

January 26, 2023



United Way of  
Volusia-Flagler Counties

Over \$25,000 have been requested but only \$10,000 can be funded. If you are interested in helping fund a project, reach out to Courtney Edgcomb at [cedgcomb@uwvfc.org](mailto:cedgcomb@uwvfc.org)

### ***RIGHT TO NUTRITION- STETSON UNIVERSITY***

**REQUESTING  
\$5,000**

RIGHT TO NUTRITION FOCUSES ON A FOOD PANTRY TARGETING LOW-INCOME, HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED RESIDENTS OF VOLUSIA COUNTY, SOME OF WHOM LIVE IN FOOD DESERTS. IN ADDITION, THE PROJECT AIMS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO HEALTHIER NUTRITION WITH THE OVERALL GOAL OF IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY. THROUGH BILINGUAL COMPREHENSIVE NUTRITION EDUCATION, LIFESTYLE COACHING, AND ACCESS TO FOOD, HISPANIC HEALTH INITIATIVES AND SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK AIM TO CHANGE THE APPROACH TO PREVENT FOOD INSECURITY AND ULTIMATELY CHANGE THE LIVES OF FAMILIES LIVING IN WEST VOLUSIA.



### ***VOLUSIA GIVING GARDENS- SPRUCE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL*** REQUESTING **\$3,081**

THIS PROJECT WILL IMPACT THE COMMUNITY BY FOCUSING ON FOOD EQUITY AND SUSTAINABLE EQUITY. THE PROJECT WILL BE USED TO IMPROVE HEALTHY FOOD INSECURITY IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AND THOSE WITH LOWER INCOMES. THE EXCESS FOOD GROWN WILL BE GIVEN TO RESIDENTS OF BEACON CENTER, HOPE PLACE, OR FIRST STEP SHELTER AND DONATED TO PANTRIES ASSOCIATED WITH HALIFAX URBAN MINISTRIES. AS THE PROJECT IS EXPANDED INTO THREE DIFFERENT LOCATIONS, THE RESIDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO LEARN AND PARTICIPATE IN THE GARDENS AND GAIN KNOWLEDGE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTHY FOOD AND ITS BENEFITS.



### ***MAINLAND BOOK CLUB- MAINLAND HIGH SCHOOL*** REQUESTING **\$4,000**

THIS GRANT WILL DIRECTLY IMPACT THE LITERACY RATES OF STUDENTS AT MAINLAND HIGH SCHOOL AND SURROUNDING AREAS, WHILE PROMOTING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION THROUGH THE SHARING AND DISCUSSION OF DIVERSE TEXTS AND VIEWS. TO DO THIS, MAINLAND BOOK CLUB STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE BOOKS TO SUPPORT HOME LIBRARIES. STUDENTS WILL READ AND DISCUSS THESE BOOKS AT BIWEEKLY MEETINGS. MAINLAND STUDENTS WILL VISIT ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS TO PROMOTE READING. MAINLAND STUDENTS PLAN TO SET UP, OPEN LIBRARY DAYS, OVER THE SUMMER TO PROMOTE SUMMER READING WITH A LUNCHTIME HOOK, AS WELL AS HOST CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK AND AUTHOR VISITS.



## ***DRESSED TO IMPRESS- SPRUCE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL***

**REQUESTING  
\$3,036**

THE GOAL OF DRESSED TO IMPRESS IS TO CREATE A WIDE SELECTION OF BUSINESS ATTIRE LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS CAN USE WHEN APPLYING TO AND ATTENDING JOBS. THE PROJECT IS INCLUSIVE BY CREATING A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD, ALLOWING EVERYONE TO HAVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SAME JOBS BY MINIMIZING THE BARRIER OF EXPENSIVE BUSINESS ATTIRE. ACCESS TO BUSINESS ATTIRE CAN RESULT IN A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION WHICH CAN HELP THEM LAND HIGH-PAYING JOBS. IT ALSO HELPS OTHERS MAKE SMART FINANCIAL CHOICES SO THAT THEY CAN ALLOCATE MONEY FOR NECESSITIES SUCH AS FOOD, BILLS, AND HOUSING. BY ENTERING NEW JOB ROLES, THEY CAN BECOME MORE FINANCIALLY STABLE, AND BETTER ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR THEMSELVES.



