



THE COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA

Giving Back. Giving Forward.



BEACHES COMMUNITY FUND DELIVERS MORE THAN \$260,000 TO BEACHES NONPROFITS

A total of \$1.8 million granted in just seven years by generous Beaches families

JACKSONVILLE, Florida – June 9, 2022—The Beaches Community Fund, an initiative of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, recently made more than \$260,000 in grants to 14 Beaches-serving nonprofits that tackle the difficult issues facing their Beaches-area neighbors. The 30+ Beaches-area families who make up this collective giving effort received many strong applications in 2022 and responded enthusiastically by making grants to address several key community needs. These latest grants bring the Fund’s Beaches-area investments to more than \$1.8 million since the Fund was established in 2015.

The Beaches Community Fund (BCF) continued to prioritize direct financial aid and food assistance, while also funding needs for additional educational supports for students and people with special needs. Through the grants, BCF members also invested in the long-term sustainability of Beaches nonprofits by funding capacity building strategies provided in partnership with the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida.

“We appreciate hearing first-hand how these organizations bring expertise and a servant’s heart to help those in need at the Beaches,” noted Melissa Roland, a member of the Beaches Community Fund. “The Beaches Community Fund shares their desire to create long-term impact in the area, and improve the quality of life for its citizens.”

Looking ahead to 2023, fund members will be involved in learning opportunities around affordable housing and health disparities to better understand how these issues affect life for Beaches residents.

Agencies that received grants to improve the lives of those living between Mayport and Guana include:

- **Baptist Health Foundation** (\$25,000) for a third year of ‘Tipping the Scales,’ a mentoring and employment program at Baptist Beaches.
- **Beaches Habitat** (\$15,000) to assist low-income seniors with home repair and rehabilitation.
- **BEAM** (\$40,000) for food assistance, emergency financial assistance, and case management programs.
- **Communities in Schools** (\$18,000) to continue the Student Enrichment Program at Mayport Middle School.
- **Feeding Northeast Florida** (\$30,000) to support food distribution at the Beaches.
- **Ferst Readers of Duval County** (\$5,000) to send age-appropriate books and monthly parent engagement newsletters to children from birth to age 5 (already awarded).
- **First Coast Blessings in a Backpack** (\$15,000) to provide weekend food packs for students at Beaches schools who rely on free and reduced-price lunch during the school week.
- **Fitness and Character Education** (\$5,000) to support the FACE4Kids program at two Beaches-area elementary schools in the 2022-2023 school year.

- **Mission House** (\$22,000) to expand its crisis care case management team to enhance staff capacity in Mission House's Crisis Care team.
- **Nonprofit Center for Northeast Florida** (\$17,000) for the Eleanor Ashby Beaches Leadership Series and customized consulting services for Beaches nonprofits.
- **PossAbilities Plus** (\$5,000) to begin a drama program for teens and adults with developmental disabilities and autism to build and practice verbal and non-verbal communication and social skills.
- **St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Emergency Assistance Ministry** (\$15,000) to provide emergency financial assistance to residents during times of need in the West Atlantic Beach/Mayport area.
- **I.M. Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless** (\$33,000) to add a dental assistant to provide dental care services for uninsured and underinsured patients at the Sulzbacher Beaches Clinic.
- **We Care Jacksonville, Inc.** (\$18,000) to provide a Community Health Worker who will support patients with chronic diseases through the Beaches Health & Wellness Collaboration.

About The Beaches Community Fund

The Beaches Community Fund was established in 2015 by charitable Beaches-area families to address concerns about the issues affecting their neighbors between Mayport and Guana. Beaches Community Fund participants pool their charitable dollars to tackle community issues such as transportation to jobs, food, medical care, and essential services; early childhood literacy and development; and affordable housing. They also encourage Beaches nonprofits to grow stronger and be more collaborative. To learn more: www.jaxcf.org/learn/beaches-community-fund

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. Created in 1964, the Foundation has assets of \$630 million and has made approximately \$640 million in grants since inception.

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