

Why Ocean Reef Community Foundation?



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One of the most asked questions during our recent Hurricane Irma experience has been "What did the Foundation do to help after Andrew?" Well, it's interesting you ask! Many were surprised to learn that the Foundation didn't yet exist in Andrew's wake, and that the need for and importance of an organized philanthropic response after such a disaster was actually the driving factor in the establishment of the Ocean Reef Community Foundation shortly thereafter. Creation of our Community Relief Fund to help the recovery for employees and the communities they live in was among the first orders of business.

Thanks to the forethought of our founders a quarter century ago, this time we are pleased to be at the ready with coordinated options for members to make tax-deductible donations to help those you care about most. The options are presented

here and planning and beginning stages of an efficient and compassionate relief response tailored to assist employees is well underway.

Many have also asked about the local charities the Foundation supports, now stepping up to provide important services so needed in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma despite their own setbacks. We understand many have lost weeks, facilities and more and may not be able to submit Community Grant applications by the original October 1 deadline. **This year's Community Grant application deadline has been extended to November 1st** (with further extensions available for hard hit charities). We are currently weighing options to fund hurricane related applications more quickly.

Looking out my OR Business Center office windows, which used to be sheltered by a gorgeous canopy of lush trees but now look directly on a busy streetscape, it helps to remember that the true beauty of Ocean Reef is in the people. I am in a unique position to see it all around me all day long as people reach out to give and work together to recover and move forward. From my vantage point, despite the look of it, Ocean Reef is at its best right now. All of us who live or work here can count ourselves lucky. Thank you to our members and employees who make it so.

Support of our Associates and the Communities They Call Home

Hurricane Irma ravaged the Florida Keys and many other areas of Florida while also leaving a deep imprint on our Club and Community. While Ocean Reef continues our recovery efforts, thoughts turn to all Associates who were in Irma's path.

Many Members have already called to ask how they can help. And, this is just one of the many reasons the Ocean Reef Community Foundation is so important to the Club. Some Associates may need immediate relief while they await FEMA assistance. Others may have immediate requirements for transportation, if their vehicle was damaged. Sadly, others are immediately in need of a place to live and a way to replace their lost possessions, including clothes to wear to work.

There are two ways to provide support:

The first is with a tax-deductible donation to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation. This can be accomplished through your Donor Advised Fund, either directly with the Foundation or charged at your request, to your Membership account. Donations to the Foundation will target support for the Club's Associates while also assisting the

surrounding communities, including the devastated areas of the Florida Keys.

A second option is with a non-deductible donation directly to the Club and those funds will be 100% dispersed to our associates.

Those that work in the surrounding areas saw impacts as severe as total loss, to less significant impacts that will still leave them struggling to support their families. These are the same people that you see at the Club, they greet you when you dine in the restaurants, they are the faces that smile back as you pass by and behind the scenes, they keep Ocean Reef in pristine condition for Members to enjoy, day in and day out. They are the same Associates that are at the Club right now already starting to put the Club back together. There are also those that remain "on call" to aid in the recovery efforts for our Club as soon as they are summoned.

Quick action will enable us to have an immediate impact on our associates and their families. When we took dramatic steps to help those Associates in Haiti in both 2010, and again in 2016, it was noted to be "our finest hour" as a Club and as a Community. Our Membership helped hundreds of our Associate's families. That need is again present today. You already have a personal connection to the associates. You will help every time you visit Ocean Reef. Please help us, help them.

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www.oceanreef.com/irma