into words how much the new playground equipment will impact the children and future children that attend St. Justin Martyr Preschool. I look forward to sending updated photos of the children enjoying the new equipment with smiles on their little faces!

Marliese Ljuba, Administrative Assistant



TIPS Florida Keys Youth Basketball League

It really is amazing to see how the FKYBL continues to improve year after year! My boys have been a part of the league since the start, and every year the league continues to get better. Their organization, professionalism, and support of the entire community keeps getting stronger. As a result, my own two boys continue to grow, develop, and gain confidence at a rate I would have never expected. We are so happy to have our family involved with the league, and thrilled to have the FKYBL as a part of our Keys community!

Ingelise Giles, 5 year FKYBL parent, FIU Associate Professor

Start off Smart

Police Academy Scholarships



Becoming a police officer has been my lifelong dream, a dream I began to pursue at 14, as a Police Explorer in Homestead. This path has been challenging for me, but with dedication and guidance from the officers who lead our program I have learned to work hard and trust the process. As I begin the police academy I

can't help but think of all the little moments that got me here. I'm excited to pay it forward, to serve my community and wouldn't be here today without the generous scholarship from Ocean Reef Community Foundation. Thank you for making my dream come true!

Jacklyn Hoyte, Homestead Police Recruit



Community Policing Campaign

Through the support of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, the Homestead Police Department has been able to partner with residents, the community, non-profit agencies and local schools in order to enhance efforts to involve everyone in crime prevention efforts. Through our "See Something, Say Something" initiative, we are able to remind everyone that they have a critical role to play in reducing crime, if you see something that does not look or feel right, say something, so together we can prevent a crime from occurring, and just maybe, save a life.

Sgt. Robbie Tate, Community Policing Unit, Homestead Police Department

Three Virtues Organization

It is with great appreciation that we are saying thank you on behalf of our summer camp participants and three youth volunteers. Summer can be hard for families who cannot afford a vacation, don't have paid time off, or have insufficient funds to pay for weekly outings. With your generous endowment, we secured bus transportation for the whole summer and 137 trip entrance.

Alpha Fleurimond, Executive Director

I think it is a great program that allows our children to become independent thinkers.

Jacequeline, Three Virtues mom



Upper Keys Baseball Development Foundation Corporation

Steady Bats is grateful for the grant from the Ocean Reef Community Foundation. The grant was used to purchase equipment and improve the facility. Baseball skills are not the only lessons taught at Steady Bats. Our kids are learning to work effectively with others that have different skill sets, abilities, ages, learning processes and backgrounds. Through use of cognitive and behavioral therapy tools, we work with youth to manage disappointments and celebrate victories both as individuals and as a team. We are proud of our kids. Your support is invaluable to us, thank you.

Pamela Molinaro, Licensed Mental Health Coach



Touching Miami with Love Ministries (West Homestead Site)



Adult Literacy Empowerment Program



Ocean Reef, you have helped us give the invaluable gift of education, one of the most transformative tools for a better life and well-being. Adult learners aged 18 all the way to 85 were ready to enroll for a new year before their final classes even finished. The impact is so profound that many participants brought their family and friends to sign up for classes, leading to a waiting list. Adult Literacy Empowerment provides a great sense of purpose and pride to our families, and your support allows us to continue breaking barriers for households across West Homestead.

Youth Development Job Training Program

ORCF, we are grateful for how you enabled us to transform youth lives this year. They stepped out of their comfort zones and benefited from true socialization with peers and their communities. They explored the outdoors like never before and built bonds that taught true friendship and development. They grew character, compassion, and responsibility through program components such as Social-Emotional Learning, Job Training, and Civic Engagement. Our summer youth interns poured amazing work ethic into their roles, contributing to a great six weeks of professional development.

Trina Harris, CEO

United Way of Collier and the Keys



Success by Six School Readiness

Ocean Reef Community donors are bridging the gap for hard-working families who earn too much to qualify for assistance but not enough to afford high-quality early education. A grant from ORCF provides full scholarships for two children in the Upper Keys, and when combined with funding from other United Way donors, it qualifies our program for matching dollars from the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe to fund a total of five scholarships. Thanks to your support, we are making a life-changing difference for these children and families. Thank you!

Leah Stockton, Keys Area President

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Thank you to Ocean Reef Community donors who bring so much joy and enrichment to children and families through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL)! This program provides new books to each enrolled child from birth to age five. A quarter of DPIL families have no other children's books in their homes, but the impact of this program goes beyond improving children's literacy. Parents report spending more time reading as a family and improving language skills for the parents themselves if they are learning English. Some families even depend on DPIL books as holiday and birthday gifts!

Lauren Branson, Director of Community Impact





Volunteers of America of Florida

Volunteers of America of Florida (VOAFL) is extremely grateful for the incredible assistance from the Ocean Reef Community. Thanks to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, Inc VOAFL can meet the extensive and specialized needs of the Veterans we serve. Funding to replace kitchen cabinetry is not only giving our veterans a place to live, but also a home they can be proud of which is part of VOAFL's goal to meet the needs of the whole person.

