



## August 2024 Newsletter

### UWCK Disaster Resiliency Fund

Dear Friends,

Although Hurricane Debby spared our area from the worst, United Way of Collier and the Keys remains committed to supporting our community throughout hurricane season. Our Disaster Resiliency Fund is more than just a source of aid—it's a promise of strength and preparedness.

Your donation to this fund is an investment in the resilience of our community. Every contribution helps provide immediate aid and long-term solutions for those affected by storms.

*Together, we can build a stronger, more resilient tomorrow.*

Sincerely,

**Tiffani Mensch**  
President and CEO

Donate

Resources

For non-emergency assistance in Collier County, you can [call 2-1-1](tel:252-252-1111).



For assistance in Monroe County, please visit [KeysHelp.org](https://www.keys-help.org).

### Introducing Women United

**Mission:** The purpose of Women United is to inspire, educate and encourage women to effect change, helping to ensure that everyone in our community has the hand up they need to thrive.

*Women United harnesses the collective power of women to impact our community and create transformational change. Members of Women United ignite lasting change by leveraging their passions, expertise, and resources.*

*Our community needs champions who understand the issues and are willing to roll up their sleeves to help those who need it most.*

### Member Benefits:

- Opportunities to network and collaborate with key business and community leaders at exclusive events.
- Rewarding & inspiring volunteer opportunities at community organizations.
- Invitations to educational sessions to find out more about issues impacting our community.

**Join  
Now!**

## SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FIRST WOMEN UNITED EVENT!

**When:**  
October 24th  
5:30-7pm

**Where:**  
Fifth Third Bank- 2100 Tamiami Trail N, Naples, FL 34102

**Register**

## UWCK Marine Science Education Grants Available!

Complementing the reef restoration components of the UAE-UWCK reef revitalization partnership, education is critical to the sustainability of this bold project investing in the future of the Florida Keys.

Our goal is that educating children to engage in stewardship and conservation from a young age will change habits and behaviors resulting in long-term success for the community and the inter-dependent ocean environment.

UWCK has committed \$180,000 over 5 years to support these efforts.



**Apply  
Now!**

## UWCK Supports Local Food Pantries



We're excited to continue our commitment to the 2024 "Feed the Keys-Be Like Mike" initiative. This summer, we distributed \$3,000 to seven local food pantries, supporting families in need. In May, the third annual "Feed the Keys" drive collected 6,210 pounds of food across the Keys, honoring "Mangrove Mike" Forster's legacy. Thank you to all who contributed!

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## Making Connections

Key West's new mayor, Danise "DeeDee" Henriquez, donated a portion of her unspent campaign funds to United Way of Collier and the Keys.



"Danise has been a long-time supporter of UWCK through her workplace giving as the Tax Collector, and now she's continuing her support of the community as our new mayor. We're incredibly grateful for her generosity. Thank you, Mayor Henriquez, and congratulations!" — Leah Stockton, UWCK Keys Area President

Pictured: Danise "DeeDee" Henriquez, UWCK Keys Area President Leah Stockton, & UWCK Local Advisory Board member Jordan Upchurch.

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We had a great time celebrating **National Night Out** in Marathon and Islamorada, sharing information about UWCK's Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program. Brandi Horton, UWCK Local Advisory Board Chair, was in Islamorada, and Leah Stockton, UWCK Keys Area President, attended the Marathon event.

**Thanks to everyone who came out and supports our mission!**

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United Way of Collier and the Keys recently kicked off the **2024 Publix Campaign** in Collier County with 43 Publix leaders, celebrating 45 years of partnership! Publix employees generously raised \$565,307.42 during the 2023 campaign. Special thanks to board members Joe Paul and Julian Agollari, and district manager Steve Micheli for their leadership.



We had a fantastic time at the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce & Florida Keys Visitor Center's Members in Motion event! A big thank you to everyone who donated to sponsor a child through our Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program—your generosity is truly impacting our community. Special thanks to First Horizon Bank and Florida Keys Electric Cooperative for providing food, beverages, and swag. **We're excited to share that we raised over \$1,000 for this wonderful program!**

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UWCK President and CEO Tiffani Mensch recently joined 150 colleagues in Washington, D.C., for **United Way's annual Advocacy Forum and Capitol Hill Day**. While there, she met with Senator Rick Scott and Representative Carlos Giménez to advocate for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in Monroe and Collier Counties.



UWCK Vice President of Community Impact Ashley Jones and Community Impact Coordinator Carolina Heiser recently participated in the Cost of Poverty Experience at the Guadalupe Center.



We recently welcomed Ana Raposo, Doris Greenwood, and Ruiz-Fernandez, our IRS representatives for the VITA program! VITA provides free tax assistance. Interested in volunteering? Email [VITA@uwcollierkeys.org](mailto:VITA@uwcollierkeys.org)!

## Save the Date

**August 22nd:**  
Hard Rock Cafe Happy Hour benefiting UWCK.  
[Click here](#) for more.



United Way of  
Collier and the Keys

Join us for a great time  
in support of a great cause!

Tickets available at the door:  
**\$20 per person**

Lite bites provided by  
Hard Rock Cafe  
-Cash bar

**HAPPY HOUR MIXER**



**Dolly Parton Trivia!**  
with Emcee Jordan Upchurch  
in "Dolly" Persona!

**HARD ROCK CAFE**  
**313 DUVAL ST.**  
**THURSDAY,**  
**AUGUST 22ND**  
**5:30-7:30PM**

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**August 24th:**  
Naples Pier Beach Cleanup  
[Click here](#) for more.



# NAPLES PIER BEACH CLEANUP

Saturday, August 24th 2024

9:30 am - 11:00 am

Naples Pier

25 12th Avenue South

Naples, FL 34102

**FREE  
TO JOIN**

Made possible with the support from:



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**September 11th:**  
Florida Keys Nonprofit Day.  
[Click here for more](#)

PRESENTED BY  
THE FLORIDA KEYS FUNDERS ALLIANCE

# 2024 FLORIDA KEYS NONPROFIT DAY

Keys to Success: Learn from  
Nationally Known Experts and  
Build Local Connections



WILL BOWEN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024, 1-4:30 P.M.  
MARATHON CITY HALL, 9805 OVERSEAS HWY, MARATHON, FL

Presentation Mastery for Nonprofits  
Will Bowen

Brand Mastery for Nonprofits  
Bruce Turkel



BRUCE TURKEL

Nonprofit Finances 101  
Westin Fengler, CPA

Reception 5pm  
Sponsored by *First State Bank of the Florida Keys*



WESTIN FENGLER

FREE REGISTRATION AT [CFFK.ORG/NONPROFITDAY](https://cffk.org/nonprofitday)



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October 12th:  
Andy Griffiths' Retirement Party.  
[Click here](#) for more.



# Andy Griffiths'

Retirement Celebration and Fundraising Event  
to benefit United Way of Collier and the Keys

## GONE FISHING

Beachside Key West

10.12.24

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW AND  
SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE!**

## Partner Highlight



UWCK is proud to support local organizations like [Grace Jones Community Center](#) in Marathon.

Grace Jones provides meals and educational programs for children from newborn to age six, as well as an after-school program for their older siblings.

Discover all our Community Partners [here](#).

Donate

Visit our  
Website



United Way of Collier and the Keys | 9015 Strada Stell Ct, Ste 204 | Naples, FL 34109 US

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