Miami-Dade

FIU Foundation, Inc., Miami, FL
Partnering with Communities to Drive out Breast Cancer
$80,000 for 2 years

Florida International University’s Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, whose mission is to “prepare socially accountable, community-based physicians, uniquely qualified to transform the health of patients and communities, while delivering health services for uninsured populations during the course of their medical education,” will be implementing this exciting community-based health program, utilizing a state of the art mobile health center to bring free mammograms into high-risk communities throughout Miami-Dade County.

The success of the program includes the high-quality care offered by a team of dedicated physicians, a clinical director, a breast health navigator, a scheduler, a driver, and mammography technicians. Through strategic partnerships with federally qualified health centers, migrant worker camps, and homeless shelters throughout Miami-Dade, the Mobile Mammography Center reaches women who typically have never had a breast screening before. From inception through June 2017, the mobile unit has screened 1,798 women, 231 (12.8%) who required additional imaging and were navigated to diagnostic services, with 17 women diagnosed with breast cancer. The majority of the breast cancer diagnoses (15) were an early-stage diagnosis, precisely the aim of the Mobile Mammography Center. Timely screening mammograms have increased the likelihood that these women will be long-term breast cancer survivors.

Gang Alternative, Inc., Miami, FL
General Operating Support: Road to Behavioral Health Services
$70,000 for 2 years

Gang Alternative’s mission is to engage boys, girls, and their families in the Greater Miami area in positive alternatives to youth violence and delinquency by offering a holistic approach to their academic, physical, social and spiritual development. Gang Alternative is a community-based organization grounded in faith with the continuing purpose of preventing violence and delinquency while promoting self-sufficiency. Services are focused in some of the most underserved communities in Miami-Dade County, extending from North Miami to Homestead, with significant programming offered in Little Haiti, New River, Liberty City, and Little Havana.

The organization will launch a new strategic plan for the agency, to diversify their fund development strategies by developing revenue-generating activities, specifically becoming a Medicaid licensed provider. Successful completion of the Initiative will not only allow more Medicaid-eligible children, youth and families to access behavioral health services, but it will also assist those who are not
Medicaid-eligible (often the most marginalized) to obtain grant-funded services that are currently being used by Medicaid-eligible participants.

**Open Door Health Center,** Homestead, FL  
**General Operating Support: Healthcare Access Program**  
**$150,000 for 2 years**

The mission of Open Door Health Center is to provide free primary healthcare, diagnostic and educational services to adults, children and teens in a caring, compassionate teaching environment through collaboration with community partners and resources. For sixteen years, this Homestead-based clinic has been an essential healthcare provider in South Miami-Dade, serving some of the most marginalized residents in the county. This general operating support grant will allow the organization to continue as a critical health provider for South-Miami’s poorest communities. Funding will support the costs to sustain key staff and services in the center, allowing the Open Door Health Center to serve 1,200 patients annually during the two-year grant period with a minimum of 100 new patients added annually.

**SSJ Health Foundation, Inc.,** Miami, FL  
**General Operating Support for the St. John Bosco Clinic**  
**$100,000 for 2 years**

The Sisters of St. Joseph offer their ministry through the St. John Bosco Clinic, a free clinic serving children, adults and families who lack access to healthcare. St. John Bosco Clinic’s staff and volunteers are cognizant of the importance of access to care and the impact of healthcare challenges on underserved communities. Their focus areas include reducing inappropriate use of emergency rooms, implementing programs that identify, prevent and treat the most prevalent disease, navigate patients to accessing community services and delivering health education through culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate programs. Funding will support new staff, allowing the center to provide healthcare services to an additional 300 patients annually.

