



Town of Palm Beach United Way

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Annual Town of Palm Beach United Way Turkey Trot provides Thanksgiving meals to 4,894 Palm Beach County residents

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

PALM BEACH, FL – More than 1,500 people started their Thanksgiving morning early by participating in the 14th Annual Turkey Trot race at Bradley Park. Proceeds from the 5K race, which began at 6:45 AM, provided meals for 4,894 children and adults.

Atticus Stonestrom, 23, of Palm Beach, was the first to cross the finish line and first overall male finisher with a time of 16:56.1. Calli Reid, 15, of Lake Worth, placed first overall for females finishing in 21:36.6. The top three men and women finishers in 10 age divisions also won trophies. All participants who crossed the finish line received a signature Turkey Trot medal.

Jennifer and Violet Kraatz, ages 49 and 12, of Boynton Beach, won the Costume Contest dressed as a turkey and a Native American. They received a catered event for 25 guests courtesy of Island Kitchen Catering.

The event also featured a Kids Drumstick Dash, raffle drawing, children’s activities, photography, music and refreshments.

“We are thrilled so many families were able to join us this Thanksgiving morning, even though we started the race a little earlier,” said **Cara Coniglio McClure**, co-chair of the race with her husband Jared McClure. “Thanksgiving is about family, community and charity. The Turkey Trot embodies all of that. It has been an honor to chair this event for the last 14 years. Our family treasures this tradition and the community fellowship. We thank all of our sponsors and supporters from the bottom of our hearts for making this year’s race a huge success.”

The Turkey Trot would not be possible without the generous support of 77 corporate sponsors and in kind donors. This year’s race was again graciously underwritten by title sponsors **Douglas Elliman Real Estate | Cara Coniglio McClure + Lisa Wilkinson, Findlay Galleries and Livingston Builders. Bruce Gendelman Insurance** supported the race as a platinum sponsor. Gold sponsors were **Beebe Armstrong, Christian Angle Real Estate, Compass | Steve Hall, Cox Science Center and Aquarium, Hedrick Brothers and Surovek Gallery.**

“The Turkey Trot is a very special event for our community,” said **Mayor Danielle Moore**, a vice chairman of the Town of Palm Beach United Way who announced the start of the race. “It benefits people in need in Palm Beach County, and it’s just a fun event that families in Palm Beach have come to look forward to every Thanksgiving. There’s no better way to start the holiday.”

Race proceeds allowed the Town of Palm Beach United Way to grant funds to 19 nonprofit agencies so they could provide meals for their clients. Some agencies hosted in-person events and others prepared to-go meal baskets.

Take Stock in Children provided 100 meals to underserved students and their families by preparing meal boxes featuring turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy, cranberry sauce, rolls, mutter, milk and pies.

“The holiday season is a special time of year, but it also provides a challenge to families battling food insecurities,” said Nancy Stellway, Executive Director of Take Stock in Children. “We are very grateful to the Town of Palm Beach United Way and their supporters for providing meals to families in need. Seeing our families smile knowing they will enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner brings joy to our hearts.”

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ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.

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