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137 volunteers participate in Town of Palm Beach United Way grant review process

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PALM BEACH, Fla. – The Town of Palm Beach United Way will utilize the skills and expertise of 137 community volunteers for its annual grant review process. It’s a record number of volunteers to participate on the Allocation Committee, which is responsible for studying requests from nonprofit organizations applying for grant funding from the Town of Palm Beach United Way.

The Allocation Committee is led this year by Co-Chairs **Suzanne Brenner, Carla Cove** and **Diane McNeal**. A majority of the Allocation Committee volunteers live or work in Palm Beach. Some have been Town of Palm Beach United Way volunteers for over two decades, and 34 are new to the process.

“We’re elated to have so many volunteers this year,” said Cove. “The grant allocation process is such a wonderful way for people to get involved, to see and understand the needs of our community, to invest donor dollars where they matter most, and to see firsthand the difference donations make in the lives of children and adults in need.”

The 3-month review process finishes in early April. Volunteers are split into 15 teams focusing on different social causes such as early childhood education, afterschool programming, middle and high school graduation, disabilities, mental health, housing, food, substance abuse, and domestic violence. In total, they will review 77 health and human service programs administered at 41 nonprofit agencies throughout Palm Beach County.

“My husband and I are spending more time in Palm Beach and I wanted to get more involved by volunteering doing something important,” said new volunteer **Nancy Lane**. “The Town of Palm Beach United Way Allocation Committee seemed like a great way to get to know the community and to make a meaningful difference.”

Allocation Committee volunteers read program funding requests from area charities, analyze financial data, review policies and procedures, meet with agency staff and board members, deliberate as a team, and ultimately make funding recommendations to the United Way Board of Trustees.

“Allocation volunteers are crucial to our United Way,” said Board Chairman **Bill Tiefel**. “We have a staff of only 3 full-time employees, so it would be impossible to carry out this important process without the help of volunteers. We pride ourselves in being a volunteer-led organization, and the allocation process is a perfect example of that.”

Last year, the United Way awarded grants to 39 agencies to support 71 programs that are in turn directly serving more than 175,000 men, women and children in Palm Beach County.

Since the Allocation Committee review process began in 1945, more than \$105.2 million has been invested in programs that build strong educational foundations for children, create healthy communities, lift families out of poverty, and improve the quality of life for residents in Palm Beach County.

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CLASS OF 2024

James Borynack
Nancy Brinker
Kristen Kelly Fisher
George Garfunkel
Stephen Hall, Jr.
Vicky Hunt
Ellen Jaffe
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Josephine Kalisman
Roberta Kozloff
Jeff Marcus
Heidi Niblack
Daniel Ponton
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Ann Heathwood
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Paulette Koch
Bill Mack
David Mack
Cara Coniglio McClure
Pamela McIver
Bill Meyer
Trip Moore
Hess Musallet
Rita Nowak
Michael Pucillo
Farley Rentschler
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Laing Rogers
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Bill Tiefel
Betsy Turner
Debra Vasilopoulos
Kathryn Vecellio
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CLASS OF 2026

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Kimberly Goodwin
Arthur Indursky
Paul Kozloff
Kristen Lambert
Nancy Lane
Diane McNeal
Evie McNiff
Ross Meltzer
Danielle Moore
Katherine Parr
Barbara Rothschild
Louise Snyder
Jessica Surovek
Wally Turner
Simone Vickar

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Michael Bracci
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Diana Ecclestone
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Sidney Kohl
Paul Leone
Margaret Luntz
Anita Michaels
Lesly Smith

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