



MEN GIVING BACK
SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY

2024 Mid-Year Report



Changing Lives

2024 Mid-Year Report



In 2023, just our third year as an organization, Men Giving Back gave away over a half-million dollars to some amazing charities that work miracles in our local community.

The pages that follow tell the stories of how those grants have changed the lives of children and adults right here in South Palm Beach County.

From food security, to education, to mental health services, our members' generosity helps address some of the biggest economic and social challenges we face.

About Men Giving Back Mission & Vision

Our mission is to leverage the power of men doing good by collectively funding grants to non-profit initiatives that positively influence South Palm Beach County.

Our vision is one of fun & philanthropy. This is not your typical charitable organization.

Charitable Focus Areas

Men Giving Back grants support charities aligned to one of our four focus areas:



Education



Children



Food Security



Mental Health

What We Do

Men Giving Back members commit to an annual monetary gift. These donations form a grant pool that now exceeds over a half million dollars per year. Each November, Men Giving Back hosts its Annual Golden Grants evening where semifinalist charities gather in hopes of winning a grant worth up to \$100,000.

Men Giving Back has no overhead. Nearly 100% of member donations go directly to local charities.

Fun & Philanthropy

Men Giving Back isn't all business; we like to have fun as well. Each year members enjoy three major events that all have two things in common: great food & drink, and friendly camaraderie.

Members network with like-minded local businessmen, philanthropists, and retirees from all walks of life. Events are 100% funded and sponsored by generous local businesses and individuals. No membership donations are used to pay for member events.



Join Us www.mengivingback.org/become-a-member

Giving Back to South Palm Beach County



To Date, Over
\$1.5M
Granted to local
Charities



American Association of Caregiving Youth 2023 \$100k Grant Recipient



Impact at-a-glance

- AACY launched a new initiative to raise awareness of what caregiving youth should do in an emergency.
- Two successful events have been completed already in 2024.
- Students gained proficiency in identifying appropriate actions during emergencies such as hurricanes, fires, and tornadoes.
- Flashlights, first aid kits, and smoke detectors have been provided to students/families in need.

Preparing Youth for Emergency Situations

The 2023 Men Giving Back grant enabled AACY to launch its *Knowledge Know How* initiative. The effort is focused on educating caregiving youth on what to do during an emergency.

The program's kickoff featured a Home Safety Scavenger Hunt and Picnic at Patch Reef Park on MLK Day, seamlessly intertwining education with hands-on learning experiences. The park's scavenger hunt not only added an element of outdoor adventure but also imparted crucial safety insights and fostered open discussions about home safety and plans for applying the knowledge acquired by the students.

Educating young caregivers on what to do in case of fires, hurricanes, tornadoes and more."

The second *Knowledge Know How* module was held in February with a focus on Emergency Preparedness in featuring Jeff Heinz from the Palm Beach Fire Rescue. He focused on imparting fundamental emergency procedures and safety

measures, particularly relevant to potential hurricane and fire scenarios, including the use of a fire extinguisher tailored for a group of 6-8th grade students. Students received take home information including a *Vial of Life* to keep pertinent medical information easily available in the event of an emergency.

To evaluate learning, students participated in pre-and post-tests, which demonstrated success with increased knowledge of hurricane/tornado responses, fire safety, and emergency contacts in post-tests following targeted learning sessions. Participants received certificates, acknowledging their newly acquired skills in emergency preparedness.

In addition, AACY administered a home safety survey that revealed many caregiving youth homes were without basic emergency essentials. The organization used funds from the grant to provide flashlights, first aid kits, smoke detectors and more to those families in need.



Boca Helping Hands

2023 \$100k Grant Recipient

Backpacks Program

Boca Helping hands received a \$100,000 grant toward their BHH Backpacks Program, which helps to alleviate childhood food insecurity in southern Palm Beach County. With these funds, they have been able to provide meals for students at 12 elementary schools and 1 middle school on the weekends, when they don't have access to the free breakfasts and lunches that they receive at school during the week.

Fortunately, the record levels of food insecurity seen during the pandemic and due to subsequent inflation finally appear to be leveling off. However, 44% of all households in our community are still struggling to make ends meet each day, and approximately 48,000 kids still face food insecurity.

That makes the Boca Helping Hands Backpacks program even more important to the children (and their families) whom they continue to serve.

To date for the 2023-2024 school year, 1,393 unduplicated students have participated in the weekend meal program - and they anticipate distributing weekend meals to kids at nonprofit partner agencies over the summer. During that time, BHH have provided more than 123,000 meals to food-insecure kids at schools in South Palm Beach County benefiting not only their health and development but also improving their school readiness and performance.



