



44 Coconut Row, M201
Palm Beach, FL 33480
561-655-1919

MARY FREITAS
Chairman

MARK COOK
CHRISTINE CURTIS
J. IRA HARRIS
DANIELLE MOORE
TRIP MOORE
Vice Chairmen

MISSY AGNELLO
Treasurer

JORGE CABRERA
Deputy Treasurer

DEBRA VASILOPOULOS
Secretary

JAY BOODHESHWAR
GAIL CONIGLIO
CHRISTINA DENNIS
STEPHEN HALL, JR.
ANN HEATHWOOD
CARA CONIGLIO MCCLURE
JOYCE REINGOLD
LOUISE SNYDER
Executive Committee

BETH WALTON
Chief Executive Officer

Town of Palm Beach United Way distributes Hunger Relief funds, announces new matching gift from Sandy and George Garfunkel

For Immediate Release: January 26, 2021

Contact: Aleese Kopf, 561-655-1919 or aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

Palm Beach residents **Sandy and George Garfunkel** are offering the latest matching gift to the Town of Palm Beach United Way's Hunger Relief Fund. The couple will match community donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000.

The Hunger Relief Fund is being dispersed to nonprofits in Palm Beach County distributing food to individuals and families who cannot afford groceries due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Town of Palm Beach United Way recently awarded grants to seven organizations totaling \$88,750.

"Although there are many needs in our community, food is the most concerning and the most urgent," said Mr. Garfunkel, a member of the Board of Trustees and the Alexis de Tocqueville Society. "Local nonprofits need help purchasing and procuring food, but that's not it. Funds are also needed to help with storage, transportation and staffing. Sandy and I are determined to do what we can do help put food on the tables of those who are less fortunate, and we hope this matching gift encourages others to do the same."

Feed the Hungry Pantry of Palm Beach County received a grant of \$40,000. They will use the money to transport, store and distribute food to families in need. The agency estimates it distributes food to more than 10,000 families a week. Each family receives 120 pounds of healthy and nutritious food.

"Since COVID-19 hit, we're frequently hearing neighbors say they're starving – not just hungry," said **Dan Shorter**, volunteer CEO at Feed the Hungry Pantry of Palm Beach County. "They've not eaten in days, and have no hope of getting food soon. The pandemic has stolen tens of thousands of local jobs. Moms and dads have no way to feed their children and often other relatives are sheltering with them."

Other nonprofits that received funds were American Association of Caregiving Youth, Buccan Provisions, Families First, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, Palm Beach County Food Bank and Urban League. They're using the funds to purchase food, grocery gift cards, baby formula and Instacart delivery. The Town of Palm Beach United Way continues to review food requests and prepare for additional grant distributions.

Over 1 million South Floridians are struggling to make ends meet due to the effects of the pandemic, according to Feeding South Florida.

To date, the Hunger Relief Fund has raised \$493,248 from more than 110 donations. Fund distributions were made possible thanks to previous matching gifts from **Gail and Alfred Engelberg** (\$50,000) and **Christina Dennis** (\$75,000), and through donations from **members of the Palm Beach Country Club** (\$100,000).

"We're thrilled to see donors and supporters continue to step up to provide relief to our neighbors in need," said Board Chairman **Mary Freitas**. "We've distributed one round of funding, but we continue to receive requests and the need will remain for the foreseeable future. We thank our past donors and ask the Palm Beach community to continue supporting this vital fund."

To donate to the fund visit www.palmbeachunitedway.org/hunger-relief. Or, make a check payable to Town of Palm Beach United Way with "Hunger Relief" in the memo and mail to 44 Coconut Row, Suite M201, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

Donations are tax deductible and 100% will go directly to local organizations distributing food to families in need. For more information call 561-655-1919.

-end-

ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.

CLASS OF 2021

Jack Borland
James Borynack
Nancy Brinker
Michael Donnell
George Garfunkel
Lee Gordon
Stephen Hall, Jr.
Ann Heathwood
Vicky Hunt
Jason Kalisman
Harriet Miller
Heidi Niblack
Daniel Ponton
Lyn Ross
Richard Rothschild
Linda Saville
Laurie Silvers
Lisa Wilkinson
Susan Wright

CLASS OF 2022

Missy Agnello
Ann-Britt Angle
Sean Baker
Howard Bernick
Cynthia Boardman
Sandra Bornstein
Jorge Cabrera
Atesh Chandra
Tasha Dickinson
David Duffy
Gail Engelberg
Brian Hurley
John Kessler
Paulette Koch
David Mack
Cara Coniglio McClure
Pamela McIver
Bill Meyer
Sydell Miller
Trip Moore
Hess Musallet
Rita Nowak
Stephanie Ribakoff
Louise Snyder
Bill Tiefel
Betsy Turner
Wally Turner
Debra Vasilopoulos
Kathryn Vecellio
Allen Wyett

CLASS OF 2023

Suzanne Ainslie
Jay Boodheshwar
Sean Bresnan
Paula Butler
Mark Cook
Carla Cove
Christine Curtis
Christina Dennis
Sheila Fine
Mary Freitas
Juliana Gendelman
J. Ira Harris
Darlene Jordan
Beth Lang
Matthew Lorentzen
Danielle Moore
Esther Murray
Tom Quick
Cater Randolph
Joyce Reingold
Christine Stiller
Jessica Surovek
Dom Telesco
Simone Vickar
Rebecca Williams
Bob Wright

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Michael J. Bracci
Gail Coniglio
Patricia Cook
Diana Ecclestone
Michele Kessler
Sidney Kohl
Paul Leone
Margaret Luntz
Sydelle Meyer
Anita Michaels
Lesly Smith



561 655 1919



561 655 1740



Townofpbunitedway



www.palmbeachunitedway.org



@PBUnitedWay



pbunitedway



PB United Way



townofpalmbeachunitedway.wordpress.com