**The Women’s Breast & Heart Initiative, Florida Affiliate,** Miami Lakes, FL  
**One in Three | One in Eight**  
**$100,000 for 2 years**

The Women’s Breast & Heart Initiative (WBHI) is a grassroots organization that saves and changes lives by connecting at-risk women with the early detection and prevention necessary to beat breast cancer and heart disease. WBHI staff and volunteers ensure that these women not only access diagnosis services, but also the follow-up recommendations and treatment plans they receive. WBHI’s small yet efficient organization provides outreach to over 7000 households each year, providing one-on-one education to over 2000 women in the high-risk target areas, and coordinating lifesaving health screenings (often first time screenings) for more than 350 women annually. Funding will support key staff and resources for the successful implementation of the five (5) month-long campaigns, as well as the necessary follow-up care required.
**Palm Beach**

**El Sol Jupiter’s Neighborhood Resource Center**, Jupiter, FL  
**General Operating Support**  
$100,000 for 2 years

El Sol’s mission is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Jupiter and surrounding communities by providing services primarily to day laborers, their children and families. The Neighborhood Resource Center is a day-labor center providing skilled, dependable workers to employers. El Sol is dedicated to breaking down the linguistic, cultural, emotional, transportation, and income barriers that block the immigrant community from accessing health and human services. El Sol currently has over 4,600 workers registered at the Center. The majority of clients are from Guatemala, Mexico, and South America. The average worker has little formal education and comes from farming and agricultural communities in rural villages where there is extreme poverty. They have arrived to the United States in search for a better life for themselves and their families. One hundred percent of El Sol’s target population lives at or below the poverty line, and 84% of them do not have health insurance. The general operating support will assist El Sol to continue in their mission to help the immigrant community who are more vulnerable now with the change in political leadership.

**Families First of Palm Beach County**, West Palm Beach, FL  
**Targeted Outreach for Pregnant Women (TOPWA)**  
$62,000 for 1 year

Families First’s mission is to advance the well-being of children and families through high-quality programs in prevention, early intervention, child development, behavioral health, education, and advocacy. Families First of Palm Beach County began its services in 1990 through collaborative efforts with the medical community (St. Mary’s Hospital). TOPWA program began a few years ago because of the high rates of HIV+ pregnancies in the county. This was a vital strategy employed to reduce the number of HIV+ births by linking HIV+ pregnant women to prenatal care, and giving them educational resources about pregnancy, as well as HIV disease and transmission to the unborn child.

The TOPWA program will add a case management component to provide intensive case management services for up to 40 HIV+ pregnant women over a one-year period, including their newborns and family members who are falling through the cracks and not accessing services. The majority of clients served are from communities of color, with an increase in Haitian refugee clients who are arriving pregnant and HIV positive. Funding will support the new HIV case manager position and other program costs.

**Healthy Start of St. Lucie County**, Fort Pierce, FL  
**Healthy Outcome Practices of Evaluation**  
$110,000 for 2 years

The Healthy Start Program is a comprehensive program promoting optimal prenatal health and developmental outcomes for pregnant women and babies. The fundamental goals of Healthy Start are to reduce infant mortality, reduce the number of low birth weight babies, and improve health.
and developmental outcomes. Through Healthy Start, nurses and other personnel make home visits, arrange for prenatal screenings, promote good nutrition and, in the most risky cases, help mothers overcome addictions. The State of Florida has 33 Healthy Start Coalitions providing services to over 80,000 pregnant women and 56,000 infants, especially those at higher-than-normal risk of illness or death, in all 67 counties. General operating support funds will assist the organization to continue to provide case management services to mothers and babies who fall outside the new criteria and would otherwise go unserved. Funding will also be used to facilitate classes on Childbirth, Breastfeeding, Safe Sleep Environment, Parenting, Happiest Baby and Infant Massage.

**The Lord’s Place, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL**  
**Serving the Chronically Homeless: Stabilizing the Health of the Most Vulnerable**  
**$147,000 for 2 years**

For over 30 years, the Lord’s Place, Inc. has been changing the lives of families and individuals experiencing homelessness in Palm Beach County. The Lord’s Place focuses on breaking the cycle of homelessness through providing innovative, compassionate and effective programs that include emergency and permanent housing, day programs, case management, job training and additional support services. The Lord’s Place has become a critical partner in Palm Beach County Homeless Continuum by practicing the Housing First model, which offers one of the few opportunities for Palm Beach County’s chronically homeless population to stabilize their health before it is too late.

The number of homeless persons in Palm Beach County age 60 and over increased by more than 30 percent last year. As they age, they suffer from more chronic health conditions, such as cancer, diabetes, cirrhosis, and hepatitis. They need even greater assistance to maintain their health. Funding will support the Housing First Supervisor position and various program costs. This position is critical to the success of the program for the chronically homeless, and enables the Lord’s Place to continue to serve with a high-level quality of care.

