



Town of Palm Beach United Way

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Town of Palm Beach United Way business breakfast highlights new job placement program: The American Dream Academy

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PALM BEACH, FL – Business professionals and supporters of the Town of Palm Beach United Way heard about a new program to help Palm Beach County residents find in-demand jobs during the 31st Annual Business and Professional Breakfast held on October 17 at The Breakers Palm Beach. The American Dream Academy is a tuition-free, six-month online certification program designed to teach adults the skills needed to pursue high quality technology-related jobs or advance in their current careers.

Keynote speaker **Dr. Kerry Healey**, president of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream, introduced the program to an audience of more than 225 people.

“Partnering with the Town of Palm Beach United Way allows us to share this life-changing program with the community members who need it most,” Healey said. “By creating new pathways to workforce training, we are connecting underserved communities with higher-level employment opportunities, so they can achieve their dreams.”

Participants can complete certifications for 11 career paths, including cybersecurity, social media marketing, web development, data analytics, IT support, E-Commerce, and sales operations.

“Our goal is to equip up to 200,000 Americans with the skills needed to move directly into well-paid tech jobs or accelerate their path to a college education with up to 12 free course credits,” Healey said.

Currently, more than 320 Palm Beach County residents have registered for the program.

“We are very fortunate to have been chosen by the Center to promote this program in Palm Beach County,” said **Richard Rothschild**, General Campaign Chairman of the Town of Palm Beach United Way. “The American Dream Academy will help residents find jobs and improve our local economy. I hope everyone takes advantage of this amazing opportunity.”

The Business and Professional Breakfast has been sponsored by The Breakers for the past 31 years. It is the signature event of the Town of Palm Beach United Way’s Business and Professional Campaign. The Business and Professional Campaign is co-chaired by **Jay Clifford** and **Stacie Hallinan**. The goal of the 28-person campaign committee is to raise \$395,000 from employees and businesses that live and work in Palm Beach, South Palm Beach and Manalapan.

“The island business community is an important donor base for the United Way’s overall campaign,” said Clifford and Hallinan. “The Town of Palm Beach United Way wouldn’t be able to serve our community without the support from employees, corporations, partners and others willing to give back to make a difference in the lives of others.”

Donations from the business community help the Town of Palm Beach United Way fund 77 health and human service programs at 41 nonprofit partner agencies throughout Palm Beach County, that in turn serve more than 350,000 residents.

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ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.

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