



Your passion.
Your Collier.

WHO ARE WE?

The Community Foundation of Collier County is the catalyst for nonprofit collaboration. We inspire ideas, ignite action, and mobilize resources to address community needs in Collier County.

- We connect people who care to causes that matter.
- We grow their charitable legacies.
- We fund nonprofit organizations to improve the quality of life in Collier County.

HOW DO WE SPARK CHANGE?

We play a unique and essential role in our community. From funding Future Ready Collier to responding to Hurricane Irma, we are at the table for every significant conversation happening about Collier County. We create public-private partnerships, support strategic plans, and conduct major studies that lead to real action and positive change in our community.

- **As the community's convener**, we've earned the trust of nonprofits, government agencies, public and private foundations, and the corporate sector.
- **As the community's philanthropic first responder**, we have a track record of results.
- **As the community's trusted foundation partner**, our financial stability provides peace of mind that we will deliver on our promises.

OUR RECORD OF SUCCESS SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

Incorporated in 1985, we've been meeting the needs of Collier County for 35 years.

35
YEARS

We have distributed almost \$200 million in grants in our history.

\$200M

750+
FUNDS

Today, we oversee more than 750 funds and manage over \$250 million in assets.

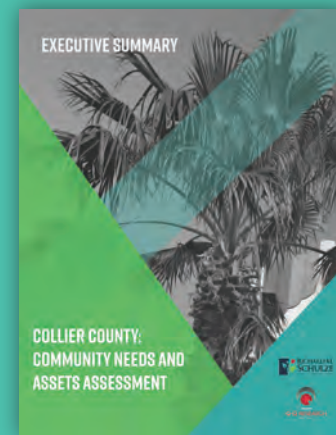
\$35M

In 2020, we distributed over \$35 million to nonprofit organizations and community programs.

ASSESSING COLLIER'S NEEDS

THE CHALLENGES OUR COMMUNITY IS FACING

With support from the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation, we embarked on an assessment of the community's needs and presented our findings in 2017. The assessment paints a clear picture of the obstacles and gaps in support that local residents face. Our aging, growing, and diversifying population has numerous critical needs across a range of areas.



UNDERSTANDING NEEDS FROM THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK HERE

To get a clear picture of the community's needs, we polled 3,705 people representing every zip code in the County (84% of participants lived in Collier County). We also held 22 focus groups with community experts and residents.

GATHERING IDEAS FOR SOLUTIONS FROM OUR NONPROFIT PARTNERS

After the assessment was completed, we convened 106 nonprofits in 2019 to determine the emerging, community-wide, collaborative projects in which the Community Foundation and its partners could invest to create a lasting and positive impact on the community. We solicited their direct, unfiltered input about how we could improve our response to these needs.



“

The Community Foundation of Collier County is committed to raising funds to support our nonprofits and address the challenges laid out in the Community Needs and Assets Assessment. We could not do this on our own.

— DR. JACLYNN FAFFER, PRESIDENT/CEO, NAPLES SENIOR CENTER AT JFCS (PICTURED SECOND FROM LEFT)

SIX WAYS TO MEET OUR COMMUNITY'S NEEDS

The Community Foundation of Collier County has launched a \$15.5 million campaign to address the six biggest areas of need across Collier County.



“As a family, we believe in giving back to the communities where we live. We've taught our children to do the same. The *Your Passion. Your Collier.* campaign is a reflection of that. We feel blessed to be able to be a part of this important work.

— JERRY AND ALLEEN TOSTRUD, CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS


Education & Employment


Environment & Accessibility


Mental Health & Substance Abuse


Housing & Hunger


Crisis & Disaster Relief


Seniors & Veterans

*Your passion.
Your Collier.*



MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

INVESTMENT PLAN: \$3 MILLION

CHALLENGES

Most people in Collier County are not aware of the scale of the mental health and substance abuse issues affecting our County. There is a serious lack of mental health providers.

- We have an **overloaded treatment system**. In 2019, for every 1,050 residents of Collier County, there was only one mental health care provider. That's compared to 670:1 overall in Florida.
- Because of a general **lack of awareness**, Collier County also lacks support services for people living with serious mental health and substance abuse issues.

