



Town of Palm Beach United Way

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

Town of Palm Beach United Way thanks volunteers, celebrates end of grant review process during appreciation event

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

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SUSAN WRIGHT
Executive Committee

BETH WALTON
Chief Executive Officer

Allocation Committee volunteers celebrated the end of the Town of Palm Beach United Way's grant review process at a cocktail party Wednesday, April 26, at the historic Manalapan home of **Kate and Gary Parr**.

This year's committee consisted of 110 community volunteers divided into 15 teams (roster attached). They were charged with reviewing 79 program applications from 43 nonprofit agencies in Palm Beach County seeking grant funding from the Town of Palm Beach United Way. **Suzanne Brenner, Carla Cove** and **Cornie Thornburgh** served as General Chairs of the Allocation Committee. Team Chairs were **Missy Agnello, Diana Barrett, John Broderick, Sandy Fleming, Brian Hurley, MM Lang, Steve Magowan, Pam Mclver, Amber McMichael, Diane McNeal, Joyce Reingold, David Scaff, Louise Snyder, Jessica Surovek, and Betsy Turner**.

"This year we had more allocation volunteers than ever before," Cove said. "That demonstrates that United Way donors and supporters are keen to participate in the decision-making process and understand how their donations make a difference in our community. We are grateful to have such committed, talented, thoughtful and passionate volunteers who are dedicated to making Palm Beach County a better community for all."

After weeks of comprehensive evaluation, the committee is recommending the Town of Palm Beach United Way invest \$3,934,668 of donor dollars to support 72 health and human service programs at 40 agencies that will in turn serve the needs of more than 174,000 men, women and children in Palm Beach County. Their recommendation will be voted on by the Board of Trustees at the Town of Palm Beach United Way's Annual Meeting on May 2 at The Breakers. Once approved, funding will be awarded monthly from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

"The recommendations our volunteers make come after weeks of reviewing applications, financial data and outcome measurements, in-person visits to each agency, and multiple meetings with team members, agency representatives and United Way staff," said Thornburgh. "Decisions are not made lightly and United Way donors can trust that we have carried out our fiduciary responsibility to make sure their contributions are invested into high-quality programs that serve individuals and families most in need in Palm Beach County."

Programs reviewed support early childhood education, after-school enrichment, mentoring, tutoring, literacy, college preparation, career readiness, access to healthcare, counseling, behavioral therapy, day programs for seniors, substance abuse treatment, independent living for individuals with developmental disabilities, financial education, job training and placement, affordable housing, emergency shelter, food assistance, homelessness prevention and aid for survivors of domestic abuse.

"The Allocation Committee is the foundation of our local United Way and is what sets us apart from other funding organizations," said **Bill Tiefel**, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. "It is by no means an easy task to review grant applications and make funding recommendations, but it is essential to our philosophy of being a volunteer-led organization. We are grateful to the Allocation Committee volunteers for serving as the eyes and ears of more than 4,000 donors."

Since the Allocation Committee review process began in 1945, more than \$104 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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ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.