

GIFFORD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

Changing Lives, Changing Futures

FROM



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since **1998**

OUR PEOPLE

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WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS'

Friends of GYAC,

Since its opening in 1998, GYAC has been blessed to have "friends" who have supported its mission and work. Students have benefited from their friendships with our volunteers, who have assisted them with their homework and enrichment activities. Our friends helped raise funds to expand the facility so we could have greater impact on the community. Partnerships with our friends provide respite care for family members, food for those experiencing food insecurity, and health screenings for the elderly, to name just a few.

The last two years have been challenging for students, parents, seniors, and the community. Those relationships with family and friends have helped sustain us all.

GYAC celebrates its 25th Anniversary in 2023. Scripture reminds us that to have friends, you must first be friendly. The friendships the Center has formed over the years have been transformational. The seeds planted and the investments made in the lives of our students and families will bear fruit and pay dividends for generations.

Thank you for being a friend!

Angelia Perry, MS Executive Director



Dr. D. G. 3

Dr. Deborah Taylor-Long Chairwoman of the Board



'ALL TOGETHER' GYAC GOES OUT OF THIS WORLD







GYAC students made history this summer when the Center was selected for a live Q&A session with NASA astronauts Bob Hines and Jessica Watkins while they were aboard the International Space Station. The Q&A was coupled with a science fair where students showed off their out-of-this-world experiments.

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GYAC IMPACT REPORT



students

2021 - 2022 265 afterschool enrollmement

enrollmement



scholarships



\$99,500 total awarded in 2022

\$72,000 total awarded in 2021

community served



avg. # of families served monthly through GYAC's food pantry



in the news

- · 10 Tampa Bay WTSP
- · 32963/Vero News
- · Bob Soos, Local News Magazine
- · Hometown News
- · Indian River Guardian
- · NASA TV
- · South Florida Hospital News
- · TCPalm
- · Vero Beach Magazine
- · WPBF 25 News
- · WPTV NewsChannel 5
- WQCS, 88.9FM · WFLX Fox 29

giving

영37 donors 1304 gifts STK avg. gift

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WE CAN WORK IT OUT' A STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, social determinants of health are grouped into five domains: economic stability, education access and quality, health care access and quality, neighborhood and built environment and social and community context. GYAC's programs have a positive impact on at least two of the five domains – education access and quality, and social and community context.

Positive outcomes are made possible by our community partners, qualified staff and loyal donors and volunteers. One such positive outcome stems from a student who was experiencing a mental health crisis. Due to the attentiveness of GYAC's staff and the proactive response of Christel Jones, our Student Support Specialist, a student in crisis was identified and treated before tragedy struck.

Not only was the student coached through the crisis, but GYAC engaged the family as well. With continuous counseling, the student is working through struggles with selfesteem, anger and depression. GYAC's intervention has resulted in a total turn around as evidenced by improved grades and emotional health. Someone who once experienced suicidal ideations is now on a path to success.

On any given day you can expect to see Christel engaging with students through classes in character building as well as GYAC's grief support groups. Christel also serves as a liaison between GYAC and the school district, advocating on behalf of our students.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community in a mental health capacity," said Christel. "Angelia Perry has made it possible for me to pursue my passion while helping students excel. It's an absolute honor to serve these bright and tenacious students."

GYAC was awarded funding from the John's Island Foundation in 2020, in honor of Ellie McCabe, to support students' mental health needs. This funding came at a critical time and has played a crucial role in GYAC's ability to intervene when we are needed most. The aforementioned students' journey is merely one of many student successes that occur at GYAC every day.



Christel Jones Student Support Specialist

'A DAY IN THE LIFE' GYAC'S YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAM HITS THE GROUND RUNNING

In April, GYAC was selected as one of four non-profits to be awarded a \$100,000 grant from Indian River Imapct 100. With that, GYAC's Director of the Youth Employability Program, Jay Lundy, hit the ground running.

In the coming calendar year, GYAC will recieve vital funding to support the program which is already producing huge student gains.

In its innaugural season, 23 students enrolled with aspirations of developing skills for the workforce through hands-on job experiences, guest speakers and in-class workshops. Our goal was 10 -15 students.

