



The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle
2022
A Year in Review

Dedicated to supporting organizations that address the physical, emotional and educational needs of women, children and families in Sarasota and Manatee counties...

TLC Women's Giving Circle

The Board

Barbara Najmy - Founder & Board Chair

Jennifer Alokeh – Board Vice-Chair

Ruth Harshman - Acting Secretary

Lauren Hirsch - Treasurer

Steering Committees

Lauren Hirsch – Finance Chair

Terry Martinez - Finance Vice-Chair

Nancy Lepain – Grants Chair

Barbara Najmy – Governance Chair

Jennifer Alokeh – Governance Vice- Chair

Sheila Lau Machutta - Membership Chair

Josephine Coco – Membership Vice- Chair

Cindy Stimart - Outreach Chair

Deborah Callahan-Stratton - Outreach Vice-Chair

Julie Swan – Social & Fundraising Chair

Terri Prettyman – Social & Fundraising Vice-Chair

Barbara Najmy - Social Media & Communications Chair

Jennifer Alokeh – Social Media & Communications Vice-Chair

About Us

The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle was established in 2014 by founding donor and advisor Barbara Najmy. The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle (TLC Women's Giving Circle) is a philanthropic group of women that reside in The Lake Club community of Lakewood Ranch.

TLC Women's Giving Circle is a Founder's 50 member of The Lakewood Ranch Community Fund in conjunction with the Manatee Community Foundation. While we benefit from being under the umbrella of Manatee Community Foundation 501(c)(3), TLC Women's Giving Circle operates autonomously. Our mission is dedicated to supporting organizations that address the physical, emotional and educational needs of women, children and families in Sarasota and Manatee counties.

What started out as a few committed neighbors has grown into a Circle of over 120 fabulous friends and Lake Club residents, continuing to add to our numbers. We are women philanthropists working together to help our community at large and create a permanent legacy through our endowment fund to address the needs of the women, children and families around us.

At the same time, we are working to foster the fellowship, friendship and compassionate spirit that makes The Lake Club the uniquely special place that it is. We are One Lake Club – united to strengthen and support the community around us.

We are better together. We raise funds through our member initiatives, individual community donors, fundraisers, and community partners. The funds collected by TLC Women's Giving Circle are distributed through TLC Women's Giving Circle Annual Grant Fund to the organizations that our members are most passionate about.

Our Mission & Core Values

The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle is dedicated to supporting organizations that address the physical, emotional and educational needs of women, children and families in Sarasota and Manatee counties.

— Integrity

We are trustworthy. We are reliable, authentic, and loyal. We do what we say we will do. We have the courage to do the right thing. We welcome accountability and conduct our business with honesty and transparency.

— Service

We choose to serve first, embracing our roles as servant leaders in our organization and our community. Service is a force that motivates every member of our organization. We are committed to serving those we lead as well as those we follow. In the spirit of service, we freely give of our time, energy, and resources.

— Teamwork

We work as a team of like-minded women, achieving more collectively in our community than individually. We are a cohesive unit setting aside our personal agendas and working toward our shared mission. We are committed to creating synergy by encouraging each other and working collaboratively.

— Compassion

We show sensitivity towards the feelings of others and our impact on them through all our efforts and interactions. We listen so that we stay aware of the suffering and needs of others and then take action to help provide relief. We look for ways to include others in our organization and in our efforts. We show kindness and understanding and are altruistic. We have respect for others for who they are and what they have to offer, striving to see things from wider perspectives than our own.

— Diversity

We choose to foster a diverse environment. It is essential for us to respect and appreciate differences in ethnicity, gender, age, physical abilities, sexual orientation, education and religion amongst individuals. As a diverse organization, we possess a variety of skills, qualifications, culture and values that come together as one all the while nurturing broad-minded women that work more effectively, inspire others and achieve greater results that benefit the entire organization.

The Twig

The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle 'Sneakin' Back to School Sneaker Drive

Thank you to Julie Swan, the Outreach committee and to all the ladies that came out to support the '**Sneakin Back to School**' event. TLC Women's Giving Circle collected and donated over 350 pairs of shoes to Twig on July 21. There are over 1,000 kids in foster care in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. It is such an amazing feeling to know that we were able put smiles on so many children's faces and give them the confidence they deserve as they put their best foot forward this past school year.

The Twig has recognized TLC Women's Giving Circle as a Joy Sponsor. Our own Joy Stone is a regular volunteer at the Bradenton retail shop.

To learn more, visit:

<https://www.mysuncoast.com/2022/07/22/tlc-womens-giving-circle-gives-shoes-children-need/>



Sip, Savor & Socialize Fundraiser for Local Victims of Hurricane Ian

Good Neighbors. Good Friends. Good Works.

Our Sip Savor and Socialize Happy Hour at Sofia's Restaurant on October 3, 2022 was a great success. We enjoyed great company while enjoying delicious food and beverages. A heartfelt thank you was expressed to all who were able to join us for our sold-out evening. The generosity and fellowship in our Lake Club community was awe inspiring.

