

Vision Committee Looks to the Future

In the last couple of years, the Council on Aging of Martin County formed a Vision Committee of community leaders and Board members to determine what our future should look like after a pandemic. Our expertise was in high demand during the height of COVID-19 for our senior population that was most at risk. Our case managers and Adult Day Club staff were busy keeping in touch with our seniors, making telephone reassurance calls; our Day Medical Center staff provided drive through vaccines and boosters. More people than ever looked to us for help.

The Vision Committee determined that we do what we do best and we need to do even more for seniors, right here in Martin County. They decided that we needed to expand programming to enhance opportunities for socialization at our Meals on Wheels meals sites throughout the County.

Our seniors say it best.....

...the congregate meal program has made it possible for me to “Laugh with others,” “Meet friends,” and “Socialize with other people”. One participant shared, “I have very little money to spend on food. The program is vital for me to help ensure that I have enough to eat.”

Since some seniors may never set foot in the Kane Center on their own, we have begun providing the best that we have to offer to seniors who gather, right in their own communities. We aim to provide a wide array of activities designed to attract new residents who would benefit from expanded neighborhood programming. We will bring some of our most popular programs to our meal sites, beginning with the East Stuart and Indiantown sites, including the memory enhancement program, art and music classes, senior fitness and exercise, case management navigation and health screenings, conducted by nurse practitioners from our Joseph C. & Ann S. Day Medical Center. We have even begun providing field trips to the Kane Center for specialized programs.

Our goal is to better serve these communities with quality outreach programming and enhanced opportunities for socialization, providing a place for seniors to be active and feel a sense of connection and purpose.

Indiantown Location Grand Opening Set for November 3



The Indiantown meal site is the first site to open in a new location. From a tiny room at the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Booker Park, to the new, more centrally located Indiantown Civic Center on Osceola Street, the Council on Aging is proud and excited for our Grand Opening.

Originally planned to take place the week of Hurricane Ian, the opening has been rescheduled to take place on Thursday, November 3 to celebrate our new location and reintroduce us to the Indiantown community!

It's a little known fact that not all seniors who receive Meals on Wheels receive meals delivered to their homes. Some gather together to dine and socialize at an established location within specific neighborhoods throughout Martin County. We believe that the new Indiantown location will be a gathering spot for seniors throughout this unique and, often underserved, community.

If you wish to join WellMed Charitable Foundation and our generous individuals in this worthwhile effort, we would be honored to have your support. To support this expansion effort, or attend the opening please contact Michele Jacobs, Chief Philanthropic Officer at (772) 223-7803.

Mark Your Calendars!

The 7th Annual Sage Awards will be held on
Thursday, March 22, 2023
Piper's Landing Yacht & Country Club
6:00 PM cocktail hour followed by dinner and awards presentation



Special Thanks for our Most Notable Gifts

For the period: April 13, 2022—October 10, 2022

Over \$50,000

Peter and Gayle Grimm
The Estate of Katherine Hawkins*
Hobe Sound Community Chest, Inc.
Kantner Foundation, Inc.

\$10,000—\$49,999

The Estate of Henrietta Blair*
Christ Memorial Chapel
The Community Foundation Martin - St. Lucie
Penny McCaffrey

In Memory of R Michael McCaffrey

The Morrisette Family Foundation
Gertrude L. Rodgers
Russell and Jane Stern
United Way of Martin County
WellMed

The Estate of Gene J. Zoratti*

\$5,000—\$9,999

Dr. and Mrs. Neil C. Boland, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Buechner
Lawrence and Sharon Duhaime,
In Memory of James and Laura Dubaime
Diane M. Haskett
Edward P. and Juanita J. Henson Foundation
Judith A. Long
Publix Super Market Charities
Mr. and Mrs. David Schoonover
The Estate of Jack H. Smouse*
Wolcott Family Foundation

We are grateful for these notable gifts!

