

United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades
Board of Directors Meeting
December 10, 2021

Minutes

Present: Kevin Anderson, Patricia J. Bell, Robert Beville, Noelle Branning, Gary L. Bryant, Cindy S. Carfore, John Clinger, Roger J. Desjarlais, Jerry Elliott, David L. Fry, Chauncey P. Goss, Gary H. Griffin, Barbara Jean Hartman, Cynthia M. Hawkins, Beth Hendry, Michelle Hudson, Matthew Humphreys, Sally Jackson, John Joyce, Kevin Karnes, Andrea Kershaw, David Klein, Victoria Loyola, David Lucas, Paul Makurat, Steven Martus, Victoria Moreland, Bill Motzer, Stan Nelson, Patricia O'Donnell, David Oliver, Harlan C. Parrish, Steve Pontius, Karen L. Ryan, Robert Shearman, Bryan Simmering, Mary Snell, Dotty St. Amand, Tom Uhler, Corey Vertich, Darren Wallace, Scott A. White, Earnest J. Wilks, Matthew Zwack

Staff: Daniel Benzing, Kim Berghs, Connie Boyd, Danielle Brown, Felicitas Carrillo, Nancy Coker, Patrice Cunningham, Cheryl Donish, Kimberly Fay, Stephanie Figueroa, Angela Fischler, Brandon Fling, Linda Hafner, Jeannine Joy, Eunice Marquez, Mary Meador, Jennylyn Mitchell, Madison Mitchell, Hannah Pelle, Lisette Quintero, Toni Rozelle-Rosio, Lisa Sands, Tish Sargent, Amy Singer, Earnestina Strange, Richard Swartz, Marcia Turner

1. United Way Chair, Roger Desjarlais, called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. in-person and via zoom with a quorum present.
2. The minutes of the November 5, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting were approved as presented.
3. Senior Vice President of Community Impact, Hannah Pelle, presented The Live United award to Matt Humphreys from Publix for providing \$2,500 worth of meals for Thanksgiving to families in need.
4. Board Treasurer, Cindy Hawkins, shared that staff are working on budget but will provide that information early in 2022 since staff is working with the county on ARPA budget. A draft of the audit was provided by CLA this week and will share with entire board once we are satisfied. Have had an unusual year and will be on track for next year.
5. United Way 211 Chair, Gary Bryant, reported that Mission United served 110 veterans in November. 19 of those veterans reported homelessness. Calls continue to rise to the 211 line receiving 2,400 calls in November; 650 of those callers reported homelessness. This is a major issue in our community. The new 211 chat feature soft launched on the United Way website with the ability to chat or text without having to call.
6. Volunteer Center Chair, Steve Pontius, indicated it's a busy time of the year for volunteerism with all the Holiday programs we have going on. In addition, the Volunteer Center is gearing up for the VITA program. The new volunteer website portal was presented by Patrice Cunningham, Volunteer Center Vice President. Volunteer.UnitedWayLee.org There are hot buttons for current and upcoming opportunities, in-house programs, agencies, and causes. All Board Members have an account in the portal already. Board Members should put in their email and click forgot password to get into their account. The portal can track an individual's volunteer hours and provide reports to that individual. If anyone has questions, please reach out to the Volunteer Center. LCEC and Uhler and Vertich

Financial Planners took two sponsorship opportunities at \$3,500 a year to cover the cost of the software. Patrice introduced new VITA staff member, Stephanie Figueroa to the team.

7. Campaign Co-Chair, Noelle Branning, reported that the campaign cabinet has been working hard to invigorate campaigns and create new opportunities. Alexis de Tocqueville Chair, David Lucas, has secured \$4,189,953 or 87.3% of his goal. Campaign Co-Chair, Corey Vertich, noted that Pat O'Donnell hosted an evening with all of the community volunteers this past month. Community campaigns are gearing up and Bonita Bay has already reached \$1M.

If you have any contacts for new donors or employee campaigns, provide Jeannine Joy with recommendations and we will make it happen. Corey announced that we have attained 70.3% or almost \$8M of our goal. There is a short window of opportunity for year-end giving. People tend to be a little more motivated and enthusiastic about giving during this time of year. Ask now!

8. President and CEO, Jeannine Joy, presented a special project of Holiday Cards for Alexis de Tocqueville Members. Board Members were asked to sign and write a personal thank you note on the cards at their seats. Cards were collected and mailed out.

9. Tom Uhler, Fund Distribution Chair, referenced the 2022 funding grid that was presented to the board via email. Changes to the grid included removal of Amigo's Center funding due to agency sustainability and reduced funding for Okeechobee agencies to include six months of funding since St. Lucie United Way will be taking over. The \$55,000 removed from Amigo's Center will be moved to contingent funding for immigration services to be determined. A motion was made to approve the 2022 fund distribution spreadsheet including removal of funding for Amigo's Center for 2022 and the reduced six months of funding for Okeechobee and was approved unanimously as presented.

10. Community Impact Chair, John Clinger, reported that WeCare referral program has hundreds of volunteers and 400 doctors which equates to \$6+M in charitable medical care that has been provided to the community in 2021. Beesley's Paw Prints and FineMark National Bank & Trust are hosting Lunch with Santa for children and families of Family Initiative. Community Partnership School program recently expanded the program to Fort Myers Middle Academy with the approval of the University of Central Florida. Community Impact Director, Madison Mitchell, introduced Angela Fischler as our new Community Impact Manager.

11. President and CEO, Jeannine Joy, thanked the board members who had taken Christmas families for Operation Santa's Helpers. She indicated that 11 families were still in need of sponsors for the program. Jeannine shared an encouraging family story. Board members immediately volunteered to sponsor families.

12. Chair, Roger Desjarlais, thanked the board members and staff for all their hard work and wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season. The meeting adjourned at 8:51 a.m. The next meeting will be January 21, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jeannine Joy
President & CEO

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