Local employers met the challenge! Sixteen worksites housed GYAC and TRIO Upward Bound students for six weeks during the summer. Worksites included: A-Pus Therapy, Damasco Innovation, Dr. Kolawole with Whole Family Health Center, Environmental Learning Center, Gifford Youth Orchestra, Gould, Cooksey, Fennell; Grady Legal; GYAC; Ironside Press; Masteller, Moler & Taylor; Oslo Middle School; Southside Veterinary Hospital; Indian River County's Supervisor of Elections Office; Treasure Coast Community Health; Treasure Coast Technical College; and Quail Valley River Club.

Post-program, students have demonstrated increased confidence, maturity and accountability.

"Justin Woulard has performed remarkably during his internship with us under the YEP. He is a fine young man, and I am sure he will continue to make his parents proud." - Steve Moler



WE 'COME TOGETHER' TO LIFT UP THE COMMUNITY

As the first two-time recipient of the Alma Lee Loy Community Service Award, the Indian River County Chamber's top award, longtime attorney Sam Block has been doing good in our neighborhoods for decades. His leadership has been instrumental to such local organizations as Temple Beth Shalom, Dollars for Scholars, the Education Foundation, the Mental Health Association and the Vero Beach Museum of Art.

Inspired by his mother, Marian Block, who started the volunteer group, Pink Ladies, at Indian River Memorial Hospital, now Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital, Block has been seeking ways to unite and lift others in any way he can.

His latest outreach effort, offered through the Gifford Youth Achievement Center has been a blessing to many. Last year, Block reached out to Angelia Perry, Executive Director of GYAC, with an idea to offer free legal advice - no strings attached.

What motivated you to offer free legal advice at GYAC?

"Many people don't know what to do, or they have this fear that they don't want to get involved. What I've found is that if the problem had been solved 5 to 10 years ago, they wouldn't have this monumental problem now that will cost them a lot of money. I wanted to help arm people with information so that at least they could know who to talk to or have a few actionable steps."

Since September 2021, Mr. Block has been offering free 30-minute sessions for two-hours, twice a month. When asked if he feels his time has been well spent, Mr. Block's response was, "If I help one person, I feel that my time has been well spent."

Mr. Block said, often people come across a legal issue and for many reasons they do not know where or who to turn to, so they do nothing. Overtime, what may have been a small legal matter turns into a monumental one with sizeable financial repercussions. He hopes by intervening early, those who come to one of his free sessions, will leave with the tools and information to prevent a larger issue down the road.

When asked if he has noticed any trending legal issues, Mr. Block responded, "People who are taken advantage of by vendors." For example, a company deceives a person into using their service, does a poor job or fails to complete a job and then they disappear. The second most common legal matter he encounters is related to transfers of property after the death of a loved one.

Why do you do it?

"I do it to give back to the community that's given so much to our family," said Mr. Block whose family has been part of the community for 70 to 80 years.

Mr. Block fondly recalled meeting with an individual who gave him a hug and said thank you after their session. Even though he doubted much could be done to remedy the issue after so much time had gone by, the fact that he listened and tried to help meant everything.

"He is a lifesaver!" said one of GYAC's afterschool teachers about a recent session.

How long do you intend on offering your services?

Due to community's interest and participation in these free 30-minute legal sessions, GYAC was approached about the possibility of establishing a standing legal clinic. The clinic will incorporate experts from various backgrounds such as social services, mental health and accounting and will be staffed by a paralegal. Under the new Gifford Legal Services Clinic, assistance will continue to be offered free of charge.

About Sam Block

Sam Block graduated from Vero Beach High School in 1963 and has been practicing law in Vero Beach since 1973. In 1979, Block started his own practice where he specializes in Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Administration, Guardianship Administration, Commercial and Residential Real Estate Transactions, Title Insurance, Corporate Law, and Condominium and Homeowners Associations. Block is past president of the IRC Bar Association and serves on the 19th Circuit Grievance Committee.

Pictured:

Attorney Sam Block with Kelechi and Chiaka Nwosu.

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WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS ANNUAL GIVING 2021

The Gifford Youth Achievement Center gratefully acknowledges the generosity of those who support the mission and work of GYAC. The following individuals, businesses, foundations, and community organizations generously donated to GYAC from January 2021 through December 31, 2021. Their gifts provided endless possibilities for the many students served during the year.



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FREDDIE WOOLFORK 1998 SOCIETY CHARTER MEMBERS

The Freddie Woolfork 1998 Society is comprised of generous donors who have cumulatively contributed \$100,000 or more to GYAC. Because of their generosity, the Center continues to grow and evolve to meet the needs of today's youth. The society's name celebrates GYAC's first employee, Freddie Woolfork, who has been with the Center since it opened in 1998.