We were very excited to announce that we raised \$5,000, of which \$3500 was donated to the Manatee Community Foundation Disaster Relief Fund for local victims of Hurricane Ian. This was matched by a grant from the Bishop Parker Foundation. The funds went towards assisting many families who suffered terrible losses from Ian. It was truly gratifying to be able to do what we could to help them get back on their feet.

Thank you to Julie Swan, the fundraising committee and to all the incredible hands and hearts that embraced this seamlessly executed event. And a special thank you to Angelo DiFiore of Sofia's Restaurant on Lakewood Ranch Main Street for providing us a magical evening.

Sip, Savor and Socialize

Happy Hour

OCTOBER 3, 2022 • 5-7 PM
Sofia's Restaurant
8130 Main Street

\$35 per person
Cash Bar & Appetizers
Limited reservations!
bit.ly/3e7AHM1

Hosted by the Lake Club Women's Giving Circle

Questions? Contact
Julie Swan
julieswan@gmail.com

Fun Photos From Sip, Savor & Socialize



Left to right: Nancy Lepain, Grants Committee Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Lauren Hirsch, Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Ruth Harshman, Acting Secretary of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Terri Prettyman, Social & Fundraising Committee Co-Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Marla Lacy, member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Kathy Hall, member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Barbara Najmy, Founder and Board Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Sheila Lau, Membership Committee Co-Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Julie Swan, Social & Fundraising Committee Co-Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Tig Winsler, member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Karen Olsen, member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle



Left to right: Alicia Chalmers, Manager of Donor Engagement for Manatee Community Foundation, Lauren Hirsch, Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle



Left to right: Vicki Buchanan & Janet Aspatore, both members of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle



Left to right: Susan Morris, Member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle Phil Morris, Ruth Harshman, Acting Secretary of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle

Embracing our Differences Outreach Event

Wow! What a fantastic outreach event held on August 31, 2022 with Embracing Our Differences. We labeled close to 3000 books that were delivered to elementary students. The two books titled “Bucket Filling From A to Z” and “Have You Filled a Bucket Today?” was read to over 400 classrooms in Manatee and Sarasota Counties on national reading day, November 15, 2022.

Thank you Diane Cohen who organized this beautiful afternoon and to the Outreach committee and the ladies who came out to make a difference in our community!

Sarah Wertheimer, Executive director for Embracing Our Differences, stated that she has never had a volunteer group like ours that showed such efficiency and organization!



Left to right: Kathy Martella, member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, Lisa Levesque, member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle & Diane Cohen, member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle

The Lake Club 3rd Annual Turkey Trot

November 24th, 2022

The Lake Club Grande Clubhouse

Run, jog or walk 1-mile, 3-miles (5k) or 6-miles (10k) with Lake Club friends & neighbors!

Video footage featured from this event

<https://youtu.be/P06Tokh0gVc>

The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle recognizes and appreciates the race directors, partners and individuals that supported The 3rd Annual Lake Club Turkey Trot. We had 225 registrants and 30 partners and countless supporters. Through sponsorships and individual resident donations, we successfully raised \$17,500.00—which amazingly was matched (dollar for dollar) by the Bradenton Steven and Natalie Herrig Family Foundation. The total \$35,000.00 donation was granted to the Food Bank of Manatee. This will fund the cost of approximately 50,000 meals for children, families & seniors here in Manatee County.

In that regard, Maribeth Phillips, President & CEO of Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee expressed the following:

"With the inflationary challenges present today, more and more people are food insecure and are wholly dependent on The Food Bank of Manatee (a PLUS program of Meals on Wheels PLUS). We are sincerely grateful to The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle and the Turkey Trot sponsors and participants for the success of the event."

The Lake Club
3rd Annual Turkey Trot
November 24th, 2022

WOMEN'S Giving Circle

The Lake Club
AT LAKEWOOD RANCH

BIG BIRD SPONSOR
Presented By:
RE/MAX
Platinum Realty
David Ahrens, REALTOR

GREAT PUMPKIN SPONSOR

SARASOTA MEMORIAL
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

M MOSELEY INVESTMENT
MANAGEMENT, INC.

