



Allegany
Franciscan
Ministries

Major Grants – 2016

Total: \$1,962,500

Miami-Dade

Catalyst Miami

Project: Social Justice Table – 2016 \$50,000 for 6 months (Bridge Funding)

Since 1995, Catalyst Miami has been providing direct services to low-income families, leadership training and nonprofit/community capacity-building services. Each year, over 5,000 families in Miami-Dade County access their services. The organization believes that to create systemic change, they must face community health challenges at three levels: the individual/family level, the organizational level, and community-wide.

A six month grant from Allegany Franciscan Ministries will allow Catalyst Miami and the SJT to focus on emerging issues and to develop a competitive major grant application. The SJT will continue to work on issues such as Medicaid expansion and the environment but will also use funds to help focus on the sustainability and growth of the SJT as a self-standing entity. Outcomes for this six month period will focus on funding diversification research, membership growth and continued support of key issues.

Catalyst Miami, Miami, FL

Social Justice Table: Collective Impact \$200,000 over 2 year

The Social Justice Table was formed to build collective power across the entire social justice community. The diversity of talents and perspectives among Social Justice Table members allows the Social Justice Table to address the most pressing issues of the day. Given the interconnectedness of all social justice issues, the victories of the Social Justice Table propel and empower the idea that what is equitable and good for marginalized residents of the community, is good for the entire community. Emphasis on building relationships around shared values has allowed them to leverage power around programs and events that appeal to various social justice organizations.

The outcomes of this two year grant will center around three main objectives: 1) long-term financial sustainability of the Social Justice Table (and emerging social justice networks and coalitions); 2) collective research, analysis, and strategy; and 3) mobilizing community residents around joint campaigns through the strengthening of social justice networks. This work will lead to a healthier and more stable and prosperous community.

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Miami, Wilton Manors, FL

Services for the Elderly \$200,000 over 2 years

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami was incorporated in 1931 to meet the needs of the community resulting from the Great Depression. Since its inception, the agency has adapted to meet changing needs by providing care and services to the elderly; sheltering and caring for unaccompanied children and youth; providing childcare for low-income families; providing housing for homeless individuals and families; preventing homelessness; offering counseling and substance abuse treatment; and acculturating refugees and new-entrants. During the last fiscal year, Catholic Charities served 6,277 unduplicated individuals in 18 programs throughout Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe Counties.

Catholic Charities Services for the Elderly has been providing daily hot nutritious meals and opportunities for socialization to seniors at 10 sites in Miami-Dade for over 30 years. Two of the meal sites with the highest count of participants living below the poverty level are the St. John Bosco and Malcolm Ross Meal Centers, serving 60 and 100 seniors respectively. Many of the seniors at these centers can barely afford their daily meals. The sites currently serve only lunch to clients. This grant would add breakfast at these centers for 253 days per year, as well as nutrition counseling for those seniors at highest risk for health concerns.

Haitian Neighborhood Center - Sant La, Miami, FL

Creating a Culture of Wellness and Prevention \$100,000 over 2 years

Sant La is a not-for-profit neighborhood resource center that for 15 years has served the Haitian community of South Florida, including Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Sant La serves as a central point of entry to link community residents to available resources and opportunities while providing services that promote self-sufficiency, financial literacy, healthy lifestyles, positive youth development, citizenship, educational attainment, and employment security. The Center's programmatic framework takes into account the social and cultural context of the Haitian immigrant population, while collaborating with their extensive community partners to ensure greater access to services, self-sufficiency and full integration. Since their inception, Sant La has served an excess of 90,000 Haitian immigrants in South Florida.

Through the *Creating a Culture of Wellness and Prevention* project, Sant La will continue to provide assistance with application enrollment and renewal in public/private health insurance programs for a minimum of 600 children and 600 adults; resulting in at least 1200 applications over the course of two years. The project's outcomes are to: promote healthy lifestyle through education; increase use of discount prescription cards; educate about and increase enrollment in health insurance, including Medicaid, KidCare and the Affordable Care Act's health insurance marketplace. The goal is a 25% increase in the number of insured adults and children; 300 clients will establish a medical home and 250 will complete recommended annual screenings.

Open Door Health Center, Homestead, FL

Healthcare Access Program \$100,000 over 2 years

Open Door Health Center (ODHC) opened in 2001 and incorporated in 2003 as a free clinic for the uninsured poor (income under 200% of Federal Poverty Level). The Center uses collaborative community partnerships to promote and support its mission. Its goal is to provide quality comprehensive primary health care, special health education/chronic disease self-management programs and referrals in a welcoming environment engendering trust. ODHC provides: 1) free primary care; 2) special health education/chronic disease management tailored to its patient population; and 3) referrals for pro bono specialty care.