Travis Brown, Vice President of Housing and Community Development

Voices for Florida Keys Children

Due in tremendous part to the generosity of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, Voices for Florida Keys Children delivered grocery gift cards to more than thirty families and provided holiday gifts to over two hundred children who otherwise may have gone without receiving anything from their wish list. Thank you, again, ORCF!

Susan Raffanello, President



Wellspring Counseling

Thank you, Ocean Reef Community Foundation, for helping us bring hope. Through these grant funds, Wellspring has provided discounted counseling services to over 19 families and two mental health talks for 100+ youth. Additionally, we have partnered with First Baptist of Islamorada Community Ministry to provide weekly in-person sessions to over six people per week. First Baptist of Islamorada understood the need to tackle the mental health struggles in order to help people overcome homelessness or addiction. Improvements in mental health translate to improvements in living. Thank you ORCF!

Rebecca Barrios

YMCA of South Florida

Upper Keys After-School and Summer Camp

Brayden is a seven year old who attends the Key Largo programs. He is currently in the second grade. When Brayden arrived his behavior was a challenge and he did not like to be there. However, we have worked with Brayden on ways he can control some of his impulse thoughts and behaviors. He's gone from the young boy that would rage to the young boy that is excited to there! THANK YOU – the support that you give to our YMCA is why we are able to share stories like Brayden's. We appreciate you!

Karla Creque, Associate Executive Director

Homestead After-School Program

For the last few years my children have been attending the aftercare program at Irving and Beatrice Peskoe K-8 center. Before placing my kids in the program, I was all over the place leaving work early to be able to pick my kids up on time. Until one day waiting for the kids to come out, I ran into a parent, and she told me about the YMCA program and that the director was helpful and a sweet person. Now three years later my kids enjoy the program more and more. This program really saved my life and for that I am forever grateful. THANK YOU Ocean Reef Foundation!

Alice Bird, Parent





35 Ocean Reef Drive, Suite 148
Key Largo, Florida 33037

FIRST CLASS MAIL
PRESORTED
US POSTAGE PAID
MIAMI, FL
PERMIT NO. 3203

Our Mission

To foster a culture of giving that amplifies our collective strength, inspiring generations of members to make Ocean Reef and our surrounding communities a better place.

305-367-4707

foundation@
oceanreef.com

THE SAME OLD STORY



By Richard Weinstein, ORCF President

If you have been married for a while, you know one of the wonderful things about making new friends is you and your spouse now have a new audience to entertain with your “old” stories. Of course, your spouse may roll their eyes as you relate one of these tales for the umpteenth time. And even without knowing exactly

how many that is...umpteenth sure seems like a lot!

Back in the days, long before most of us were married, Morse Code was used to communicate. This code was a series of dots and dashes that represented letters. Morse Code senders created their own fanciful way to describe what they were sending – calling a dot an “iddy” and a dash an “umpty”. Over time, “umpty” became associated with the idea of “many”, like a never-ending supply of dashes, and since “teen” is a representation of 10 (I have eighteen means I have eight plus 10,) umpteenth came to mean Umpty (many) teen (tens) so “many 10s”. In other words, those stories have been told a considerable number of times. (And now the story of “umpteenth” is one more of those stories...)

But, hearing them fresh, these stories are a first to the new friends you have made. The saving grace in all this is that you and your new friends can now get together and create brand new stories to share and enjoy (insert eye roll) over and over again. Now the

question becomes, “just where do these new stories come from?” At Ocean Reef that answer is easy! All of the fun and social activities, each have a way to connect and create new memories. Chief among them is the “one ask, one give” fundraising event, the All Charities Gala Weekend.

Each year, we work with our All Charities Chairs to curate new and exciting auction items and experiences. While you might share the tales of memorable past Gala Weekends, we are at the same time, helping you create new memories. Here you can gather with longtime friends while at the same time cultivate new friendships. The amazing experiences offered as part of the live and silent auction provide opportunities to form new connections as part of your bidding strategy, excitement when it comes time to bid, and if you are the fortunate winner of that item, the unforgettable memories that are a part of that one-of-a-kind travel experience or unique event. All that while knowing that this one and only fundraising event supports our nonprofits at Ocean Reef and many charities in the Upper Keys, Florida City and Homestead. How can doing so much “good” be so much fun?!

This is where the memories that are worth sharing over and over again begin. That is why the Ocean Reef Community Foundation is the “Heart of Ocean Reef.” Because it plays such a central part in life throughout the community and is so meaningful to the charities beyond our gates. To these charities you read about in this issue of *The Link*, it is never the “same old story.” Each grant awarded is critical to their mission and your support of our mission, will always be valued. The first time, the umpteenth time... every time.

DON'T LET TIME FLY AWAY WITH YOUR TAX DEDUCTION! Open a fee-free, named Charitable Fund by December 31 to get your 2022 tax deduction and all the time you need to decide how to best distribute your charitable gifts.



oceanreefcommunityfoundation.org



@oceanreefcommunityfoundation



@hearttofoceanreef



@ocean-reef-community-foundation