



Connections

Your Latest Updates from the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler

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Board Members

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 Dan Houser, Intl. Speedway Corp.
 Ed Lacey, Founder
 Bill Grigat, Anchor Planners Group
 David Jones, Lexington Family Assoc.
 Forough Hosseini, ICI Homes
 Kathy Grotty, Crotty & Bartlett PA
 Tom Dargan, Floridian Bank
 Eileen Dittbenner, Root Company
 David Remy, Stifel Nicolas Co.
 Mary Ruppel, Ruppel Advertising
 Preston Root, Root Company
 Ali Kargar, ICI Homes
 Larry Kelly, Sr.
 Bill Navarra, Realty Pros Assured
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 Melissa Peters, Stetson University
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 Greg Sullivan, Sullivan Worldwide Inc.
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 Tom Upchurch, Every/Stack & Upchurch

The Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler connects people who care with causes that matter. Established in 1983, the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler is a tax exempt, public charitable organization and a division of the United Way of Volusia -Flagler Counties. By providing a gateway to giving, we empower charitable individuals to realize their personal philanthropic goals and strengthen our community forever.



\$1,000,000 GIFT PLEDGED TO THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

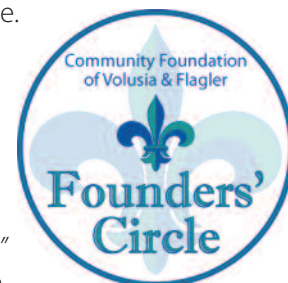
Volusia County, FL -- The Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler is pleased to announce the establishment of the **HELP Fund of Southeast Volusia**, endowed by a major gift through the generosity of an anonymous donor couple with a particular focus on serving at-risk children in the Volusia County School System. The donors have chosen the Community Foundation as the recipient and administrator of their future IRA distributions, to fulfill their charitable goal of providing assistance in health & human services to those families with school-age children in need.



"Partnering public purpose with private giving to make investments in a strategically-focused range of health & human services is our commitment. We strive to have an impact on the lives of local citizens, and that is a major goal of our Community Foundation and its leadership." stated Bruce Teeters, Board Chair of the Community Foundation. "With the help of such benefactors as our friends who have now created the HELP Fund, the Community Foundation can serve as a catalyst in building community by bringing hearts, minds, and resources together for our common good."

The HELP Fund will operate as a donor designated fund with specific instructions to pay annual distributions to charities and causes supported by the donors during their lifetimes, and beyond. While choosing to remain publicly anonymous, as private benefactors they become the newest members of the Community Foundation's **Founder's Circle**, which was established in 2010 by donor John DiCesare to acknowledge the exemplary leadership of those community philanthropists with plans to benefit the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler with an individual gift of \$1 million or more.

As a division of United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties, the Community Foundation's objectives are aligned with United Way's community impact model that achieves the collaborative synergy needed to strengthen our community in the long term. *"By establishing a fund with our Foundation, donors know that their gifts are in good hands."* said Ray Salazar, United Way President. *"Our staff can help them identify where their gifts will accomplish the most, and the result is a lasting legacy that addresses the needs of today and improve our quality of life well into the future."*



Serving our community by creating long-lasting changes and community partnerships.

The Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler is the area's premier local source for comprehensive charitable gift planning. To learn more about establishing a fund, contact Foundation Director Bill Ward at 386-275-1943, or at wward@unitedwayvfc.org.

Foundation Hears from Area Grads

Editor's Note:

From time to time, we hear from area students whose lives have been touched in some formative way by the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler. We re-print here two such communications recently received, the first of which is a letter from a former winner of our Fillingame Scholarship in 2006 (awarded based on financial hardship and academic merit), Erica J. Barger. Erica was also a winner of the Medallion of Excellence Award presented by the News Journal that same year.

12/13/14

Mr. Ray Salazar, President
United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties

Dear Mr. Salazar;

With the holiday season upon us, we are reminded of all the things for which we should be thankful. As a recipient of your Foundation's 2006 scholarship award, I wanted to let you know, once again, how much I appreciated the financial assistance your scholarship provided me during my college years. As promised, I wanted to keep you and the Community Foundation updated on my progress.

