

**United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 13, 2024**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Patricia Bell, Bob Beville, Noelle Branning, Cindy Carfore, David Fry, Gary Griffin, Chris Hansen, Barbara Hartman, Cindy Hawkins, Beth Hendry, Michelle Hudson, Matt Humphreys, Charles Idelson, Sally Jackson, John Joyce, David Klein, Tony Lapi, Brian Lucas, Stephen Martus, Victoria Moreland, Landon Mullinax, Barbara Mundy, Stan Nelson, Dan O'Berski, David Oliver, Harlan Parrish, Steve Pontius, Victoria Rodriguez, Carolyn Rogers, Karen Ryan, Jay Santos, Bob Shearman, Mary Snell, John Streger, Ted Todd, Tom Uhler, Corey Vertich, Darren Wallace, Matthew Zwack

**Staff:** Barbara Alderson, Daniel Benzing, Lugeenya Blackstock, Connie Boyd, Edelyn Castellon, Dan Campbell, Marissa Crawford, Patrice Cunningham, Stacey Devlin, Terri Erling, Angela Fischler, Greg Gunter, Brenda Hayes, Jessica Herrera, Michelle Hidalgo, Gail Holton, Heather Housand, Angela Jackson, Jeannine Joy, John Joy, Irina Mirabales, Jennilyn Mitchell, Madison Mitchell, Annie Noel, Hannah Pelle, Darren Phillips, Claudia Portalatin, D. Soledad Quiñones, Lisette Quintero, Toni Rozelle-Rosio, Keila Santiago, Elena Trigony, Karen Turcotte, Marcia Turner, Alencia Walker

**Guests:** Darcy Eikenberg, Bonita Assistance Office Board Member; Taylor Joyce, CRS Technologies

1. United Way Board Chair, Matt Humphreys called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. via Zoom with a quorum present.

2. The minutes of the August 2, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting were approved as presented.

President and CEO Jeannine Joy announced that the open board of directors' slots are being filled by Brian Lucas and Will Prather. The motion was approved as presented.

3. President and CEO Jeannine Joy announced that CRS Technologies and United Way board member John Joyce has been selected as the recipient of the Living United award. They have been collaborating with us for many years, including during the pandemic. CRS through a grant with ITDRC, is assisting with the delivery, distribution, and installation of donated Starlink devices. Additionally, they are covering the initial costs to activate internet service.

4. Chief HR Officer Connie Boyd introduced new employees: Irina Mirabales, Volunteer Center Manager; Jessica Herrera and Stephanie Goodman, 211 Clinic Navigators. Two promotions were announced: Stacey Devlin to Pledge Processing Director and Keila Santiago to 211 Director. In 211, Scott Miller accepted the position of our new 988 Crisis Line Manager. Matt Humphreys Chair of our United Way has been named one of the Top Six Board Leaders in SWFL by the Community Foundation. The awards ceremony is at the DoubleTree Bell Tower on October 24.

5. Vice President of Community Impact Madison Mitchell discussed partnership beyond funding detailing our efforts with the Bonita Springs Assistance Office. Darcy Eikenberg of the BSAO Board was invited to say a few words regarding this continued relationship.

6. Treasurer Cindy Hawkins indicated that business tax deadlines have been extended until the beginning of 2025. Cindy suggested that all board members review the full final copy of the audit and Governance letter that was sent out recently via email.

7. 211 Chair David Klein, as the new chief advocate, recapped the services that 211 provides to the community. During our next in-person meeting, a spotlight on 211 will be given. David mentioned that in 2025, 211 will be taking on the role of the 988 Lifeline for suicide and crisis hotline.

8. Campaign Co-chair Dan O'Berski mentioned that the campaign is moving along nicely with the team scheduling meetings and making presentations to accounts, many preferring in-person meetings. We are moving forward with great momentum with Alexis de Tocqueville members providing some early donations. A reception for Alexis de Tocqueville members is scheduled for October 17 at FineMark National Bank & Trust. Corey Vertich stepped in for Dr. Scott Nygaard and discussed the Admiral prospect list. The board was asked for assistance in reaching out to donors who have given \$5,000 to \$9,999 annually over the past three years. We aim to encourage these donors to consider increasing their contributions to the ADT level. For each new Leadership gift of \$1,000+, Board and Cabinet members will be added to the Challenge Board. Rewards will be detailed, and the deadline is October 18. Publix is completing 85 presentations at 28 stores by September 15. Hendry/Glades working to finalize fund distribution for board approval and are scheduled to kick off their campaign on October 24 at LaBelle Brewing Company. Our Belltober fundraiser is October 4 at Bell Tower center court and this year's kickoff is November 7 at Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. There are several sponsorship opportunities for our Kickoff Event. November 13<sup>th</sup> will be our Celebrity Bartender event at Bay Street Yard with more details to follow.

9. Chief Operating Officer Hannah Pelle spotlighted our School Resource Center located at the School District which is a division of Gifts in Kind. Hannah indicated the new website ordering system is running smoothly and has been well accepted by Social Workers, Counselors, and RSO. Jeannine Joy recapped a breakdown report for the first month of this school year.

10. Volunteer Center Chair Steve Pontius announced that Beesley's Paw Prints has partnered with Faith United Methodist Church to offer dog training classes for parishioners to get their pets trained starting next month. This is the time of year that our VITA program looks for tax preparer volunteers. The tax service is available at no charge to anyone making \$66,000 or less.

11. President and CEO Jeannine Joy provided an update on our new Elevate Leadership Program. The program consists of five employees. The first quarterly breakfast meeting was held and was very productive. Jeannine also invited any board members who are interested to attend the next meeting on November 13 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

12. The next meeting will be on October 18, 2024. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Jeannine Joy  
President & CEO