Grant funds enable the BHH backpack program that has fed nearly 1400 students and their families this school year.



Impact at-a-glance

- Grant funds provided backpacks of food to feed students in need over the weekends when school breakfasts and lunches are not available.
- The program has helped serve South Palm Beach county students and their families at a dozen elementary schools and one middle school.
- The BHH backpack program has already helped nearly 1400 students this school year.
- Funding Boca Helping Hands helps them feed some of the estimated 44% of all households in our area who struggle to make ends meet.



The Hanley Foundation

2023 \$100k Grant Recipient



Impact at-a-glance

Since the project start date of January 1, 2024:

- The Hanley Foundation has hired four Prevention Specialists and trained them to deliver prevention programming in schools.
- Hanley staff are in communication with Atlantic Community High School and Torah Jewish Academy to schedule programming.
- The Boca YMCA has expressed interest in scheduling programming for this summer.
- A Prevention Specialist has been assigned to expand outreach and build relationships with South Palm Beach County schools and community organizations.
- 800 workbooks for each grade level (Kindergarten, 4th, 6th, 9th, and 12th grades) have been ordered, totaling 4,000 workbooks.



The Hanley Foundation has been able to hire four Prevention Specialists to deliver programming in South Palm Beach County schools.

Substance Abuse Prevention

Hanley Foundation's mission to eliminate addiction begins with prevention. With funding from Men Giving Back, Hanley Foundation is expanding prevention in South Palm Beach County through its evidence-based programs:

- Alcohol Literacy Challenge
- Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
- Marijuana and Vaping Prevention
- Youth Prevention Workbooks

These programs teach youth to think critically about messaging behind media portrayals of substances, debunk myths and learn facts about the effects of substance use, encourage healthy stress management, and improve self-esteem. Hanley Foundation will serve 2,000 students with in-class programming and 4,000 students with prevention workbooks.



Love Serving Autism

2023 \$100k Grant Recipient



Inclusive Fitness Intervention and Therapeutics Program

Love Serving Autism looks to positively influence more than 350 Southern Palm Beach County children and families impacted by autism and other developmental disabilities by delivering its transformative Inclusive Fitness Intervention and Therapeutics Program (IFIT).

In the program's first phase, LSA will continue its successful integration of adaptive tennis therapies at its three existing Southern PBC sites of Delray Swim and Racquet Center,

Boynton Beach Tennis Center, and Mission Bay Tennis Center.

Participants demonstrated 95% overall improvement in communication skills and 50% in motor coordination skills.

In the near future, the program will include implementation of therapeutic racquet sports programming at a new site, Boca School for Autism (FAU campus), to positively enhance all participants' functional, social, and life skill outcomes.

Funding for the program comes from the \$100,000 2023 Men Giving Back grant which has enabled Love Serving Autism to also train 35 individuals, from tennis instructors, to therapists, to volunteers, delivering this valuable experience to participants.



Impact at-a-glance

- The 2023 Men Giving Back grant funded a fitness intervention and therapeutics program for Love Serving Autism.
- 55 South Palm Beach County youth (10 new/unduplicated, 45 returning) participated in classes since January 1, 2024.
- Participants demonstrated 95% overall improvements in communication skills and 50% in motor coordination skills.
- 35 tennis instructors, staff, therapists, and volunteers were trained in Love Serving Autism programming.



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\$12,500 Grant Recipients



Best Foot Forward Foundation

- Best Foot Forward serves more than 300 foster care and at-risk youth from elementary school through college in Palm Beach County.
- Thanks to the generosity of Men Giving Back, 20 foster care youth in Best Foot Forward's (BFF) Grounded for Life program can graduate high school, attend college, and become self-sufficient, successful young adults.
- BFF provides comprehensive one on one academic coaching with a focus on the A,B,Cs (academics, behavior, and communication).
- Through mid-year, BFF students are on track for a 100% graduation rate. 96% of students (all grades) are on track for promotion to the next grade level; and 94% of youth showed reduced behavioral issues.