I am proud to advise you that I graduated Magna Cum Laude with my Juris Doctor from the Florida State University College of Law in May of 2013. During my three years of law school, I participated in several internships, including interning with the Office of the Public Defender for the 7th Judicial Circuit in my hometown during the summer of 2011. I was especially honored to participate as a civilian intern with the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps at Joint-Base Lewis McChord near Tacoma, Washington during the summer of 2012. During my 3rd year of law school, I was again honored with the privilege of interning at the Supreme Court of Florida in Tallahassee, Florida.

Throughout law school, I also served as Vice-Justice of the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, Vice President of the Federalist Society, and Administrative Editor of the Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law. I was also named as a member of the Order of the Coif and received the Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award for my commitment to community service while in law school. I am now employed as a staff attorney with the Fifth District Court of Appeal in Daytona Beach, where I process appeals cases in a wide variety of cases, both civil and criminal. In my spare time, I continue to volunteer in my hometown community.

Please know that I am extremely grateful to have been a recipient of your scholarship award. Thank you, once again, so very much, for helping to make my college education a reality, which paved the way for my present law career.

Sincerely,
Erika J. Barger



Foundation Hears from Area Grads

Editor's Note:

Kendall Ward is a volunteer 'alumnus' of the Community Foundation, who served while earning her required community credits in the Volusia County School system. Thus inspired by volunteerism, she embarked on an international mission, and updated us in this essay portion of her college application describing her journey, which she shared in appreciation of her hometown experience. We hope you will find her personal statement similarly inspiring.

A Volunteer with the Community Foundation

Sees in her College Application Essay...

"Glimmers of Hope"

by Kendall Ward



The small town of Huanta, Peru can be seen in its entirety from the top of the mountain of Cristo Blanco. The satisfying smoky smell of Huanta lingers for a short time and then dissipates into cool, pure air as I ascend this mountain. As the sun sets, Huanta is briefly illuminated before the mountains disappear into darkness and the stars appear. On the coast in Lima, children of the orphanage gather around their self-made gardens that consist of a unique variety of beautiful plants, separated by stones that are creatively painted and strategically placed. These are the places where I embraced the fundamental principles of education, service, strength, and friendship learned in my school service with the **Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler**.

The beauty, distance, and darkness that I felt on top of that mountain obscured the reality of Huanta, a town where its citizens must work hard to survive as it slowly recovers from the despair and poverty that was caused by a period of terrorism. Here I participated in constructive mission work, building and painting. I witnessed the most incredible strength in the hearts of the Peruvians who worked alongside me, eager to make a difference despite their own circumstances. Their influence instilled in me a strong

passion for international and community service that I uphold today. As the sun hid behind the mountains at the end of each day, only their smiles remained, acting as the language of kind compassion and gratitude that even the English-speakers could understand.

Although the language barrier was often broken by that undying sense of unity, issues with communication still existed between the Americans and Peruvians. However, four years of education in Spanish allowed me to translate lost words and engage in meaningful conversation.

Continued on next page...

Foundation Hears from Area Grads

Continued from "Glimmers of Hope"...

It was gratifying to witness the loose ends tie themselves together through the pure beauty of language. I had always been grateful for my education, but once I had taken it outside the classroom and into the world, I was instantly aware of its lasting impact. I am ready to completely embrace that same rewarding and enriching education that I know the University of Florida has to offer.

In Peru I also had the opportunity to visit orphanages of Lima that allowed the children to grow their own gardens. In neighborhoods that were mainly concrete and dirt, these gardens represented brilliant spots of color and beauty. The colorful rocks and walls of the gardens were creations of parentless children who cared deeply for the environment. Many of the walls read: "¡Bienvenido al jardín de la esperanza!" Welcome to the garden of hope! This inspired me to establish a committee in the Spanish Club of my own school, called the Hope Garden Committee. I felt it was my responsibility to inspire others the way those children had inspired me.