** Current as of the writing of this document*

Martin County's Seniors Depend on our Meals on Wheels program

When you support Meals on Wheels you support people like:

Fran: *Fran is a woman in her 80s, living on a very low, fixed income. She has diabetes, limited mobility and gets around using a walker. She had trouble getting in and out of her home safely. She also had plumbing issues in her small home, making using the toilet potentially dangerous.*

We arranged for her to receive Meals on Wheels. After multiple calls to several local medical supply companies, our case manager was able to locate a 3' suitcase ramp and pay a plumber to fix the problem. Now, she can safely live in and get out of her home.

Ginny: *We met Ginny when her neighbor contacted us, worried when he noticed that she had lost a lot of weight. He suspected she wasn't eating and asked if we could help. Our Case Manager visited her in her home and learned that she had only been eating one meal a day. Ginny was pleasant and optimistic, even though she had recently lost her eyesight.*

When she was younger, Ginny enjoyed sewing and reading, neither of which she could do anymore. She told us she wanted to learn to cook. We arranged for her to receive Meals on Wheels and immediately gave her a box of groceries. We contacted Lighthouse for the Blind to help and we are hopeful that she will have the opportunity to learn to cook.

Pat: *Pat came into the office needing support and requesting assistance to help pay her electric bill. She was also asking about how she could arrange a ride to church, since she had no means of transportation. She told us that she used to have a friend who would drive her to church each week, but she had recently lost her friend to COVID. Our case manager arranged to meet her at home and immediately noticed that she had no food in her refrigerator.*

Pat was a waitress for most of her life and has spent the years struggling to get by. She never married or had children. Her home is her church, so we helped her locate transportation through the Community Coach service, signed her up to receive Meals on Wheels and helped her shop for groceries. Now, she has a hot meal before church.

Thank you for your support of our Meals on Wheels Program!

Are you a Legacy Society donor?

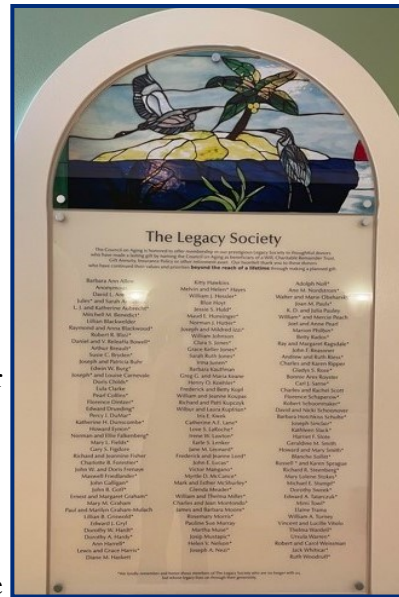
You are, if you have chosen to remember the Council on Aging of Martin County in your Will, Trust, or Estate.

Did you know that anyone can make a transformational contribution? You don't have to be wealthy. All you need is the desire to give, even after you're gone.

The Council on Aging of Martin County has operated for more than 48 years, serving seniors who might otherwise be forgotten. Those who have chosen to remember the seniors we serve can help the Council on Aging by making a significant impact on our long-term growth and success.

If you have already made a plan to include the Council on Aging in your will, trust or estate, **thank you!** Please let us know about your intention so we can make sure we can abide by your wishes and include you in our Legacy Society. If you are already a Legacy Society member — we know what an honor it is to be included among your family, friends and those closest to you, so **thank you!**

Please call Michele Jacobs, Chief Philanthropic Officer at (772) 223-7803 to learn more.



With Sincere Thanks to Peter & Gayle Grimm for their Generous Support to Establish

The Mind and Memory Endowment Fund

“A proactive approach to brain health is vital to a good quality of life. The earlier even the mildest mental slippage is recognized and addressed, the better. Gayle and I are delighted to have founded the Mind and Memory Endowment Fund for the Council on Aging of Martin County. We invite others to join the fund and help ensure the Council on Aging can continue to offer best in class brain health, memory care and caregiver support programs to the seniors of Martin County far into the future.” Peter Grimm

The need for community-based support for individuals living with memory disorders is growing every day. You can join Peter and Gayle in ensuring the future of high-quality memory programs for the more than 7,000 seniors living with Alzheimer's in Martin County by contributing to the Mind and Memory Endowment Fund.

