Last Charity Tour of the Season Next Friday

The community is invited to join the Ocean Reef Community Foundation Grants Committee on the third and final Charity Tour of the season on Friday, February 1. Spots are still available for next Friday's Homestead City itinerary, which is set to include visits to Miami Dade College Homestead Campus, Homestead Middle School where we will hear from Communities in Schools, City Year and Start Off Smart, and the Boy Scouts.

The Foundation's Charity Tours are a great way for Members to see All Charities Auction Weekend donations at work. The Grants Committee is currently vetting and evaluating more than 90 applications as we await the results of Ocean Reef's consolidated fundraising weekend on February 8 and 9. Tours feature recent grant projects as well as new applicants and the opportunity to give feedback to the Grants Committee for consideration in recommending 2019 grants.

Charity Tours depart promptly at 8:30 a.m. and return by 12:30 p.m. Space is limited. To reserve your seat on the motor coach, please email foundation@oceanreef.com or call 305-567-4707.

Featured Charities

City Year and Communities in Schools

City Year and Communities in Schools are two of several non-profit organizations, both past grant recipients and current applicants, included on the Foundation's Charity Tour visit to Homestead Middle School next Friday. The two work together in Title 1 Schools to provide the extra attention at-risk students need to make it to graduation.

Making a Difference Keys Children's Foundation

The 18th annual Keys Children's Foundation 'Be an Angel' Luncheon was held in Town Hall this past Monday, January 21. Keynote speaker, educator and activist Erin Gruwell addressed a sold out gathering of Members committed to making a difference in the lives of children in the Upper Keys. Held each January, the 'Be an Angel' luncheon is the Keys Children's Foundation signature fundraiser generating funds to support a variety of programs in Key Largo and the Upper Keys assisting local children. Growing annually in support and donations, this year's event was no different.

Gruwell's inspirational story is journalled in the book, 'The Freedom Writers Diary' by the very students whose lives she helped transform. Gruwell's commitment to tolerance and inclusion is a theme she has woven into her career as a teacher, advocate, mentor and speaker.

Previous year's grantees of funds generated at the 'Be an Angel' luncheon have included Jacob's Aquatic Center, Key Largo School's Needy Fund, AVID program, and 'Jumpstart' program. The luncheon was originally founded to support the Florida Keys Children's Shelter, which we continue to do. In total, more than 15 local charities receive support from KCF.

The Board of Directors of the Keys Children's Foundation wishes to thank everyone involved in the coordination of our 'Be an Angel' luncheon as well as those who attend, for their time, effort and commitment to this incredible cause. We look forward to seeing you next year!