



## **Local Funders Launch “Help The Helpers” Initiative to Support Broward County Nonprofit Employees**

*Initiative recognizes and rewards staff members from more than 110 Nonprofits for their commitment to helping the community during the Pandemic*

**Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (January XX, 2022)** – United Way of Broward County is pleased to announce its funding collaboration with the Children’s Services Council of Broward County, Community Foundation of Broward, The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, Health Foundation of South Florida and The Jim Moran Foundation, to launch the **“Help the Helpers”** initiative, which serves to recognize the outstanding work of thousands of nonprofit staff across Broward County’s nonprofit organizations. The Help the Helpers grant is being awarded to more than 110 partnering agencies, representing more than 7,500 full and part-time staff in Broward County.

With growing caseloads and personal stress at an all-time high due to the pandemic, the emotional wellness of Broward County’s nonprofit staff members became a real concern to non-profit funders across the region. This includes Palm Beach County and Miami-Dade County, both implementing this one-of-a-kind grant initiative to support and thank nonprofit employees. Recognizing a similar need in Broward county, local leaders came together to acknowledge the nonprofit staff members for their continued commitment to helping the community during the current pandemic and beyond. The funding community responded by collectively committing \$655,000 to create the “Help the Helpers” initiative supporting nonprofit staffs working in Broward County.

“We are so proud to partner with Children’s Services Council of Broward County, Community Foundation of Broward, The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, Health Foundation of South Florida and The Jim Moran Foundation to reward the employees at our local nonprofit organizations for the extraordinary work that they have done during the pandemic and throughout each year,” said Kathleen Cannon, President/CEO of Broward County. “Long-term resiliency planning is critical for our nonprofit partners in the community, and it is important that we recognize and support them, especially during these uncertain times.”

“Throughout this pandemic, the non-profit organizations and their amazing staff have worked tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of others throughout Broward County – often at great personal risk and sacrifice,” said Cindy Arenberg Seltzer, President / CEO of the Children’s Services Council of Broward County. “I am so impressed with their commitment and delighted to be able to join with our fellow public and private funders to reward all those dedicated staff through the Help the Helpers Initiative.”

“Broward’s nonprofit workers are the unsung heroes of the pandemic. They continue to show amazing courage, care, compassion and love as they serve our community through this challenging time. It’s an honor to recognize

their dedication to Broward and the important role they play in shaping a brighter future for us all.” Jennifer O’Flannery Anderson, President/CEO, Community Foundation of Broward.

“The past two years have been extremely trying for community-based organizations. Their employees have become essential front-line workers, demonstrating profound selflessness and dedication throughout the pandemic. The emotional well-being of staff and volunteers who faced unprecedented levels of stress has been deeply impacted,” said Angelika Schlanger, Director of The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, which brought the concept to Miami-Dade after participating in the Palm Beach initiative. “Help the Helpers is the collective effort of local funders to honor our community heroes and extend gratitude for their unwavering commitment to supporting others. We hope these grants promote their self-care and let them know how deeply we appreciate them.”

“The pandemic shined a light on the critical role community organizations and their staff play in supporting and helping our most vulnerable fellow South Floridians. In the face of unprecedented challenges, they have once again demonstrated how invaluable they are to the fabric of our community. Celebrating and rewarding their tireless work is the least we can do — and the Health Foundation of South Florida could not be prouder to partner with its colleagues to do so,” said Loreen Chant, President and CEO of the Health Foundation of South Florida.

This important initiative recognizes and supports the well-being of nonprofit employees for their dedication as essential employees in providing critical services to our community during the pandemic. The designated nonprofit organizations may use the funds to provide training opportunities focused on self-care and stress reduction, monetary contributions, gift cards, free tickets to area events, and/or for staff recognition events or celebrations.

As a thank you to non-profit employees across the county for their dedication and commitment to serving others during a difficult time both professional and personally during the pandemic funders will continue to explore how to support non-profit employee wellness programs.

For more information about United Way of Broward County, please visit [UnitedWayBroward.org](http://UnitedWayBroward.org).

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#### **About Children’s Services Council of Broward County**

The Children’s Service Council of Broward County (CSC) is an independent taxing authority established by public referendum on September 5, 2000, and reauthorized on November 4, 2014, which, through Public Act, Chapter 2000-461 of the laws of Florida, authorizes the Council to levy up to 0.5 mils of property taxes. The role of the CSC is to provide the leadership, advocacy and resources necessary to enhance children’s lives and empower them to become responsible, productive adults through collaborative planning and funding of a continuum of quality care. For more information about the CSC, please visit [www.cscbroward.org](http://www.cscbroward.org).

#### **About Community Foundation of Broward**

Founded in 1984, Community Foundation of Broward (CFB) helps families, individuals, and corporations create personalized charitable Funds that deliver game-changing philanthropic impact. 487 charitable

funds represent more than \$269 million in assets, distributing \$145 million in grants over the past 37 years. CFB provides bold leadership on community solutions and fosters philanthropy that connects people who care with causes that matter – which empowers visionaries, innovators and doers to create the change they want to see in the community – and BE BOLD. [www.cfbroward.org](http://www.cfbroward.org).

#### **About The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, Inc.**

The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, Inc. was created in 1997 by the late Frederick DeLuca, co-founder of the global Subway® restaurant chain, to provide youth and adults the tools to achieve independence and self-sufficiency. Since its inception, the Foundation has focused on providing educational scholarship opportunities and grants to community-based organizations in the state of Connecticut. Today, the Foundation supports health awareness, workforce development, and artistic experiences through educational programs that enhance the lives of children and families throughout South Florida and beyond. <https://www.freddelucafoundation.org/>

#### **About Health Foundation of South Florida**

The mission of Health Foundation of South Florida is to invest in and be a catalyst for collaborations and policy and systems changes that improve the health of South Florida communities, with a focus on vulnerable, low to moderate-income populations. Established in 1993, the foundation has awarded more than \$131 million to nonprofits that provide programs and services in Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. For more information, visit [www.hfsf.org](http://www.hfsf.org) or follow on Twitter @HealthSFL.

#### **About The Jim Moran Foundation**

Founded by automotive pioneer Jim Moran, the mission of The Jim Moran Foundation is to improve the quality of life for the youth and families of Florida through the support of innovative programs and opportunities that meet the ever-changing needs of the community. The Foundation has invested more than \$200 million in education, elder care, family strengthening, and youth transitional living initiatives since its inception in 2000 with efforts currently focused in Broward, Palm Beach and Duval counties. To learn more, visit [www.jimmoranfoundation.org](http://www.jimmoranfoundation.org) or call (954) 429-2122.

#### **About United Way of Broward County**

United Way of Broward County is a volunteer-driven, community-based, nonprofit organization servicing Broward County for more than 80 years. United Way of Broward County fights for the Health, Education, and Financial Prosperity of EVERY person in our community. United Way of Broward County is the catalyst for change and convener of partnerships that unite the hearts, minds, and resources within the Broward community. For more information, please visit [UnitedWayBroward.org](http://UnitedWayBroward.org).

#### **Media Contact:**

Kip Hunter Marketing  
Erin Fitzharris | 609-238-2615 | [erin@kiphuntermarketing.com](mailto:erin@kiphuntermarketing.com)