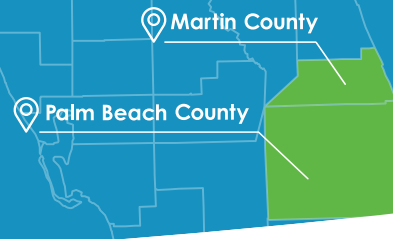


# TOP 5 *Local* ISSUES



As you reflect on where your philanthropy may have the greatest impact, consider supporting organizations that address our community's top challenges:

## 1. WORKFORCE HOUSING

As thousands move to the Sunshine State each day, affordable — and available — housing is hard to come by. According to the Census Bureau, Palm Beach County's per capita income shakes out to \$2,846 each month, but the average monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment ranges from around \$2,300 to \$3,100; Martin County averages are nearly the same. Organizations on the front lines are helping working-class families and individuals find temporary and permanent solutions.

## 2. MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health challenges affect people at every stage — and every walk — of life. For example, last year alone, more than 22,000 Palm Beach and Martin County residents called 211 HelpLine seeking support for mental health or substance use disorders; over 850 of those calls were suicide related. Our nonprofit partners are working to create accessible, high-quality mental health care for our area's children, adults, and elderly in need.

## 3. HUNGER

As federal pandemic response dollars dried up, food prices went sky-high, and donations dropped, creating the perfect storm for our low- and middle-income neighbors as well as the food banks, soup kitchens, and pantries that help them. In 2023, organizations battling hunger across our counties applied for \$1.2M in Community Impact grants to purchase food after demand hit historic highs.

## 4. EDUCATION

Just over 50% of Palm Beach and Martin Counties' third graders passed their reading assessments last year, an indicator for future success in school — and life. To help, our nonprofit partners focus on success factors in the early years and specialize in support programs that span elementary through high school. For those who graduate, the resources needed to reach the next step are also striking: in 2023, over 600 local students applied for 116 Community Foundation awards.

## 5. CRISIS PREPARATION & RESPONSE

As acute emergencies arise in our footprint — including disasters like hurricanes or floods, or human health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic — the Community Foundation's partners provide resources that meet short- and long-term needs. Our partners also support less visible emergencies caused by the cost of living crisis, including utility, transportation, and clothing or household assistance.



# WAYS TO *Help*

As a strategic philanthropic partner, we administer our donors' dollars in two ways:

1. Through **DONOR-DIRECTED** grants sent to the charity of your choice
2. Through **COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS** sent to local nonprofit organizations and talented, aspiring students

## CONTACT

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