



Beaches Community Fund Grantmaking Surpasses \$200,000

Newest grants support Head Start playground, 7North Mental Health Center and others

JACKSONVILLE, Florida – June 24, 2016 — Thirty Beaches-area families are investing \$130,000 in three different initiatives designed to help the underserved citizens in their community, bringing the newly established Beaches Community Fund’s total grantmaking to \$215,000 in its first year. The Beaches Community Fund is an initiative of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida (www.jaxcf.org .)

In this round of grants, 7North II Inc. received two grants—a \$25,000 outright award and a \$50,000 1-to-1 matching grant to encourage more fundraising—for a total of \$75,000 to help create the Mental Health Wellness Center at its new facility. Lutheran Social Services of Florida received a \$35,000 grant to fund the playground at the new Jacksonville Beach Head Start Center. And the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida received \$20,000 to continue its Eleanor Ashby Leadership Series for Beaches-serving nonprofits for one year.

Last fall, the Beaches Community Fund made a \$75,000 grant to Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM) which joined with Feeding Northeast Florida to open a satellite food distribution center at 7North. The new Beaches Community Food Bank, part of a new “hub and spoke” model of food distribution where recovered food from grocery stores is collected and stored locally, opened in April. The Fund also made a \$10,000 grant to the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida to create the Eleanor Ashby Leadership series—social and skill-based events to connect and strengthen the nonprofit sector at the Beaches.

“The fact that 7North has become a reality—a true beacon for the underserved at the Beaches—is so important, and the Beaches Community Fund is proud to support 7North’s food bank, and now the Mental Health Wellness Center,” said Martha Baker, a trustee at The Community Foundation and a member of the Beaches Community Fund. “7North’s presence draws attention to the service needs at the Beach, and we applaud the latest conversations about making our community a better place for everyone.”

Beaches Community Fund member Helen Short added, “The Beaches nonprofit organizations are benefitting greatly from the Eleanor Ashby Leadership series. Feedback has been so positive as the sessions are not only providing learning opportunities, but even more importantly, networking opportunities. We are very pleased to be continuing and expanding this series.”

Member of the Grants Committee include: Martha Baker, Nancy Chartrand, Allison Forsyth, Jan Healy, Renate Hixon, David Loeb, Katharine Loeb, Helen Short, Glenn Ullmann, Lisa Ullmann, Tracey Westbrook and Ellen Wiss

Anyone can contribute to the fund, but those donors who want to be directly involved with the Beaches Community Fund grantmaking decisions are asked for a multi-year commitment of \$10,000 per year, per family. Staff members from The Community Foundation work closely with the group to establish priorities, research grant opportunities, and manage the grantmaking functions. Grants are slated to be announced in May of each year.



About the Beaches Community Fund

The Beaches Community Fund, an initiative of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, is a collective giving circle of like-minded philanthropists who strive to address basic human service issues in the area east of the intracoastal from Mayport to Guana. For more information, go to www.jaxcf.org/learn/beaches-community-fund or contact Joanne E. Cohen, Vice President, Philanthropic Services at jcohen@jaxcf.org or (904) 356-4483.

About The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida (www.jaxcf.org), Florida's oldest and largest community foundation, works to stimulate philanthropy to build a better community. The Foundation helps donors invest their philanthropic gifts wisely, helps nonprofits serve the region effectively, and helps people come together to make the community a better place. Now in its 51st year, the Foundation has assets of more than \$313 million and has made \$369 million in grants since 1964.

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