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24th ANNUAL Back-to-School Bash

In GYAC's largest back-to-school celebration to date, **750** students received a backpack and school supplies. We don't do it alone. It's with a little MUCH help from our friends, both individuals & businesses, that we are able to help so many families.

This year, more than **60** volunteers gathered to pack and distribute supplies. The Visiting Nurse Association provided students with free physicals and Legacy Cutz offered free hair cuts.



LEGACY SOCIETY

Members of the GYAC Legacy Society include individuals who have notified GYAC that they have made arrangements to leave a future gift to GYAC as well as those members who gifts have been realized. For more information on joining this special group through the creation of a planned gift, contact Peggy Gibbs, Director of Philanthropy at pgibbs@mygyac.org or 772.794.1005 ext. 241.

Wallace C. Doud* Cis and Bill Glavin* Walter Jackson* Doris R. Jorgensen* Fredrick L. Lipfert* Gwenda Lee Loy* Liz and Nick Melnick Danforth K. Richardson* Robert W. Samuels* Joyce Steggles* Beverly J. Ukleja*

*deceased

IMPACT 100 Grant Recipient

GYAC was selected by Indian River Impact 100 to receive a **\$100,000 grant** towards the Youth Employability Program. Funding provided over the next two years will assist with students' salaries and wages, workplace and youthlevel OSHA training, transportation and business attire.



CIRCLE OF SUCCESS

GYAC is blessed with donors who have chosen to make a monthly gift to the Center. Monthly gifts are an easy way to make a significant impact on the programs offered at GYAC without making a large gift at one time. Gifts can be automated by using a credit card online or by writing and mailing a check to the Center each month.

We are truly grateful to the following monthly donors.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Burnett Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Cobb Mr. and Mrs. John A. Cooper Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Coya Mr. Carl L. Darrisaw Pat Hamlin Ms. Juanita Hooks Bretton Perez-Jenks and Albert B. Jenks, Jr. Quentin and Patricia Plair The Sedor Family Mr. Philip R. Weiler Alexis Idlette Wilson

'EIGHT THREE DAYS A WEEK' Beyond Special K Exercises

Coach Larry Staley has been leading the BSK exercise class since 2000. The low-impact aerobics class is offered twice a week and is free for all Beyond Special K members. Members pay \$26 per year, which includes access to all classes, including the weekly Qigong class offered by Janet Zabrosky on Monday afternoons.

With help from our friends at the Treasure Coast Food Bank, BSK is able to provide a twice monthly mobile food pantry, which has experienced increased traffic in recent years.

On average, 220 families receive medical supplies, perishable and non-perishable food items, and pet food every month.

Beyond Special K Low-Impact Aerobics Class



GIFTS IN KIND

During 2021, gifts-in-kind were received from the following businesses and individuals. These gifts allow GYAC to expend less funds on goods and services and more funds on programs to serve the educational needs of our students as well as the adults and seniors who are assisted through GYAC's Beyond Special K program.

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Celebrating 25 years JANUARY 25, 2023 OAK HARBOR CLUB | 5-9PM

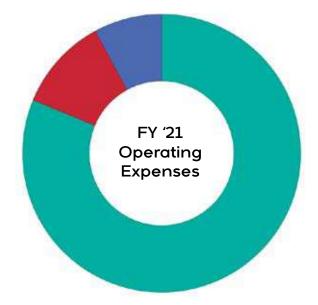
JOIN US FOR DINNER, DRINKS & SILENT DISCO

FINANCIALS 2021



Total Revenue \$2,428,013

Contributions - Operating	\$ 1,919,492
Indian River County Grants	\$ 159,458
Donated Land and Facilities	\$ 177,630
United Way of IRC	\$ 43,375
Special Events	\$ 44,100
Membership and Tuition	\$ 54,972
Rental Income and Other	\$ 1,377
Investment Income	\$ 24,826
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,783
Total	\$ 2,428,013



Total Expenses \$2,188,577

Total	\$ 2,188,577
Fundraising	\$ 172,650
Management and General	\$ 237,650
Program Services	\$ 1,778,277



GIFFORD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

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MISSION

With God's guidance, the Gifford Youth Achievement Center provides educational, cultural and social opportunities that enhance the lives of the youth and families we serve.

VISION

Where lives are changed and goals are attained

VALUES

Hope Respect Perseverance Hard Work Inclusivity Collaboration