MISCH
Implant Dentistry

STOCK 20 YEARS
when QUALITY matters

GENERX
GENERATORS

RHOMES
BY ARTHUR RUTENBERG

VERANO | müv

Morgan Stanley
JARED W. HERMANN, SR., CRPC®, CPRS®
FINANCIAL ADVISOR

HUFFIN' FOR THE STUFFIN' SPONSOR

Najmy Thompson
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

BUDGET BLINDS

Rψ

COMPASS

barbara najmy
COMPANY

Natural Designs
LANDSCAPING

THE Center FOR Urgent Care

WAGNER COMMERCIAL
ESTABLISHED IN 1939
A DIVISION OF WAGNER REALTY
BUSINESS BROKERAGE GROUP

Edward Jones

RUN NOW, GOBBLE LATER SPONSOR

ANCHOR FITNESS & PERFORMANCE

WC
WEST COAST PLASTIC SURGERY
BRADENTON, FLORIDA

LAWNGEVITY

HUBB.FIT
HEALTHY • FIT • STRONG

Sirius
SPA, SALON & MEDSPA

ARMOR
SYSTEMS & SECURITY, INC.
AUTHORIZED • SECURITY • SMART HOME

Da Mimmo
Fours of Italy

ALEX CHAU

COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY

The UPS Store

BOWTIQUE
MED SPA
A Full Service & Affordable Place

The Power of Collective Giving



From left to right: Maribeth Phillips, President & CEO of Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee, Barbara Najmy, Founder & Board Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle, David Ahrens, REALTOR for RE/MAX Platinum Realty & a race director for The Lake Club 3rd Annual Turkey Trot, Frank Perry, Vice President of Strategic Food Bank Operations for Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee, Amy Towery, Vice President of Development for Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee, Jennifer Alokeh, Board Vice Chair of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle

Donor Spotlight – Acts of Charitable Kindness

The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle is incredibly grateful for the generosity of our donors!

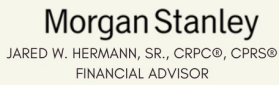
- Gil & Diane Green (Residents of The Lake Club since 2016)
 - In 2022, they awarded \$5,000 to TLC Women's Giving Circle Annual Grant Fund. Their treasure continued to provide us the ability to make grants to our community and make a difference in the lives of others. The couple expressed the following when asked, “Why did we give to The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle?”
 - *“We were impressed by the ability of the Women's Giving Circle to raise significant funds that support area non-profits and organizations benefiting women, children, and families. We were also inspired by the fact that women in our own community are personally involved with some of the organizations supported by the Women's Giving Circle. We hope that our gift will inspire others in The Lake Club to support the Women’s Giving Circle. It is always our hope that those who benefit from grants and assistance will aspire to do the same at some point in their future.”*
- Harriette Buckman (Mother of a member of The Lake Club Women’s Giving Circle & resident of The Lake Club for 8 ½ years)
 - In 2022, she awarded \$1,000 to TLC Women’s Giving Circle Annual Grant Fund. Her goodwill and generosity extended to us helped to continue to provide grants to our community. She expressed the following when asked, “Why did you give to The Lake Club Women’s Giving Circle?”
 - “Anything that commands my daughters time and attention to detail has to be worthwhile. She does not get involved in frivolous matters, she has always pursued philanthropy for purpose and value. If it helps, I am all for it!
Better to be a giver than a receiver!”

Transformational Change Through Partnerships

THANK YOU TO OUR INCREDIBLE PARTNERS



Karen Sergison
Web Developer



2022 Annual Grants

April Giving Challenge - \$1300.00 (matched 1:1 by The Patterson Foundation for a total of \$2600.00)

Manatee Community Foundation Hurricane Relief Fund - \$3500.00 (matched 1:1 by Bishop Parker Foundation for a total of \$7000.00)

Food Bank of Manatee County – \$17,530.00 (matched 1:1 by the Steven & Natalee Herrig Trust of Bradenton for a total of \$35,060.00)

Grants to local nonprofits – \$17,000.00 (\$4,000.00 matched by Louis & Gloria Flanzer Philanthropic Trust for a total of \$21,000.00)

Total Grants \$39,330.00 with matches of \$26,330.00 for a total impact of \$65,660.00



2022 Grant Recipients

Creating a Thriving Community, One Organization at a Time

- Beyond the Spectrum
- Blue Butterfly Family Grief Program Empath
Tidewell Hospice
- Feeding Empty Little Tummys (F.E.L.T.)
- Food Bank of Manatee
- Hope Family Services
- Josh Provides
- Manatee Children's Services
- Manatee Community Foundation Hurricane Relief
Fund
- Manatee County Habitat for Humanity
- Manatee Legal Aid
- Mother's Helping Mothers
- Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)
- School Attendance Support, Inc. (SAS)
- Still Point Mission
- Streets of Paradise
- Take Stock in Children
- The Giving Challenge
- The Twig
- We Care Manatee

Our Total Impact

- TLCWGC has invested \$86,960 in more than 20 organizations in Sarasota and Manatee Counties since our inception in 2014
- Our work has been featured in East County Observer, Nextgen Magazine, and ABC7 Sarasota



Keeping Our Community Informed

www.tlcwomensgivingcircle.org



We have a new way to interact with our members! Our website is full of features, including up to date info on social gatherings, upcoming volunteer & fundraising events, past grant recipients with a digital application for future grant applicants, prospective member info, a dedicated community partners page, a members only login page with exclusive info, photos and more!

Media Contact

- If you are a journalist interested in speaking with a member of The Lake Club Women's Giving Circle or would like to be added to our media list to keep up-to-date on the latest news, please sign up to receive our newsletter at www.tlcwomensgivingcircle.org or contact us at info@tlcwomensgivingcircle.org
- Barbara Najmy, Founder & Board Chair – 941.705.1158 or Jennifer Alokeh, Board Vice-Chair – 863.990.5679
- To view our previous press releases, please visit www.tlcwomensgivingcircle.org and click on News