

Impact Broward Makes an Impact



Norman Tripp, Fundholder and Senator Chris Smith

“It was a forum to develop new ideas, collaborate on them, learn from each other and help the community. I was honored to be a part of it.”

That’s how Senator Chris Smith summed up the successful debut of Impact Broward: a Community Conversation. Using startling statistics, compelling stories and first-hand accounts of growing joblessness and poverty, a panel

of local experts painted a bleak picture of the impact the worst recession since the 1930s is having on our community.

Poverty, homelessness and unemployment have surged in Broward County over the last year, placing huge burdens on groups dealing with these issues, the experts told the gathering of local leaders at the Community Foundation of Broward offices.

One solution, all agreed, was a more unified, strategic approach to assistance. Long-term answers like education and job retraining will help with more immediate needs involving affordable housing, daycare services and healthcare.

to see more photos and continue reading, go to cfbroward.org/impact

3 Strategies for Better Giving

The Wall Street Journal recently published a special section devoted to things that can be done to “fix charitable giving.” Among the nine tips outlined, three are of particular significance to you, as friends of the Community Foundation of Broward: increase gifts to support a nonprofit’s ability to do business; boost multi-year gifts and simplify application and reporting procedures.

1 Increase General Operating Gifts – we agree. Last year 46% of all grants made by the Community Foundation were given without specific expectations. We recognize, as the Journal does, that these types of grants allow the organizations to do what they do best: serve their clients. Gifts without strings allow nonprofits to be nimble, respond to opportunities and direct resources towards the greatest need. It allows them to be strong from the inside-out. Over the past five years, the Foundation and our donors have invested more than \$11 million into building the capacity of nonprofits through general operating gifts.

2 Increase Multi-year Gifts – we agree. The Community Foundation has worked for many years with our donors to help them be more strategic with their philanthropy. Among the tools that we use are multi-year gifts and challenge grants. Both techniques demonstrate an investment and belief in an organization that it can produce long-term, sustainable change.

The Foundation itself also uses multi-year gifts with our work in the community. As we approach an issue or define a leadership role, our financial commitment is and will continue to be defined up-front – often with a challenge back to the community.

3 Simplify Application and Reporting Procedures – this is not as easy as it may seem at face value. While, the Community Foundation will never require reams of paper as condition of a grant, we do require accountability. In 2008, we switched to electronic applications and reporting, at the same time we significantly reduced the amount of paper used, we shortened both the application and reports. This makes it less cumbersome for the nonprofit and still provides critical information we require to report back to our donors and the community.

to read more visit us online at cfbroward.org/strategy

\$1.6 Million in Grants

Despite headlines telling us that charitable giving is down, the Community Foundation of Broward awarded \$1.6 million this quarter. This is an 18% increase over the same period last year.

“Our philanthropists continue to inspire us with their dedication to help others,” observes Barbara Witte, vice president philanthropic services. In fact, according to a recent report by Barclays Wealth, philanthropists consider giving a necessary expense, especially during economic downturns.

Nearly \$1 million of these grants came from philanthropists who entrusted the Community Foundation with grant decisions for their Funds. Many remembered the Community Foundation in their estates. Others created Funds in their lifetime. All were compelled to endow gifts for our community’s most pressing needs.

visit cfbroward.org/newgrants to see all the grants made this quarter



Informed and In-touch



Jim Porter

Jim Porter

As an attorney, Jim Porter examines an issue from all angles. Before opening the James and Sandra Porter Charitable Fund, he compared a Fund at the Community Foundation to a private foundation.

“I could not justify the time and expense of creating a private foundation,” Jim shared. “I like to stay informed, and appreciate programs like Impact Broward, which highlight not just the problems, but also the solutions that are at work.

Jim earned a tax deduction based on the full value of his gift when he opened his Fund in 2007. Plus, using gifts of stock has enabled him to avoid capital gains taxes.

Jim and his wife, Sandra, plan to steadily build their Fund to create something they can pass along to their children and continue their family's philanthropy...*For Good. For Ever.*



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Philanthropy Matters

Winter 2009

Dates to Remember

February 1, 2010

Community Builders Reception
an exclusive event to honor our philanthropists who have endowed Funds with \$1 million or more

February 11, 2010

Impact Broward
a Community Conversation
Steps for a Vibrant Community

March 24, 2010

Legacy Luncheon
celebrating those who have designated a gift to the Community Foundation in their estate

May 13, 2010

Impact Broward
Foster Youth to Super Star

for more information on these dates to remember visit our website at cfbroward.org

Report Shows Failing Civic Health

Despite its prominence as a lifestyle oasis, Florida ranks near the bottom among states on most measures of civic health according to a new report released by the Graham Center at the University of Florida and the Frey Institute at the University of Central Florida.

Among the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas, Miami-Ft. Lauderdale ranked last on three key civic indicators. On one – the percentage of citizens who have worked with others to address a community issue – Florida ranked 37th as a state and Broward County at the bottom among communities in Florida.

“It's clear that community leaders face a significant challenge to not only improve the state of civic health, but also to find ways to avoid further deterioration in these times of economic difficulty,” offers Senator Bob Graham.

The study points to the economy, including the housing market, as a large contributor to the poor results. It further outlines that 70% of residents have cut back on civic activities in the past year.

Disheartening news also included is a preliminary estimate in the study that puts Florida at 44th in the nation in the percentage of citizens who contributed at least \$25 to charity in 2008.

“Simply put, Florida has a weak civic culture, one of the worst in the nation,” Congressman Frey observed, “But that doesn't have to be the state's future.”

To that end, on February 11th, the Community Foundation of Broward hosts Impact Broward: a Community Conversation – Steps for a Vibrant Community. The goal is simple – to stir innovative thinking and find solutions to increase engagement among citizens in the county's many communities.

“Our vision is for a stronger community. One where people feel engaged and interact with each other,” explains Community Foundation President/CEO Linda Carter. “We want them to feel empowered to make a difference. Today's issues are complex, resources are scarce, there is much work to do and ample opportunity.”