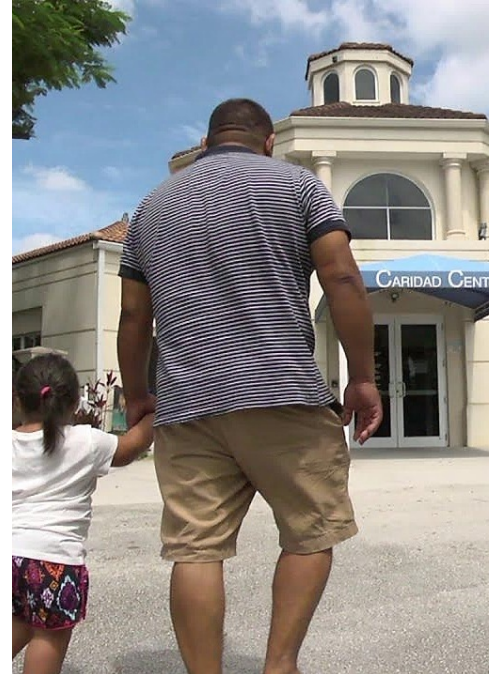
Rotary Club of Boca Raton

- The Rotary Club of Boca Raton supports its scholarship recipients with solid mentoring relationships.
- Thanks in part to the generosity of Men Giving Back, on March 6th, RCBR welcomed five new students to its club meeting to practice their public speaking skills in front of an audience of 65 people.
- Two students shared very moving stories of how their education almost got derailed but that the relationship with their mentor helped them get back on track.
- One young man announced he was about to become the first college graduate in his family this Spring when he completes his degree in mechanical engineering.
- Another student, who graduated in 2020 was back to share that she is starting medical school this fall and couldn't have done it without the support of her mentor who helped her through being homesick, changing her major, moving, and getting rejected from graduate school.

\$12,500 Grant Recipients

Caridad Center

- Caridad's Mental and Behavioral Health Department enhances the mental and behavioral health of low-income minority communities with accessible, culturally competent, and holistic support.
- In the last quarter, 221 unduplicated patients received mental & behavioral support across 1,059 visits.
- 82% of visits are completed via telehealth to reduce patients' transportation barriers.
- In the past year, Caridad Center provided 459 unduplicated patients with mental health services, exceeding their goal.
- Most patients seen for mental health services, receive services from 2 or more Caridad departments, including medical, prescriptions, lab work, dental cleaning and exams, vision, social services, food support, clothing, hygiene, baby supplies and more.



Feeding South Florida

- The 2023 Men Giving Back Grant supports Feeding South Florida's mission of alleviating hunger and providing food assistance to individuals and families facing food insecurity.
- Leveraging food distribution programs, community partnerships and advocacy efforts, FSF current fiscal year results in Palm Beach County include:
 - 93,625 individuals served
 - 8,531,209 pounds of food distributed
 - Which is equal to 7,109,340 meals
- In the region, FSF served 241,697 individuals in Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.
- Feeding South Florida continues to prioritize expanding its reach and impact, while focusing on innovative solutions to address the root causes of hunger, as well as challenges such as economic instability and natural disasters.



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\$12,500 Grant Recipients



Fuller Center

- Thanks to the Men Giving Back grant, The Fuller Center has continued to provide out-of-school-time programming for four deaf and hard-of-hearing children in South Palm Beach County.
- Funds were used to enhance the after-school programming that would otherwise not be available to these children.
- The Fuller Center has served the Boca Raton community for over 53 years, with quality educational programming, family support services, medical screenings, summer camps, nutritional services, housing, employment support, an inter-generational program, a private elementary school, and more.
- With the investment made by funders like Men Giving Back, The Fuller Center can continue to play a critical role in children's development by making the difference between a temporary setback and a multigenerational one.



HomeSafe

- HomeSafe provides life-saving support to Palm Beach County's most vulnerable residents – victims of child abuse and domestic violence.
- Through their unique approach, they have grown into a leading provider of prevention and intervention services for over 15,000 infants, children and families each year.
- Thanks to the support of Men Giving Back and others, HomeSafe broke ground on its fourth new residential group home for traumatized children in the area.
- The home will provide refuge for twelve youth, ages 6-12, who have been removed from their homes due to extreme abuse or abandonment and are struggling with the ensuing mental health, behavioral, and emotional issues that stem from their trauma.
- These kids will experience a safe, healing environment where they can work through negative emotions with trained clinicians and caretakers, and develop life skills that put them on a path toward stability, happiness, self-love and self-sufficiency.

\$12,500 Grant Recipients

Kindness Matters 365

- Kindness Matters 365's primary mission is to foster the well-being and development of youth through education, discovery, and community engagement.
- With the help of Men Giving Back, this school year has been impactful for the children, teens, and communities served by KM365. They have already trained 296 ambassador leaders who are running 84 programs and many community service and disaster relief projects.
- Youth participants have explored life skills such as self-awareness, self-navigation, optimistic thinking, respecting each other, compassion, gratitude, personal responsibility, and more; they have discovered how to be kind to themselves, to one another, and to our world.
- The outlook for 2024 includes training 25 new ambassador leaders and building 6 new programs.



