



# OCEAN REEF PRESS

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## Off Reef Donations Exceed \$1 Million

by Yurianna Mikolay,  
Executive Director Ocean Reef  
Community Foundation

Ocean Reef Community Foundation's Community Grants Program will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the All Charities effort by awarding more than \$1 million to charities outside the gate for the first time this year. Thanks to the Ocean Reef community's generous participation, that's five times the amount the program was able to grant off The Reef the year before the first All Charities event consolidated fundraising for Ocean Reef charities.

The Community Grants Program funds dozens of worthy charities in the areas of Education, Youth, Health & Family Services and Community at Ocean Reef and in Homestead, Florida City and the Upper Keys each spring. Including 2017 grants, the program will have awarded more than \$6.1 million since the All Charities collaboration began in 2008. The All Charities effort is administered by the Foundation and will also provide more than \$3 million to Ocean Reef's vital Medical and Cultural Centers, The Academy, Art League, Conservation Association and ORCAT this season.

The Foundation's entire share of 2017 All Charities Auction proceeds will be distributed (combined with additional donations to the Community Grants Fund) as follows:

**Grants to Homestead, Florida City and Upper Keys Charities:**  
**ACT4Me** – Therapy for Homestead

Grants | 10

## Rainbow Room at Ocean Reef



Gary and Judy Ball enjoying the swing music.



Dick Garbisch, the inspiration for the event, sings "Young at Heart" as wife Audie looks on.



Ed and Barbara Hajim, dressed to impress with their Big Band attire.



Bob and Margie McClements danced the night away.

## April Happenings

This month is packed with thrilling events. From fun day trips off The Reef to full weekends of merriment, you're guaranteed to have fun this April. So mark your calendars with these dates, you won't want to miss out on all the fun!

### Spring Break Discovery Day Friday, April 7

Calling all kids age 8 – 14! Join the Recreation Team for a fun day of swimming with sting rays at Theater of the Sea. This special trip off The Reef includes lunch at a local favorite spot, relaxation time at a Keys resort, and a bunch of fun! To sign up,

please call 305-367-6516.

### Bag Room Open Finals Saturday, April 8

The Ocean Reef golf pros have their own version of "March Madness". Each weekend this past month, pros have been facing off in a bracket tournament to determine the best pro on The Reef. Catch the last match for the big trophy and 2017 bragging rights! For information on the tournament, please call 305-367-5912.

### Maryland Crab Festival Saturday, April 8

This authentic Maryland Crab Festival on Buccaneer Island is complete with Crispy Clam Buckets, Old Bay Maryland

Crab, Cherry Pie, Peach Blueberry crisps, a campfire with s'mores and beverages available for purchase. To reserve a seat, please call 305-367-5931.

### Easter Weekend April 13 – 16

No one does Easter better than your Club! Enjoy **Seafood Buffet & Bingo** on Marlin Beach, the **Legacy Spring Reunion & Legacy Mixer**, the annual **Bunny Hop 5K & 10K Fun Run**, our festive **Easter Cart Parade**, the **Starlight Dinner Buffet: Country Night** on Buccaneer

April | 3

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## PHILANTHROPY MATTERS

## Grants

Continued from | 1

children with neurological disorders – \$18,500

**ARC Project Thrive**

- Van to transport special needs children – \$30,000
- Equipment for empty playground at new site – \$10,000

**Arsht Center for the Performing Arts**

– “Learning through the Arts” curriculum and live performance field trip for 5th graders in Homestead and Florida City Title I schools – \$10,000

**Autism Society of the Keys** – iPads and software for autistic Upper Keys youth – \$10,000

**Branches Florida City** – “Grow & Climb” teen leadership development and employment mentoring program – \$25,000

**Burton Memorial Methodist Church Food Pantry** – Refrigerated truck usage to enable pick up of perishable donations from local grocery stores – \$6,000

**Camillus House** – CHEER educational initiative to assist homeless children in attending school and catching up with peers – \$10,000

**Carfour Supportive Housing**

– Academic Excellence & Youth Leadership program for formerly homeless children and teens – \$17,500

**Chapman Partnership** – Services and educational activities for children from families transitioning from homelessness – \$10,000

**City Year** – To expand services to Homestead’s Laura C. Saunders Elementary School and establish a complete elementary thru high school program for at-risk kids in the Homestead area – \$30,000

**Common Threads** – Hands on nutrition and cooking education program at West Homestead Elementary School – \$9,000

**Communities in Schools Miami** – Bridges to Graduation & Beyond drop-out prevention program at Homestead Senior High School – \$20,000

**Domestic Abuse Shelter** – Keys prevention effort including Teen Women’s and Men’s programs for youth from both areas – \$10,000

**Early Learning Coalition** – Early Childhood Education Conference for Monroe County childcare providers – \$7,000

**Everglades Foundation** – Education and outreach to increase understanding of the importance of the Florida Bay Initiative in the Keys and bolster support for the effort to combat the sea grass die off in the Florida Bay – \$10,000

**Faith Church of the Redlands** – Rubber mulch for playground at

special needs school – \$5,000

**Feeding South Florida**

- Food allocation for Burton Food Pantry – \$6,000
- Food allocation for Homestead Food Pantry – \$15,000
- Food allocation for St. Justin Martyr Food Pantry – \$10,000
- Summer “Backpack” weekend meals for YMCA summer campers attending with financial aid – \$2,500
- Year-round “Backpack” weekend meals for preschool children receiving subsidized child care in the Upper Keys – \$25,000