Please contact Michele Jacobs, CFRE, Chief Philanthropic Officer, at (772) 223-7803 to learn how.

Donations through your DAF

With tax season behind us, and the holidays ahead, we thank those donors who have chosen to support our work with a recommendation for a contribution through your Donor Advised Fund (DAF).

Did you know that you can recommend a grant or grants during your lifetime to make an immediate difference in the life of a senior, and/or you can use your fund as a tool for future charitable gifts by adding the Council on Aging of Martin County, Inc. as a beneficiary or successor of your Donor Advised Fund (DAF)?

Please call Michele Jacobs, Chief Philanthropic Officer at (772) 223-7803 to learn how.

Using Your IRA to Make a Charitable Gift Can Save You Money on Your Taxes

Have you considered saving your cash and making a charitable gift from your IRA to the Council on Aging of Martin County?

One of the best ways to make a charitable contribution can be through your traditional IRA. You can use your IRA income rather than cash to make charitable gifts by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to your favorite charity. All you need to do is contact your IRA administrator and authorize a direct transfer from your IRA to a qualified charity, like the Council on Aging of Martin County, Inc. This QCD can satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year. It reduces your taxable income, which can help reduce your income taxes. The maximum amount for charitable distributions from your IRA cannot exceed \$100,000 per calendar year. (The starting age to begin making Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) now is 72, but QCDs still can begin at 70½.)

You can also name a 501(c)(3) public charity, like the Council on Aging, as your IRA beneficiary, to enable you to fund your charitable and legacy objectives in an efficient and effective way while potentially experiencing tax savings for your heirs and your estate. Always consult with your financial advisor.

Contact Michele Jacobs, Chief Philanthropic Officer at (772) 223-7803, to discuss this further. If you need a list of advisors, we can provide you with some local options.

Join Us for the Poinsettia Power! Holiday Bazaar, Luncheon and Fashion Show on Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Planning is underway for the 2022 Poinsettia Power! Holiday Bazaar, Luncheon and Fashion Show on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. We hope you will join us to help support our beloved Meals on Wheels program!

We are excited to welcome you, our guests to enjoy our holiday vendors, a delicious lunch and a wonderful fashion show highlighting new fall fashions, coordinated by Ms. Rose Meyerowich. We are honored to have Ashley Glass, Scripps National News Correspondent, formerly with CBS12 News This Morning, as Master of Ceremonies again this year. Also, by special request, we will, once again, feature our Holiday Hat Parade. Anyone in attendance can become part of the fashion show experience and show off their wild and lavishly decorated hats and be eligible for great prizes!

A big *Thank You* to early sponsors (as of the writing of this newsletter, our list includes): Diane Haskett, Edward P. and Juanita J. Henson Foundation, Law Offices of John Mangan, P.A., Penny McCaffrey, N. Schoonover & Associates, Inc., Publix Super Markets Charities, J.C. Stern Seacoast National Bank and Rehmann.

Last year, the event raised a groundbreaking \$100,000 to support the Meals on Wheels program and case management services provided to seniors living in Martin County!

The Poinsettia Power Committee is always looking for a few new members to help us in the planning of the largest fundraising event to benefit the Meals on Wheels program. Please call the Development Department today if you want to get involved. We thank our 2022 Planning Committee: Jeanine Beers, Melinda Galley, Donna Schuppel-Haines, Vicky Mason, Gloria McHardy, Marney Mckee, Jackie Roesch-Sanchez, Linda Ryan, J.C. Stern, as well as new members Linda Elie, Nesli Gacek, Joanna Mangan, Kim Martin, and Francesca Morgan and supporting staff Jamie Walton and Cindy Carr.

Tickets are \$100 per person. Sponsorships are still available. Learn more at www.kanecenter.org/foundation/poinsettia-power or by contacting Jamie Walton, Annual Fund and Grants Manager at (772) 223-7827 or jwalton@kanecenter.org.

