## United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades Board of Directors Meeting September 12, 2025

## **Minutes**

**Present:** Patricia Bell, Bob Beville, Noelle Branning, Gary Bryant, John Clinger, Maria Espinoza, David Fry, Barbara Hartman, Beth Hendry, Michelle Hudson, Matt Humphreys, Sally Jackson, John Joyce, Kevin Karnes, David Klein, Tony Lapi, Brian Lucas, Stephen Martus, Tracy McMillion, Charlotte Miller, Victoria Moreland, Bill Motzer, Stan Nelson, Pat O'Donnell, Harlan Parrish, Steve Pontius, Victoria Rodriguez, Amy Rohde, Glen Salyer, Brendan Shearman, Bryan Simmering, Mary Snell, Ted Todd, Tom Uhler, Corey Vertich, Christy Williams, Matthew Zwack

**Staff:** Ty Archbold, Connie Boyd, Edelyn Castellon, Dan Campbell, Marissa Crawford, Jarrett Eady, Angela Fischler, Michelle Hidalgo, Jeannine Joy, Irina Mirabales, Jennylyn Mitchell, Madison Mitchell, Hannah Pelle, Lisette Quintero, Toni Rozelle-Rosio, Lisa Sands, Jim Sanger, Keila Santiago, Pathrience' Shaw, Karen Turcotte, Marcia Turner

**Guests:** Omar Sterling and Jeremy Turner – Home Depot

- 1. United Way Board Co-Chair Kevin Karnes called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. via a hybrid meeting with a quorum present.
- 2. The minutes of the August 1, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting were approved as presented.
- 3. UNITED IS THE WAY award was presented to Home Depot for their unwavering dedication and support through volunteerism and donations.
- 4. Pacesetter Co-Chair Matt Humphreys reported strong campaign momentum. The Campaign Cabinet met twice, successfully generating fresh leads and forging new connections. Carolyn Rogers and Will Prather recorded an interview with GulfCoast News which will be featured during the campaign kickoff and shared across social media and promotional platforms. Matt stated that we are currently at 128 Pacesetter companies, 84 Corporate and Employee campaigns, and 44 Agency campaigns including eight new Pacesetters. The Publix campaign running from September 15 - 30 includes 82 presentations across 37 stores. We have secured two sponsors thus far for the Kickoff: Florida Trust Wealth Management and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank with additional opportunities available. The Alexis de Tocqueville Society reception is scheduled for November 6, hosted by Joe Catti and FineMark National Bank & Trust. The annual ADT dinner is April 20, 2026, at The Forest Golf and Country Club. Board members Tom Uhler and Corey Vertich are once again sponsoring the Leadership Challenge, with Victoria Rodriguez currently in the lead. Community outreach efforts are in full swing, including mailings, events, and fundraisers across our area. The Hendry/Glades kickoff is scheduled for November 5 at the LaBelle Civic Center with Dena Pittman and Ronald Zimmerly as Campaign Co-Chairs. Join us at Bay Street Yard on November 19, 5–9 p.m., for our Bartender Challenge hosted by board member David Fry and his team at BSY. Board member Mike Stryker and Tom Petty cover band "Learning to Fly", will be performing from 6-9 p.m. followed by DJ Turp for the after party. Tips and 20% of proceeds will benefit our United Way



throughout the evening. A reminder that donations to United Way made by September 30 through a Delta promotion are eligible to earn Delta SkyMiles.

- 5. Nominating Committee Chair Pat O'Donnell proposed the nomination of Beth Hendry for the newly established role of Development Chair. Beth brings a wealth of experience, a deep commitment to our mission, and proven leadership through her continued service on the Campaign Cabinet. The motion was unanimously approved as presented.
- 6. Chief HR Officer Connie Boyd announced staffing updates: Anthony Stephens-Lynch joins the team as Expanded Learning Manager at Colonial Elementary; Madison Mitchell has been promoted to Chief Impact Officer and now serves as a member of the Executive Team; Tyheim "Ty" Archbold has advanced to Assistant Director of Data and Technology in 211. Additionally, Pathrience' Shaw has been appointed as the new Community Partnership Schools Director at Colonial Elementary.
- 7. President & CEO Jeannine Joy and Chief Operating Officer Hannah Pelle reviewed key goals of the Organizational Workplan previously emailed to members. The plan was approved as presented.
- 8. Community Impact Chair John Clinger raised concerns about declining Federal and State grant support. Call volumes have increased compared to the same period last year, with a rising demand for SNAP services. At the same time, the number of agencies contracted to handle SNAP registrations has declined. Despite these challenges, agencies remain resilient and continue to innovate, collaborate, and serve their communities.
- 9. Gifts in Kind Chair David Fry reported a surge in demand at the School Resource Center for basic school essentials, exceeding the capacity of our dedicated SRC team. In response, board members and staff stepped in to lend their support ensuring fast turnaround. and equipping students for a confident start to the school year. David also shared a touching story about a 73-year-old veteran in need, highlighting the profound impact of the work by our Gifts in Kind team, Mission United, and Matter Brothers and expressed deep gratitude to all who went above and beyond.
- 10. Chief Impact Officer Madison Mitchell provided an update on 211 activity in Charlotte County, noting that our team has successfully integrated the additional call volume without compromising their core responsibilities. Director of 211 Keila Santiago reported 4,110 calls over the past month, a 14% increase compared to the previous month. The most requested services continue to be utility assistance, housing and rent support, and access to food, with Charlotte County reflecting these same urgent needs.
- 11. Jeannine Joy kindly reminded board members to complete the Thriving United Way Assessment highlighting its role in shaping future initiatives. The next meeting will be virtual on October 17, 2025. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannine Joy

President & CEO