**T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society, West Palm Beach, FL**  
**General Operating Support**  
**$50,000 for 1 year**

T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society (TLJ) is a professional organization that focuses on helping underserved populations in Palm Beach community. TLJ provides health education programs, youth mentoring programs, speakers on health issues, as well as health fair medical screenings to school children and adults at no cost. In addition, the Medical Society provides scholarships for deserving students, and other healthcare, education, and youth development services. TLJ Medical Society unites minority healthcare professionals, to work together to improve health and wellness, access to quality care, and academic and career opportunities for underserved populations. General operating support funding will cover various operational costs including a high–level strategic plan for the organization.
**Tampa Bay**

**Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc. (CASA), St. Petersburg, FL**  
**General Operating Support**  
**$125,000 for 1 year**

Founded in 1977 (by Sister Margaret Freeman), CASA is the official domestic violence center in southern Pinellas County, operating the area’s 24-hour hotline and emergency shelter; non-residential programs, such as support groups, economic empowerment and legal advocacy; Child Protective Investigative Team support; community and corporate training; and the CASA Peacemakers anti-bullying and healthy relationship school curriculum. The general operating support funding will assist the organization with transforming its business operations and allowing for some flexibility in making changes that are needed for their continued evolution.

**Daystar Life Center, Inc., St. Petersburg, FL**  
**Building for a Healthier Community**  
**$150,000 for 2 years**

Daystar Life Center (Daystar) assists persons who are marginalized, economically poor, or have limited access to healthcare and health information. It is governed by a 14 member Board of Directors that is comprised of community activists, business leaders, members of religious communities, business owners and professionals. Daystar is located in the heart of St. Petersburg which initially allowed for easy access by the marginalized population they serve; they have always been successful at serving the critical needs of those who are homeless. Allegany Franciscan Ministries and Daystar have forged a significant and long lasting partnership to ensure that persons who are homeless and low income are served with dignity and respect.

This project will involve Daystar improving organizational effectiveness as they expand services to a new location in a high-poverty, high-need and underserved area, while still supporting homeless clients. The new Operations Manager position will work to execute programmatic work processes, develop effective support procedures, manage two locations, and create and implement new performance measures. Through the re-organization, they will also identify, design or tweak services based on client input, and grow their volunteer and donor base. Adding this role will assist Daystar with expanding the internal structure necessary to build their external relationships and on-going collaborative resources.

**PACE Center for Girls, Hillsborough, Inc., Tampa, FL**  
**NutritionWorks**  
**$100,000 for 2 years**

PACE Center for Girls, Inc. was incorporated in November of 1985 and provides girls and young women with an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy. It is recognized as a national model for reducing recidivism and improving school success, employment and self-sufficiency amongst girls. The organization is governed by a Board of Trustees at the headquarters level in Jacksonville, Florida; 20 individual PACE Centers are located throughout Florida, including PACE Center for Girls, Hillsborough (PACE Hillsborough). The Centers are each
supported by a local Advisory Board. Financial support for PACE Hillsborough is provided through state Department of Juvenile Justice, the Hillsborough County Department of Education, and individual donations, grants and community support.

Through the comprehensive NutritionWorks program, PACE Hillsborough will provide educational nutrition training in conjunction with visits to farmers markets, interactions with health professionals and dieticians. Girls will also experience hands-on opportunities to prepare and enjoy healthy meals, while understanding how healthy nutritional choices affect long-term health outcomes.

Tampa Bay Healthcare Collaborative, Dunedin, FL
General Operating Support
$125,000 for 2 years

The Tampa Bay Healthcare Collaborative (the Collaborative) is a model of and vehicle for collaboration. The Collaborative provides a platform to discuss issues impacting health, raise awareness of health related challenges and “bridge” the bay by coalescing organizations from Pinellas and Hillsborough counties. While the Collaborative does not provide direct services, its member organizations provide services to meet the needs of all demographic groups and address the healthcare continuum. The Collaborative is member-driven and has evolved over time in response to the identified needs of the membership, and was established through the work of Allegany Franciscan Ministries and its grant partners. General operating support will allow the Collaborative team to maintain and expand its services and to explore opportunities to promote successes and raise community awareness.