

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

www.pscharitablefoundation.org

CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTORS

OUR MISSION AND OUR VISION

OUR GRANTMAKING STORY

OUR CHARITIES

OUR EVENTS

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

OUR FINANCES

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTORS

October 1, 2024

Friends of the Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation,

The Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation is extremely proud to present our 2024 Annual Report celebrating five years of “Making a Difference Together”. On the cover of this report are images representing just a few of the charitable organizations that we have supported since our inception.

We want to thank everyone, including residents, volunteers, Pelican Sound staff and corporate sponsors, for making it possible to help local organizations serving families, children, veterans and others in our community. In 2024, our Grants Program was able to award \$145,000 to 12 local charitable organizations, bringing our five-year total to \$525,000. We were able to fund grants with the revenue generated from our events and our fundraising initiatives.

Your generosity has truly made a difference. Please read through our 2024 Annual Report and feel proud that you helped us in *Making a Difference Together!*

Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation Directors 2023/2024

Ed VonderBrink, President

Russ Frith, Treasurer

Mary Ann Zonca, Secretary

Ann Bird

Joan Buffone

Annette Koch

Fred Kohnke

Sue Sawchuk

Larry Stanford

Our Mission

*To support charitable and educational
programs of organizations
that improve the lives of Southwest Florida
residents in need.*

and

Our Vision

Making a Difference Together

OUR GRANTMAKING STORY

In 2018, the Pelican Sound Golf and River Club Administration and Board of Directors welcomed the concept of organizing a way to manage the many requests for charitable fundraising and donation drive events. After exploring options, the **Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation** was created and approved by the PSGRC Board of Directors in 2019, and the journey began.

With over 94,000 charitable and nonprofit organizations in Florida alone, and over 6,000 registered in Lee County, the Foundation had to decide how to focus its efforts. Knowing that many of the community members donate generously to nonprofits in their out-of-state communities, it was determined that the Foundation would focus on *people in need* in its nearby communities in Southwest Florida. Thus, our mission statement was developed to reflect this goal.

The mission of the Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation (PSCF) is to support charitable and educational programs of organizations that improve the lives of SWFL residents in need.

Over the first four years of the Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation, members of the community nominated a total of 19 local nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to people in need in Lee, Hendry and/or Collier counties. Twelve (12) of these nonprofits were nominated consistently by the majority of resident nominators, submitted viable grant applications, and filed final grant reports indicating how their grant funds met local community needs. These twelve nonprofit organizations are now identified as Our Partner Charities and are eligible to submit grant requests annually. The Foundation will evaluate the Partners annually.

**Thanks to the generosity of our community members,
during our first five years, we have awarded
\$525,000 to 31 local nonprofits**

OUR CHARITIES

In April 2024, the Foundation Board awarded \$145,000 to 12 local charities that serve people in need in our nearby communities. Below you will find a brief description of each organization that received a grant. We encourage you to visit their websites to learn more about these worthy charities and their causes.

A.N.A.'s Friends (formerly Guardian Ad Litem of 20th Judicial Circuit) - \$10,000

Dedicated to serving abused, neglected, and abandoned children in Southwest Florida! A.N.A.'s Friends works tirelessly to provide vulnerable individuals with the support, care, guidance and resources they need to overcome adversity and build brighter futures.



American Heart Association of SWFL - \$10,000

The AHA is committed to fighting heart disease and stroke by raising awareness. The LEADERS FOR A RESILIENT GENERATION Program focuses on children in grades 3-5 in high poverty elementary schools in Lee and Collier counties.



Café of Life - \$8,500

Café of Life Restricted Fund Award - \$10,000

The mission of Café of Life is to empower the community's poor to lift themselves out of poverty—to help to build self-esteem, hope, opportunity, and freedom. The ongoing OUTREACH PROGRAM provides daily meals, food staples, diapers, and hygiene items to those in need.



The Dubin Center - \$15,000

The mission of the Dubin Center is to achieve caregiver health, strength and resilience by providing education, information, hope and compassion. The DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT & EDUCATION program provides training for caregivers and persons living with a dementia-related diagnosis.