**Florida Impact** – Expansion of Summer Breakspot Mobile Unit program providing meals and enrichment activities in Homestead – \$4,150

**Florida Keys Children’s Shelter** – For the Essential Care Fund, which provides for emergency needs for shelter residents – \$29,000

**Florida Keys Foster Adoptive Parents Association** – Unfunded needs for children in **Foster Care in the Upper Keys** – \$12,000

**Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition**

- Upper Keys Child Safety Equipment & Education program – \$10,500
- Expansion of Tot Time and Perinatal Mood & Anxiety Disorders programs to Key Largo – \$7,070

**Florida Keys Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center** – Toward the K-12 education and field trip program with local schools – \$2,500

**Good Health Clinic** – Towards cost of implementing an Electronic Health Record System – \$8,119

**Good Hope Equestrian Training Center** – “Endless Strides” 10-week therapy program for about two dozen people with disabilities – \$10,000

**Greater Miami Youth for Christ** – Expansion of the Teen Indigenous Leaders development and employment mentoring program at Homestead KIX Programs – \$30,000

**Greater Miami Youth Symphony** – Expansion of music lessons program into three schools in Homestead/ Florida City – \$8,000

**Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys** – Additional affordable home in the Mandalay project on county-donated land – \$25,000 (MATCH REQUIRED)

**Hospice VNA of the Florida Keys** – Towards establishment of a comprehensive Palliative Care Program needed to serve 50-60 patients annually in the Upper Keys – \$30,000

**Jacobs Aquatic Center** – Next phase of shade structure and umbrella replacement – \$20,000

**Johns Hopkins University (Secondary School Talent Development)** – Health Career support programs for at-risk kids at Homestead Senior High School –

\$15,000

**Key Largo School**

- Summer Recreation program for up to 250 pre-K through 5th grade students – \$36,000
- AVID college readiness program college trips and teacher training – \$12,836
- Art supplies and tools for the elementary art program – \$2,700
- Transportation for the 5th grade class to participate in the Arsht Center “Learning Through the Arts” performance – \$1,000

**Le Jardin Community Center** – Shade structure for childcare center amphitheater project – \$15,000

**Mexican American Council** – College & Career Readiness program including mentoring for high school juniors and college transition and enrollment assistance for seniors from families of farm workers at Homestead high schools – \$21,000

**Motivational Edge** – Expansion of Therapeutic Arts Program to two residential treatment facilities for male juvenile offenders in Florida City – \$15,000

**MUJER** – “Breaking the Secret Workshops” with University of Miami and follow up therapy for 40+ abused children – \$37,500

**Paramount Dance** – Partial scholarships for dance instruction for children from low-income families in Homestead – \$5,400

**PetSnip** – Estimated 150 spay/neuter surgeries for cats and dogs through feral cat and co-pay programs for low-income families and shelters – \$12,500

**ProjectArt** – Expansion of ProjectArt Miami’s youth art education program to the Homestead Public Library – \$15,000

**Redlands Christian Migrant Association** – Playground shade structures at two childcare centers – \$20,000

**St. Justin Martyr Preschool**

- 20 LeapPad3 preschool tablets with educational software – \$2,000
- Playground equipment and resurfacing – \$15,000

**South Florida Science Museum & Aquarium** – Science Passport educational program for at-risk Title 1 elementary school students in both areas – \$25,000

**Star of the Sea Outreach Mission** – Equipment to increase capacity and rice and beans and Farm Share produce programs – \$20,000

**Start Off Smart**

- Implementation of the national PAL Youth Directors Program in the Homestead Police Department’s Police Athletic League – \$14,500
- Community Policing Youth Group Initiative to coordinate programs including six bimonthly annual community events with organizations

serving youth to increase and encourage positive interaction, communication and collaboration between youth and law enforcement in Homestead – \$17,146

• Two Police Academy Scholarships for local youth who commit to serving in Homestead – \$15,000

**Take Stock in Children** – College scholarships (matched by the Florida Pre-Paid College Foundation) for Upper Keys mentor program students – \$60,000

**Touching Miami with Love (Homestead Site)** – Summer internship and employment skills mentoring program for teens from low-income families – \$15,000

**United Way of the Florida Keys** – Childcare expense assistance for working poor in the Upper Keys – \$23,100 (MATCH REQUIRED)

**YMCA of South Florida** Homestead Summer Learning Loss Prevention Camp scholarships – \$30,000

Homestead Afterschool Program scholarships – \$15,000

Key Largo Afterschool Program scholarships – \$22,814

Key Largo Teen Development Program – \$25,000

**Total in Homestead, Florida City and Upper Keys Charities** – \$1,001,035

**Grants to Ocean Reef-based Charities:**

**Ocean Reef Chapel Foundation** – Landscaping – \$10,000

**Ocean Reef Volunteer Fire Department** – Towards a trauma response vehicle – \$15,000

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 13-4** – Maintenance of Flotilla boat – \$12,000

**Total to Ocean Reef-based Charities** \$37,000

**Total On & Off Reef Grants** – \$1,038,335

The community is invited to take part in the grants process by joining the Grants Committee on Charity Tours to investigate application projects and monitor previous grant projects. Feedback from tour participants is a vital part of the decision making process and Members are encouraged direct favorite local charities to the Foundation for application information.

To learn more about co-investment opportunities to complement partial grants and donation matching opportunities, please call 305-367-4707 or email foundation@oceanreef.com.