This time in Peru provided me with an opportunity to build life-long friendships, serve the community, and immerse



myself in a new culture. I took advantage of this opportunity, but what I gained from this experience was strength and inspiration, tied together by citizenship and culture. The struggles of Huanta and the gardens of Lima showed me that I will experience diversity and growth from any seed I may plant now or in the future, and that I can continue on in the face of adversity. I learned it is important to stay strong, because even when the sun sets, the stars – bright, distant glimmers of hope – will always emerge and shine on in its place.



Huanta, Peru



Kendall is now enrolled as a Biology major at the University of Florida and is the younger daughter of Community Foundation director, William Ward.



Don and Janice Doudna

Donors Build Their Charitable Legacy Through Life Insurance

of the Foundation's EDGE Initiative as long as it is properly funded. We hope that others will continue to step forward and consider these types of gifts, including life insurance."

Although now retired, both Don and Janice stay active in the community. Don serves on the Board of the Community Foundation and its Donor Relations Committee, while Jan is active in United Way's Reading Pals program at Horizon Elementary in Pt. Orange. They believe in giving back to the community that has given them such an enjoyable quality of life.

If you desire to leave a charitable legacy through the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler and its EDGE Initiative, in a way that protects your estate assets, a life insurance policy may be a suitable option. Contact the Foundation of-
fice at 386-275-1943 for further information.

In 2013, Don and Janice Doudna of Ponce Inlet, FL, established a donor designated fund with the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler (the *Dona & Janice Doudna EDGE Fund*). Their purpose in creating this fund was to provide financial support to the Foundation's EDGE initiative (Every Dollar Gets Empowered), which was founded by the Foundation to offset the fundraising costs of the United Way of Volusia-Flagler. EDGE thereby enables dollars raised in United Way's annual campaign to directly benefit the local agencies serving those in need.

The Doudnas have recently disclosed their plan in 2015 to donate a major life insurance policy to benefit the Don and Janice Doudna EDGE Fund. Inasmuch as the death benefit of this policy is in excess of \$100,000.00, their planned gift now admits them to membership in the Foundation's Builder's Society, consisting of those other donors who have made similar gifts of \$100,000 and above.

Don's objective is to transfer ownership of the policy to the Foundation, while gifting an annual amount equal to the policy's premium to receive a tax deduction for his contribution. *"We view this commitment as a great way to leverage existing dollars available to us now for the future benefit of the Community Foundation and the EDGE Initiative."* stated Don and his wife Jan. *"We look at this gift as a present gift of future benefit, to be used for the financial support of this vital program some day in the future. Granted, we hope that our policy doesn't mature for a very long time, but it's comforting to know that future generations of local residents will benefit from the success*

**Find out more about the
Community Foundation online at
www.communityfoundationvf.org
or follow us on Facebook!**



Community Foundation Honors Mori Hosseini

The Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler, a division of the United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties, is pleased to recognize business leader Mori Hosseini as the 2015 recipient of the Herbert M. Davidson Award for Outstanding Community Service.

Mori Hosseini is the Chairman and CEO of ICI Homes, one of Florida's largest residential homebuilders and developers. Mr. Hosseini founded ICI Homes in 1980. Consistently ranked by Builder Magazine among the nation's Top 100 Homebuilders, ICI Homes has built thousands of homes and created some of the largest master development communities in Florida.

Among his many activities in his home community and state, Mr. Hosseini serves as the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida. He is Chairman of the Board at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and former Chairman and Board member of Halifax Health Medical Center.



This year marks the 23rd annual presentation of the Davidson Memorial Award since its inception, and is currently sold out for its scheduled date of March 19 at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. It is presented by the Community Foundation to recognize individuals who have demonstrated a career of exceptional service to our community.

2015 Financial Symposium To Be Presented on November 4

Volusia County, FL - The Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler is pleased to announce that it is once again partnering with the Estate Planning Council of the Fun Coast to present its annual Financial Symposium on Nov. 4, 2015. Each year the Foundation features special speakers who present important views of current trends and opportunities in charitable giving. Although the program is tailored for all financial professionals which include attorneys, certified public accountants, and

certified financial planners, it is also open to the members of the public with an interest in estate planning issues.

The three hour program will be offered at the Holiday Inn LPGA in Daytona Beach, FL from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Cost of admission, including breakfast, will be \$25. Contact the Foundation office at 386-275-1943 for further details.