ODHC learned lack of patient education has high costs; it uses evidence based health care services stressing health promotion, disease prevention, early detection, collaboration and patient/community education. Since 2001, ODHC provided 4,700+ patients with 235,506 medical visits; volunteer opportunities for 500+ licensed/non-licensed individuals; on-site and community health promotion and disease prevention. The Healthcare Access Program is ODHC's core service. It provides primary healthcare access to low income uninsured and underserved persons in Deep South Miami-Dade. This program addresses: 1) reduction in barriers to access to health services; 2) links low-income uninsured vulnerable persons with systems of care; 3) provides health navigation and care coordination; and 4) builds community collaboration.

Palm Beach Region

Christians Reaching Out to Society, Lake Worth, FL

Comprehensive Food Programs \$200,000 over 2 years

Hunger impacts families and individuals, seniors, children, and people with disabilities. It affects the homeless as well as working families who were once stable but now need help to survive. In 1978, a group of United Methodist Churches located in Palm Beach County came together to form Christians Reaching Out to Society Inc. (CROS Ministries). Overtime, CROS Ministries became both ecumenical and interfaith, partnering with other denominations and faiths and many local nonprofits. Food is a basic need and is an essential component of good health. A Feeding America study showed that 15.1% of Palm Beach County residents are "food insecure" and in Martin County there are 14.5% of residents who are food insecure.

CROS Ministries requested two years of general operating support. The organization is in the midst of strategically planning a move, due to the sale of the current building they reside in. The ultimate goal of this project is to keep the current programs running at capacity during the transition and to free up other unrestricted dollars for the purchase of a new space. The population served by CROS exceeds over 200,000 people in Palm Beach and Martin Counties and through their multiple locations they provide over 1,000 meals a week. CROS is a critical part of the system of care for food insecure individuals and families in Palm Beach County.

Community Health Centers of West Palm Beach, West Palm Beach, FL

Continuum of Care \$150,000 over 2 years

The Community Health Centers of West Palm Beach (CHC, the Center) was established in 2000 as a ministry of the First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach. In 2008 the Center was reorganized to be a separate organization. The mission of the Center is to provide non-emergency medical and eye care to those who do not have access to health care services, and assist them in establishing a medical home. Presently, CHC provides free primary healthcare, vision care, navigation and education services to over 1,600 unduplicated uninsured and underinsured Palm Beach County residents annually. Without CHC, these individuals would most likely utilize emergency rooms as their primary care option (at significantly higher cost) or suffer worsening conditions and life-threatening complications due to lack of care.

The Center provides free, non-emergency healthcare services to those who qualify, including regular checkups, job/school related physicals, acute illness and injury care, rapid HIV screening, prescription services and imaging/specialist referrals. These services are offered without appointment five days a week, with extended evening hours available for those whose work schedules make daytime visits impractical or impossible. Once a patient is diagnosed with a condition, such as diabetes, they are then sent to a vision clinic and the chronic disease management clinic to start a regime that allows them to manage their disease long term. This award providing operating support to the Clinic will enable CHC to insure clients get the benefit of wrap-around services, can manage their health and can limit use of the ER for medical and health care.

Farmworker Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County, Lake Worth, FL

Community Health Access Teams \$150,000 over 2 years

The mission of the Farmworker Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County, Inc. (FWCC) is to promote self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life of migrant and seasonal farmworkers through education, advocacy and access to services. The organization provides clients with a wide array of services including: comprehensive case management, homeless prevention (rental/utility payment assistance), food distribution, translation, interpretation and transportation. FWCC has two offices, serving distinctly different populations. Because of the diverse needs of clients, staff speaks the three main languages used by clients and offer simultaneous workshops in all three languages.

The three main focuses of this project are:

1. Access to Health Care Services: assist individuals and families to apply for health care services such as Medicaid, Health Care District, Kid Care, WIC, and other available programs.
2. Outreach: conduct monthly outreach to disseminate information about free or affordable health programs available to the target population.

3. Health Workshops: conduct monthly health workshops to provide program participants with valuable information on issues such as nutrition, illness prevention, healthy habits and pesticide poisoning prevention.

Nonprofits First, West Palm Beach, FL

Project: General Operating Support \$20,000 for one year

Nonprofits First works to promote quality and accountability in the nonprofit sector in Palm Beach County and surrounding counties. The programs they offer include accreditation, education/training/leadership development, and management support services.

This grant supports will support the new infrastructure needs of Nonprofits First. Specifically, grant funds will be used to purchase a new telephone system, interactive whiteboard with projector and furnish the training room with tables and chairs.