SOLUTIONS

- Work together with the County, law enforcement, media outlets, and the David Lawrence Center on raising awareness through a **public education campaign**.
- Provide **funding to the David Lawrence Center** for staffing, counseling, and other support services to address the growing need in our community.



“ We've seen the need here. If you have a mental health crisis, you don't want to rely on jails for treatment, which is too often the case across the country. You want a professional group, a professional team.

— COLLIER COUNTY SHERIFF KEVIN RAMBOSK



HOUSING & HUNGER

INVESTMENT PLAN: \$3 MILLION

CHALLENGES

As housing costs rise, many essential employees—including police, firefighters, medical professionals, teachers, and others—can't afford to live in Collier County. Simultaneously, one out of every ten residents, and 20% of our children, lack sufficient access to nutritious food.

- The median single-family home value in Florida is \$214,000, while the median for Collier is \$415,000. Nearly 58,000 households are “housing-cost burdened,” spending 30% or more of their income on housing.
- Elevated housing costs reduce access to other essential needs. The annual **food budget shortfall** in Collier County is over \$21 million.

SOLUTIONS

- Lead collaborative projects that provide **affordable housing and support services** in Collier County for essential employees, seniors, and veterans, and in Immokalee to support the unique housing challenges of farm workers and families.
- **Expand food pantry capacity** and address food insecurity throughout Collier County.



“ Harry Chapin Food Bank has been a proud partner since 1993. We've watched with pride how the Community Foundation has leveraged its position to bring funders, awareness, and action to meet the tremendous needs of the hungry.

— BARBARA EVANS, CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER,
HARRY CHAPIN FOOD BANK



RIGHT: VOLUNTEERS FROM LEADERSHIP COLLIER DISTRIBUTE FOOD AT FULFILL MOBILE PANTRY.

RIGHT: GRADUATING SENIORS AT NAPLES HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATE THEIR BIG DAY.



EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

INVESTMENT PLAN: \$3 MILLION

CHALLENGES

With limited pre-K support in our County, many children struggle as they start school. At the same time, young adults are not prepared for life after high school graduation, scholarships are scarce, and high-paying jobs require advanced education and training inaccessible for most residents.

- About **half of all children aren't ready for kindergarten**, and 30% of high school seniors don't know what they'll do next.
- Many students come from households where they will be the first in their family to go on to secondary education. With **limited scholarship opportunities**, parents may not have the resources to support them.
- The greatest areas of employment growth are in retail and the service sector, which offer **insufficient pay and benefits**.

SOLUTIONS

- Support the operations of Future Ready Collier—which has already brought together 60 local organizations—through the backbone agency, Champions for Learning, and **increase scholarships and internships**.
- Increase the number of **technical, vocational, and career-focused opportunities** to build our workforce and stimulate economic development.



“The goals for education in Collier County can only be accomplished when we all contribute. The Community Foundation has been a key leader in funding the Future Ready Collier collaboration of over 60 organizations, and we are grateful for their leadership and commitment to sustaining this work.”

— SUSAN MCMANUS, PRESIDENT, CHAMPIONS FOR LEARNING



“ Many of our seniors are dealing with isolation and loneliness and lack access to adequate resources. Increased partnership and additional funding from the Community Foundation to support these services are critical in enhancing the quality of life of older adults in our community.

— TATIANA FORTUNE, SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR, GOLDEN GATE SENIOR CENTER



SENIORS & VETERANS

INVESTMENT PLAN: \$2 MILLION

CHALLENGES

Aging populations require more assistance and support as they cope with isolation, loneliness, depression, affordable housing, healthcare, and other issues. It's projected that seniors will make up nearly 50% of the Collier County population by 2050, and more than half the veterans living in our County are already over the age of 75.

- In the US, more than 10,000 adults turn 65 each day. Seniors currently make up 31% of Collier County residents. **Older residents and veterans require more assistance.**
- Older women are twice as likely as men to suffer from **depression**.
- The current wait for **affordable senior housing** in Collier County is three to five years.

SOLUTIONS

- Provide **affordable housing** for seniors and veterans.
- Together with the County, our local senior centers, and Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, we will invest in **case management** to include medical, mental health, dental, hearing, legal, and other important services.