## ***PROJECT SAM- STETSON UNIVERSITY***

**REQUESTING  
\$3,930**

THIS PROJECT WILL DIRECTLY IMPACT HEALTH AND EDUCATION WITHIN VOLUSIA COUNTY BY RAISING AWARENESS OF THE GROWING PROBLEM OF DRUG OVERDOSES. KNOWLEDGE IS POWERFUL AND WITH INCREASED ACCESS TO INFORMATION, THE COMMUNITY WILL BETTER UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT PEOPLE STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION. FOR EXAMPLE, PROVIDING INFORMATION ON RECOVERY PROGRAMS AND DISTRIBUTING ANONYMOUS HOTLINE NUMBERS SEEMS SIMPLE BUT CAN SAVE LIVES. FURTHERMORE, ADVOCATING AGAINST CURRENT STIGMAS OF ADDICTION AND MENTAL ILLNESS WILL ENCOURAGE OUR YOUTH TO SEEK ASSISTANCE RELATED TO THEIR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH. THE PROJECT WILL BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN STETSON UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS, DELAND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF DRUG OVERDOSES AND MENTAL HEALTH STIGMATIZATION AMONG YOUTH.



## ***EDUCATION FIELD DAY- STETSON UNIVERSITY***

**REQUESTING  
\$4,226**

EDUCATIONAL FIELD DAY WILL PROVIDE STUDENTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 10-14 THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE OPTION OF COLLEGE AND THE MANY POSSIBILITIES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM. IT WILL EXPOSE THE STUDENTS OF DELAND TO THE OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THEM SO THEY CAN REACH AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DESPITE THE MESSAGE THAT IS PORTRAYED TO THEM BY SOCIETY. THE PROJECT ADDRESSES THE DISPARITIES IN EDUCATION THROUGH THE LACK OF EXPOSURE AND PERPETUATION OF IDEAS THAT HINDER ACHIEVEMENT. THE K-12 SCHOOLS OF DELAND ARE SITUATED IN AN INTERESTING DICHOTOMY AS ON ONE END OF THE CITY THERE IS A PRESTIGIOUS HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION, STETSON UNIVERSITY, AND ON THE OTHER SIDE, THERE IS THE COUNTY JAIL. THIS ENVIRONMENT CAN BE MISLEADING AND LIMITS THE CHOICES IN WHICH MINORITY CHILDREN CAN VIEW THEIR LEVELS OF SUCCESS DEPENDING ON THE MESSAGES THEY ARE RECEIVING IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL, ESPECIALLY WHEN MANY OF THEM HAVE ONLY DRIVEN PAST STETSON'S CAMPUS.



## ***READING IN THE PARK- ORANGE CITY YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL***

**REQUESTING  
\$2,300**

THIS PROJECT IS UNIQUE AND INNOVATIVE IN THAT IT IS ABOUT BRINGING TOGETHER OUR COMMUNITY BY ALLOWING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS TO GET INVOLVED IN WORKING TOWARDS OUR GOAL. SET IN A LOCAL PARK, EVERYONE WILL BE WELCOME. THE GOAL OF THE PROJECT IS NOT JUST TO GIVE AWAY BOOKS OR RUN A DONATION DRIVE, BUT TO GET INVOLVED ON A DEEPER LEVEL. THE PROJECT WILL WORK WITH THE CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY IN A WAY THAT LEAVES A PERMANENT MEMORY AND MAKES READING FUN AND INTERESTING THROUGH INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES.