Volunteers in Medicine, Stuart, FL

Educating the Underserved about Healthcare Options \$100,000 for one year

The mission of the Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Clinic is to meet the health and wellness needs of the medically underserved population of Martin County. This mission is accomplished primarily through volunteers, retired medical professionals and area residents, working in concert with current medical resources and community partners throughout Martin County. The VIM Clinic of Stuart was founded in October 1995 with the goal of providing medical care to Martin County residents who were living without insurance or the financial resources to pay for healthcare. It was originally a joint project of the Martin Health System, Medical Society and Public Health Department. The clinic grew and moved to its current location, a stand-alone building with a small staff, in 2001.

Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), patients have expressed confusion about coverage, tax penalties and the rules surrounding the coverage gap (Medicaid) in Florida. Navigating this maze is often beyond the technical ability of those near the poverty level. Some patients need a referral to an ACA Navigator. Some need to understand hardship exemptions that would make using the VIM Clinic possible. Additionally some newly insured patients are still using the ER for non-emergency care - often through a lack of education. The core of the project is an educational outreach done in partnership with community institutions and employers with the goal of increasing the number of vulnerable patients who are served by the VIM Clinic – or when they qualify – are served by the ACA or Medicaid.

Tampa Bay Region

AIDS Service Association of Pinellas, St. Petersburg, FL

Home 3050 \$100,000 for 1 year

Since its beginning in 1987, AIDS Service Association of Pinellas (ASAP) has evolved from a small grass roots program into the most comprehensive AIDS Service Organization in Pinellas County.

The organization provides government funded medical case management/eligibility determination annually to 1,600 clients and HIV Rapid Tests to over 3,000 high risk individuals. ASAP offers an array of services to improve the quality of life for persons living with and affected by HIV including: HIV testing; mobile testing unit; prevention services, community education, and street outreach; medical case management; Ryan White eligibility; mental health/substance abuse counseling; in-house pharmacy; Ryan White medical clinic partnership with free care to the underserved and under/non-insured. ASAP is sensitive to quality of life issues and strives to meet clients where they are and offer a helping hand.

Home 3050 will use an interdisciplinary approach (Care Team) offering a seamless medical experience for HIV+ persons. The Care Team will consist of existing medical staff, Medical Case Managers and Mental Health/ Substance Abuse Counselors who are funded by Ryan White Care Act grants. New staff will include Pharmacists and Technicians for the new onsite pharmacy, an Operations Manager, Clinical Systems and Data analyst, a RN and two Care Coordinators. The two Care Coordinators will insure a decrease in the time it takes a newly diagnosed individual to access medical care and medications from the current system of eligibility and enrollment into care. The pharmacy component provides a solid link in the continuum of care, as well as a revenue stream that will enhance the sustainability of the Home 3050. A patient portal will be implemented so that patients can make appointments online, check lab and other test results, and view educational information about their conditions.

Feeding America Tampa Bay, Tampa, FL

From Farm to Fork \$220,000 for 1 year

Feeding America Tampa Bay (FTB) began as Divine Providence Food Bank in 1982. FTB and its agency partners and subsidiary foodbanks serve 10 counties in the greater Tampa Bay area – Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Polk, Citrus, Sumter, Hardee, Highland, Manatee, and Hernando. Since 2013 the food bank's impact on the community has dramatically increased - and last year FTB was able to provide more than 46 million pounds of food to the community (over 38 million meals). This is an increase of over 72% in three years. The increase speaks to both the need in the community (and the needs of nonprofits to respond) and the scale and efficiency of FTB as an organization. FTB partners with over 500 charitable organizations in the Tampa Bay area. Their model is based on a collaborative program where they are the principle collection and redistribution agent, enabling food support for the entire network of hunger relief partners.

Across Florida there is an estimated 1 billion pounds plus of unclaimed produce each year. It is estimated that 40% of produce in Florida never reaches a store or home. In the counties served by FTB there are tens of millions of pounds left in or on the ground. This is food that if they could secure it, would materially improve household health in the Tampa Bay area. From Farm to Fork will deliver 2 million pounds of produce in one year. Farmers can use their own workers to “pick and pack” crop (which is a great benefit for the laborers, who will be paid), and FTB can arrange for it to be picked up, sorted and repackaged. From there, FTB will use their current operations and model to deliver the food into the community (e.g., fleet of trucks, volunteer labor). Food will be shared with organizations like Meals on Wheels (to support senior

programs), Boys and Girls Clubs and local schools (to get healthy foods to children), and mobile pantries (to put more produce on the tables of families). Research indicates that families and individuals who have access to (and a steady intake of) produce and other wholesome foods with high nutritional content see better health, both today and long-term.

Religious Community Services, Clearwater, FL

Feeding Pinellas \$100,000 for 2 years

The mission of Religious Community Services, Inc. is to feed the hungry, help families facing homelessness return to self-sufficiency, and to empower victims of domestic violence. There are four key programs: RCS Food Bank, providing food to people in need and to agencies serving vulnerable populations; RCS Grace House, helping families facing homelessness through emergency shelter services and prevention case management; The Haven of RCS Domestic Violence Center providing emergency shelter, outreach services, legal advocacy and a permanent supportive housing program; and RCS Thrift Store, giving material goods to individuals and families working to rebuild their lives, while raising funds for all RCS programs.