Feeding the 5,000 Lamb of God Church - \$10,000

The Feeding the 5000 annual THANKSGIVING OUTREACH PROGRAM serves families in need with nutritional food during the Thanksgiving holidays.



OUR CHARITIES

Habitat for Humanity of Lee & Hendry Counties - \$18,000

The AFFORDABLE HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM is a HUD-approved housing counseling agency that builds new and rehabilitates existing homes and sells them to qualified, low-income families by using an affordable mortgage.



Hearts & Homes for Veterans - \$10,000

H&H4V provides assistance for homeless veterans to obtain housing and other life necessities that include emergency services such as temporary housing, rent assistance, utilities, food and transportation needs.



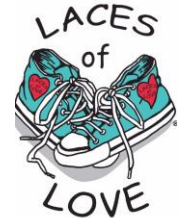
Interfaith Charities of South Lee = \$8,000

Interfaith Charities of South Lee is a community service organization serving the residents of South Fort Myers, Estero, and San Carlos Park. It provides hope and help through their food pantry, bill pay and free tax assistance, community programs, & more.



Laces of Love - \$12,000

The mission of Laces of Love is to provide new shoes for kids in need. Laces of Love partners with local schools and other agencies to ensure that children in need have shoes for school and sports programs.



New Horizons of SWFL - \$15,000

NH of SWFL works to ensure that all students grow into successful members of our community and graduate from high school with a plan for the future. The annual SUPER KIDS READING CAMP ensures that children maintain their reading skills through the summer while having fun!



Our Mother's Home - \$8,000

The mission of OMH is to empower young *mothers* in the foster care and human trafficking systems to break the generational cycle for themselves and their child. The MENTORED LIVING PROGRAM teaches skills to care for their child and provides education and life skills.



Our Mother's Home
of Southwest Florida, Inc.

Protected Harbor – \$10,000

PH provides residential and community-based programs and services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Programs include social communication & community safety; community exploration, fitness and art.



PROTECTED HARBOR
A SAFE HAVEN FOR GOD'S SPECIAL PEOPLE

OUR EVENTS

Spooktacular Golf Outing

The annual PSCF Spooktacular Golf Outing was held on October 28, 2023 with close to 150 golfers participating in the fun-filled 18-hole golf outing. The golfers made the most of the event by decorating their carts and wearing their favorite Halloween outfits. The golf course also had some creative and fun ways to play. A celebration dinner was served once the play ended and winners were announced. In addition to the fun, over \$6,900 was raised for the Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation.

Pelican Sound Association Fee Raffle

PSCF sold over 300 raffle tickets for the chance to win the 2024 Pelican Sound Association Fee worth over \$9,800. Pelican Sound residents were excited to participate in the chance to wipe out their annual association fee and PSCF benefited by raising over \$21,000! With the success of this fundraiser, PSCF is looking to make this raffle an annual event.

Casino Night

On February 25th PSCF brought Las Vegas to Pelican Sound! Over 160 residents enjoyed a fun-filled evening playing all sorts of casino games in the Vista Room. Both novices and experienced gamblers enjoyed gambling with PS Funny money to win raffle tickets for the chance to win over 30 prizes ranging in value from \$75 to \$2,500. Thanks to PS residents who donated various items for the raffle baskets including fishing trips, baseball tickets, artwork, a week's stay at a beautiful ski resort, and Masters tickets. Donations from various local vendors also added extreme value to the raffle baskets. PSCF was the big winner with net proceeds of over \$15,000! A big thank you to the two main corporate sponsors adding another \$6,000 to the bottom line.

Volunteer Fair

Each year, the Pelican Sound residents enjoy the opportunity to meet with and discuss volunteer opportunities with local SWFL non-profits. Despite the heavy rains, on January 13th over 100 PS residents came to the Vista Room to meet with 25 SWFL non-profits. Even though this event did not have a direct fundraising component, feedback from both the residents and non-profits continues to reinforce the importance of this event.

