We are excited to announce the latest in our slate of off-property volunteer projects is set for March 11th and open for sign up! The Foundation’s Community Outreach projects, each organized and led by a member of our Grants Committee, offer Members an opportunity to volunteer at a past or present ORCF grant recipient organization in Homestead, Florida City or the Upper Keys.

The Wednesday, March 11 excursion, led by Patty Davidson, will set off for Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys’ (HFH-UK) Windley Key site at 8 a.m. and return by 4 p.m. (with some of the group departing at noon). HFH-UK is in the final stages of constructing its most ambitious project to date: 16 desperately needed workforce housing units at mile marker 86. Volunteers, such as the Ocean Reef group, completing most of the “finish” work on Habitat homes play a big part in keeping building costs down.

According to Davidson, “Since Ocean Reef has always been a supporter of Habitat, it would be wonderful if we could pull together a team to go down and paint for a day.” The Ocean Reef group will primarily be tasked with interior painting projects and volunteers should “dress for mess.” Lunch will be provided. Please email pattykaydavidson@gmail.com for details and sign up.

HFH-UK builds modest, comfortable homes for working families who qualify for homeownership based on three criteria: demonstrated financial need, willingness to partner with HFH-UK and the ability to repay a no-interest mortgage. The land for the Windley Key project was donated by the Monroe County Land Authority in accordance with its mission of making land available for worthwhile workforce housing projects in Monroe County, where lack of affordable housing is at crisis level.

The ORCF Community Grants program has donated $275,000 to the HFH-UK since the All Charities effort began. Members who participate in All Charities are already contributing to the non-profits where our volunteer projects take place in surrounding communities, so we encourage you to get out there and see the great work you’re funding!

The Foundation collaborates with dozens of charities in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties and virtually all offer a variety of opportunities to volunteer. We’re happy to research prospects in your particular interest area and connect you with charities. Please feel free to contact me at ymikolay@oceanreef.com to be added to our Community Outreach Projects email list or for more information.

Volunteer to Help Habitat for Humanity March 11

Join Ocean Reef volunteers on March 11 to assist Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys with a “paint party” at the Windley Key project, seen here at the groundbreaking ceremony, which will result in 16 desperately needed affordable workforce housing units.