LEFT: 105-YEAR-OLD SYLVIA BERG (PICTURED AT RIGHT IN PHOTO) ENJOYS THE CAMARADERIE, SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMS, AND DELICIOUS MEALS AT NAPLES SENIOR CENTER AT JFCS.



ABOVE: COLLIER COUNTY RESIDENTS AND VISITORS RELY ON CLEAN WATER FOR FISHING AND WATER SPORTS AT THE BLAIR FOUNDATION BRIDGE IN BAKER PARK.



ENVIRONMENT & ACCESSIBILITY

INVESTMENT PLAN: \$2 MILLION

CHALLENGES

Some of the recreational activities in Collier County are not accessible to people with disabilities. Our local wildlife and delicate ecosystems are under threat from changing climate patterns, and increasing numbers of natural disasters devastate beaches and destroy trees.

- Many of our beautiful beaches, bike trails, parks, and more are **not accessible to people with disabilities**.
- **Serious environmental concerns are on the rise**—from the community's impact on wetlands to storm water drainage, water quality, and more.
- During Irma, Collier County **lost thousands of trees**, which negatively impacted air and water quality, reduced shade to residents, and devastated wildlife.

SOLUTIONS

- Update trail accommodations and add seating in parks and recreation areas to make them **more accessible**.
- Establish **wetlands restoration initiatives** to improve water quality, mitigate flooding, and support wildlife and fisheries.
- Work with Naples Botanical Gardens, Conservancy of Southwest Florida, and the County on reforestation efforts by **planting native trees**.



Hurricane Irma was a game changer. With the Community Foundation's support and leadership, we are building awareness and action to make our community more resilient and sustainable.

— ROB MOHER, PRESIDENT & CEO, CONSERVANCY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



CRISIS & DISASTER RELIEF

INVESTMENT PLAN: \$2.5 MILLION

CHALLENGES

The COVID-19 pandemic and record number of storms in 2020 have taken a tremendous toll on the people and infrastructure of Collier County, highlighting where gaps exist in our crisis response and disaster preparedness.

- Local residents face disproportionate hurdles to access food, healthcare, and financial support during **economic downturns and times of scarcity**.
- Recent **weather events**—including hurricanes—have grown even more dangerous, damaging, and frequent
- **Environmental change** and disruption have increased the presence of red tide, algae blooms, and other water quality issues, creating additional hardships for residents.

SOLUTIONS

- Generate **unrestricted funds** for long-term crisis response and disaster relief so that we're prepared for any situation.
- Invest in **infrastructure and capital improvements** to mitigate future weather events.
- Distribute **housing grants** for home repairs and rebuilds in areas hit hard by hurricanes.
- Plan **response and distribution efforts** to assist food pantries during a community crisis or weather disaster.
- Potential **small business grants** to endure operational disruptions due to future crises while continuing to protect employees and provide for our community.

RIGHT: THE NAMI FOOD DELIVERY TEAM HELPS DISTRIBUTE FOOD DURING THE PANDEMIC.



“Meals of Hope is truly blessed to be in a community where the Community Foundation of Collier County has worked so hard with our organization and many other nonprofits to help mitigate the effects of COVID-19. They have always brought people together during emergencies—whether in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma or COVID-19.

— STEPHEN POPPER, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF MEALS OF HOPE



JOIN THE CAMPAIGN

Choose your passion! How do you want to support your community?

Invest in any of the six areas of work that are meaningful to you. Any choice will be meaningful to all the people of Collier County.

CONTACT US

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CALL US

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VISIT US

YourPassionYourCollier.org

We believe that working together makes all the difference for Collier County. We rely on the passion of those who live here to give here. It's vital that both full- and part-time residents take ownership of making a difference in the community we all love.



Cathy and I are excited to work with others to make this campaign successful. Our community is very fortunate to have a wealth of resources; however, Collier County is still challenged by significant socioeconomic needs. The *Your Passion. Your Collier.* campaign allows donors to align their philanthropic interests with specific areas of need throughout our community.

— ROB AND CATHY FUNDERBURG, CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS

YourPassionYourCollier.org



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF COLLIER COUNTY
FOR GOOD. FOREVER.