OUR SPECIAL PROJECTS

SPECIAL COLLECTION DRIVES AND EVENTS

In May 2024, after five years of accepting proposals for Special Donation Projects, the Board of Directors of the Foundation voted to identify three permanent annual donation projects. These three projects have proven to have community-wide support that do not conflict with other major community events.

Cafe of Life Diaper Drive - 30,954 Diapers donated

Generous donations of diapers by PS residents to Cafe of Life represent an \$11,000 contribution and provided a huge relief to parents who struggle to afford this expensive necessity.

Laces of Love Shoe Drive - 730 pairs of shoes for school children donated

Through the Laces of Love shoe drive, shoes are distributed to low income and disadvantaged children in Lee and Collier counties through the schools and other nonprofits that serve "Laces" kids. This year's efforts collected shoes valued at over \$21,000 to put on the feet of kids who need them.

Interfaith Charities of South Lee - Food & Hygiene Product Donation

(2nd floor of Fitness Center)

Throughout the year, community members are invited to donate non-perishable food and hygiene products to Interfaith Charities of South Lee by dropping off products to the "bench" in the hallway of the second floor of the Fitness Center. At the end of each season or at the end of a visit, please donate unopened items that are so desperately needed by the working poor in our county. In the last fiscal year, thousands of items were donated by thoughtful and generous residents. THANK YOU!

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

There are so many people to thank for supporting The Pelican Sound Charitable Foundation. Our **Friends of the Foundation** are PS residents that have been extremely generous with their direct monetary donations through our email appeals. This year, 27 households contributed more than \$79,000.

PLATNINUM LEVEL \$10,000+

David and Jo Sweet
Stephen and Linda Weaver

SILVER LEVEL \$2,500-\$4,999

Cliff and Dianne Bridges
Russell Frith
Paul Lindemann
Scott and Betsy Rechel
Larry and Cathy Stanford
Bud and Sandy Stoneburner
Pat Weiss

GOLD LEVEL \$5,000-\$9,999

Cindy Charlier and Gay Crain
Gary and Karen Gunderson
Fred and Martha Kohnke
Ed and Jude VonderBrink

BRONZE LEVEL \$1,000-\$2,499

Roger and Ann Bird
Betsy Bridgman
Jim and Barb Caldwell
Joan Buffone and W. Dorsey Hammond
Jack and Mimi Crotty
Robert and AnnMarie McCarty
Jorge and Faye Olondo
Robert Pike
Allen and Aileen Sedman

Another important group of donors are the **Businesses** that have generously donated funds, items for raffles, silent auctions, event sponsorships and their time at our fundraising events. Below is a list of our Corporate Partners.

2023 – 2024 Corporate Partners

**Envirostruct - Gator Golf Cars - Greenscapes - Harrell Chemicals
Imperial Painting - Jumpp To It - NCH Community Health
The Mantilia Group - Sperber Landscape - Wegman Design - Wesco Turf**

In addition to our Friends of the Foundation, the Business Partners/Sponsors, PS staff and our Event Committee Team, we also had many Pelican Sound members who contributed by participating in our fundraising events, sponsoring a hole on the golf course or donating in-kind raffle and auction prizes. Many of these members also volunteered their time helping with our events. A big THANK YOU to all!

OUR FINANCIALS

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements For the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Receipts

<i>Events, net of expenses</i>		
Spooktacular Golf Tournament	\$ 6,954	
PS Annual Association Fee Raffle	21,960	
Casino Night	<u>15,451</u>	44,365
 <i>Monetary Donations</i>		
Corporate Partners	39,500	
Individuals	<u>79,856</u>	<u>119,356</u>

Total Funds Raised \$ 163,721

Disbursements

<i>Administrative Expenses</i>	<u>7,625</u>
Net available for disbursements to charities	\$ 156,096
Grants awarded	<u>145,000</u>
Balance available for future grants	\$ <u>11,096</u>

Not included in the above Financial Statement are in-kind donations valued at \$32,000 that were donated and disbursed as part of the Foundation's Caring Hearts, Giving Spirits Special Projects. The Laces of Love Shoe Drive collected and disbursed \$21,000 worth of children's shoes, and the Café of Life Diaper Drive collected and disbursed \$11,000 worth of diapers.