New Year’s Resolutions & Charity Tours

Over the holiday season, I’ve come across quite a few articles about the importance and complexity of transferring philanthropic values and practices to the next generations, many featuring ways to keep resolutions to prioritize and make giving more of a family affair in the New Year. For anyone interested, the Ocean Reef Community Foundation offers a wealth of resources and opportunities to help incorporate philanthropy in family traditions, from engaging activities for younger children and grandchildren to arranging family meetings for those making private foundation succession plans.

A thread repeated across articles is that the trick to passing on values is a consistent combination of 1) talking to your family about the causes you support and why, and 2) showing them how you do it by example, together in action whenever possible. Without both, the next generation can be left without the “why” or the “how” they need to carry your legacy forward (of course, it’s also always valuable to get it all on paper).

It struck me that Ocean Reef’s secluded location physically separates Members from both favorite “hometown” causes and the kind of critical needs found in adjacent communities, which so often inspire giving, just at the point when many finally have more time to focus on family and philanthropy after retiring. So, perhaps the situation calls for Members to be even more intentional in passing on philanthropic values.

If you’re looking to be more involved locally in 2020, participating in one of our Charity Tours with family is a good start and sharing your thoughts about the experience afterwards can also be a great philanthropic-conversation starter. The community is invited to join our Grants Committee on three tours of off-property charities each season, with the first of 2020 set for next Friday, January 10. Spots are still available for the Homestead itinerary, which includes preschool projects, an evidence-based parenting skills program and a group foster care facility.

The Foundation’s Charity Tours are a great way for Members to see Community Grants Fund and All Charities Auction Weekend donations at work. Tours feature recent grant projects as well as new applicants and the chance to give feedback to the Grants Committee for consideration in recommending grants. Charity Tours depart promptly at 8:30 a.m. and return by 12:30 p.m. The final Charity Tour of the season will visit the Upper Keys on Monday, February 3. Space is limited. To reserve your seat on the motor coach for the remaining tours, please email yumikolay@oceanreef.com or call 305-367-4707.