RCS Food Bank responds to the issue of hunger in Pinellas County by providing groceries to people experiencing food insecurity. Individuals and families may access services at the Clearwater facility one time per month, receiving enough food for three meals a day for 3-4 days for all members of their household. Clients are also assisted in applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Part of the food distribution goal for 2016 is 500,000 pounds of fresh produce. A recent USDA study shows that when food bank recipients are given fresh produce the exposure helps them to incorporate fresh produce into their daily diets and they make improved food choices with their own food purchasing power. RCS Food Bank has two goals for this project: 1) to provide nutrient dense food to hungry people throughout Pinellas County; and 2) to keep the food that is donated in Pinellas in the County for improved efficiency in the food delivery system and improved access to healthy food. The expected outcomes include hunger relief for 30,500 individuals, and increased availability of 2.6 million pounds of nutrition-dense food.

St. Petersburg Free Clinic, St. Petersburg, FL

Healthy Hearts \$172,500 for one year

The St. Petersburg Free Clinic (SPFC, Health Center) opened its doors in 1970 to meet the temporary emergency needs of Pinellas County residents. As Pinellas County's oldest free clinic in continuous operation, the agency successfully operates eight programs with over 400 volunteers. The Health Center cares for adults aged 18-64 years without private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, or V.A. health benefits, and who do not qualify for county health care. Typically, patients come from homes with an income of 100-200% federal poverty level. Approximately 6,000 patient visits per year are provided in the Health Center, and more than 500 visits are provided by the Dental Program. In addition to health and dental care, the St. Petersburg Free Clinic provides temporary assistance to those requiring help with other basic needs such as food, shelter, limited financial assistance, and referral information.

SPFC has developed and is starting to implement a cardiovascular clinic for their uninsured and underserved adult patients. The most common diagnoses in this population are hypertension and hypercholesterolemia. SPFC will begin tracking cholesterol levels, LDL, HDL and physical activity as well. A nurse practitioner (NP) with cardiovascular experience will be hired to help develop and oversee a new cardiovascular clinic to be held several times each month, at varying times to accommodate patients. Two volunteer cardiologists will assist the program by reviewing data and make recommendations to improve patient health. The cardiovascular clinic will assist patients with targeted treatments, encouragement and support, education, tools, and the opportunity to partake in nutrition training, exercise, relaxation, and meditation seminars. Cardiovascular testing, facilities, and radiologists will be recruited to provide care as needed. The NP will educate and communicate with other clinic staff and medical/nursing volunteers to identify appropriate patients for referral to the new cardiovascular clinics; and recruit additional patients with existing, or potential, cardiovascular issues.

Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger, Tampa, FL

Project: Operating Support \$100,000 over 3 years

The mission of the Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger is to end hunger in Tampa Bay by bringing people together to find solutions that eliminate barriers, increase access, and expand the amount of nutritious food available. The network came together in 2011 and has over 40 members including nonprofits, universities and local governmental agencies. The group meets once a month to discuss issues related to hunger and possible solutions. This year the network formed 15 work groups (subcommittees) to address issues such as: childhood hunger, developing an app for food recovery and distribution, healthy corner store expansion and mobile food pantries.

This grant will help the network focus on sustainability, work group development and help develop the infrastructure of the network. As the network moves to the next level to address systemic hunger in the Tampa Bay area they will need to update their technology, increase the hours of their part time staff and look at other multi-year funding sources while still focusing on the outcomes of the work groups.

Trinity Café, Tampa, FL

Cultivate, Nurture & Grow Hunger Relief Services \$100,000 for 1 year

The mission of Trinity Cafe is to restore a sense of dignity to the homeless and hungry while serving a nutritious meal. Trinity Cafe is a charitable restaurant for the homeless and food insecure. The organization has prepared and served more than 1,055,000 meals to men, women and children in need. Weekdays a three-course, protein rich, dinner is served; on weekends a robust, hot breakfast with coffee. There are over 2,000 homeless and 204,000 food insecure people who do not know where their next meal is coming from in the Tampa Bay area.

This grant will support the capacity of Trinity Café. The goals for the project include: 1. Serve 350,000 meals annually in Tampa Bay in more food deserts, 2. Expand key functions of the organization: fundraising, volunteers, community awareness, budget, operations, 3. Grow the existing revenue streams through the development of donor relationships that will increase individual/major gifts, corporate, and planned giving (grants included in corporate, foundations, and government) and 4. Increase awareness and community engagement through an integrated marketing and communications plan.