



Martin County Community Foundation announces largest grant ever
Five non-profits named 2017 Agents of Change

The Martin County Community Foundation announced the 2017 Agents of Change, the 5 Stuart-based non-profits that are recipients of more than \$311,000 from the Frances Langford Fund for Martin County.

Helping People Succeed received the highest award, the \$100,000 Game Changing Grant for an early literacy project. Other recipients were: Tykes & Teens, \$75,020, for infant mental health; Project Lift, \$50,000, for equipment for job training for youth and young adults; Center for Autism, \$40,906 for the Opening Doors & Building Bridges program; and \$25,000 for House of Hope for Bridges out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities.

“We wanted the grants to seed fundamental change. We weren’t look for conventional thinking about solving problems like literacy, youth substance abuse or addiction. We wanted to see some new answers to old problems,” said Elizabeth Barbella, President and CEO of the Martin County Community Foundation.

Full details of the funded programs will be available at yourmccf.org.

The non-profits were chosen by the Foundation’s board of directors, based on recommendations of a 5-person grant committee that reviewed applications and made site visits.

Additional funds were allocated to a new effort by the Community Foundation to provide advanced leadership education for non-profit executives and board members. The \$20,094 grant will be used for seminars, classes and workshops open to Martin County non-profits, beginning later this year.

The most recent named fund under the direction of the Martin County Community Foundation, the Frances Langford Fund will provide financial support in perpetuity to organizations and causes dear to Ms. Langford. For decades, the beloved entertainer and philanthropist made her home on the Treasure Coast. Her memory and legacy remain strong as the community continues to benefit from her vision and generosity. In 2016, the Martin County Community Foundation was honored to receive \$8M from the Frances Langford Foundation.

The mission of the Martin County Community Foundation is to facilitate philanthropy. The Foundation serves as a vehicle for donors to identify important issues, share ideas and build the financial resources to make positive, long-term change.

To learn more, visit yourmccf.org or phone Elizabeth Barbella at 772.288.3795.