Roots and Wings

- Roots and Wings mission is to support and encourage children's reading skills and support teachers who inspire learning.
- Thanks in part to the grant from Men Giving Back, Roots and Wings is helping more than 1,000 students in the South Palm Beach area via its Project Uplift:
 - Provides extra literacy education to selected students identified by their teachers
 - Designed to help the students pass year-end standardized reading tests
 - Enables them to successfully advance to the next grade, providing confidence and a sense of significant accomplishment
- Roots and Wings programs have now grown to support 13 different Title 1 public elementary schools in the community.



Update: HabCenter

2022 \$100k Grant Recipient



Mission

HabCenter equips people with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to lead useful and productive lives with dignity, respect and independence. HabCenter serves adults with developmental differences and mental health challenges, providing a wide range of services to enable their clients to live fulfilling and joyful lives and to become contributing members of the community.

Men Giving Back Therapy Program

The Men Giving Back Therapy Program was introduced with the generous grant of \$100,000 in 2022. It has been transformational for HabCenter clients and team.

HabCenter was able to expand Mental Health Counseling Services by hiring a sorely needed Social Worker focused on addressing isolation challenges through group and individual counseling. They expanded their Programs in Education Arts and Recreation (PEAR) Program and added enrichment and educational programs, technology and games.

The MGB Therapy program focuses on clients from South Palm Beach County and allows HabCenter to broaden the delivery of its overall mission.



Recent Highlights

- From September through December 2023, enrolled clients received 248 individual counseling sessions and 676 individual therapy sessions for the entire year.
- In addition, enrolled clients participated in 17 group therapy sessions during the same period, and 86 group sessions for the year.
- HabCenter's goal for the MGB Therapy Program for the fourth quarter was reached and exceeded: 29 of the originally enrolled 34 clients, or 85.3%, showed reduced anxiety or depression features, exceeding the goal of 75%.



Update: Faulk Center For Counseling 2022 \$100k Grant Recipient

Mission

The Faulk Center for Counseling provides low-cost, no-cost psychological and mental health services to low/middle-income individuals and families who otherwise would be unable to afford care.

Serving over 1,600 individuals from Palm Beach and Broward Counties each year, Faulk Center utilizes doctoral interns, graduate students, and licensed and volunteer mental health professionals to provide personalized individual, couple, family, and group counseling services. Additional services include psychological testing, onsite schools group counseling, and community education/training.



Schools Preventive Program Expansion

The Faulk Center for Counseling leveraged the Men Giving Back \$100,000 grant to expand the scope and reach of their Schools Preventive Program.

A collaborative effort with the Palm Beach County School Board, the program ensures that students are provided the tools they need to succeed in school, develop healthy relationships with family and friends, and grow into confident, productive adults. It leverages student-clinicians who provide onsite, no-cost group mental health counseling to at-risk students at partnering elementary, middle, and high schools.

Funding from Men Giving Back allowed Faulk Center to increase their clinical capacity to take on six additional schools in South Palm Beach County and provide regular, weekly mental health services to over 80 unduplicated students who otherwise would not have access to care.

86% of the students served demonstrated decreased symptomatic impacts (depression/anxiety /fear/tiredness/etc.) or increased functionality (engagement/social skills/ behavior control/etc.) as a result of services.



Member Events

Food, Drink, and Fun



Golden Grants Evening – November

The big night!

Each November, Men Giving Back awards over a half-million dollars in grants to deserving organizations in our community.

This exclusive event brings our members face to face with the amazing leaders from two dozen charity semi-finalists who turn our fundraising dollars into life-changing miracles across South Palm Beach County.



Backyard Battle – February

Buckle up for a little competition!

Boca West Country Club is the site of our annual games event, pitting members and their guests against each other in everything from putting and driving contests, to air-hockey, axe-throwing, and more.

The fun, food, and drinks, coupled with Florida's beautiful February weather make this a member favorite every year.



Spring Social – May

The food is soooooo good!

The Boca Raton generously hosts our Annual Spring Social, where members bring their guests to meet other members, share a drink, and maybe a cigar, too.

No fundraising. No auction. No long-winded speakers. Just fun.

(Bring your firm handshake.)



Join Us www.mengivingback.org/become-a-member

Thank You!

Men Giving Back 2023 Event Sponsors



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