



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Community Foundation of Sarasota County Awards nearly \$150,000 to
Alzheimer's and dementia awareness and support groups**

*Four local nonprofit organizations have received funding for brain
research and support programs*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—In recognition of June as International Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, the Community Foundation of Sarasota County has awarded \$150,000 to four nonprofits in the region supporting care, awareness and research of cognitive diseases.

Dementia is a brain syndrome marked by cognitive decline that interferes with daily activity, which is currently the seventh leading cause of death, with cases rapidly on the rise due to a large aging population. While other diseases can result in dementia, Alzheimer's accounts for roughly 70 percent of all dementia cases.

Many experts caution that finding ways to end or mitigate syndromes of brain and memory decline is urgent, as the cost of these disorders, in medical care, wraparound support, and loss of productivity owed to informal care of patients by family, is significant.

Community Foundation grants provide relief in a range of areas, from supporting research efforts to providing services for dementia patients who need it. Here's how funds were allocated:

- [The Roskamp Institute](#), a research organization focused on discovering diagnostics and treatments for neurological disorders, was awarded a grant to conduct additional research on Alzheimer's through a campus expansion and remodel.
- [The Pines of Sarasota Foundation](#) received a grant to support The Hammocks: Memory Care at Pines of Sarasota, a not-for-profit senior care facility serving residents regardless of their financial situation.
- Early detection can mitigate the toll of Alzheimer's, and caregivers of Alzheimer's patients remain much stronger and healthier if properly supported. The [Alzheimer's](#)

[Disease & Related Disorders Association](#), a national organization, received funding toward awareness and support programs impacting Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte and DeSoto counties.

- The [Senior Friendship Centers](#) received funding support for The Living Room, an adult day services program that provides stimulation and social interaction for Alzheimer's patients while also providing respite for their caregivers.

“Alzheimer’s is tragic because it really does impact entire families. Family members feel that they’ve lost a loved one from the moment of diagnosis,” said Roxie Jerde, President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County. “The enormous burdens, coupled with the rapid growth of Alzheimer’s diagnoses worldwide, means we have to be proactive in supporting research that can lead to eradicating the disease and the development of systems to help those currently touched by it.”

Throughout the year, the Community Foundation of Sarasota County works with charitable donors to provide opportunities for local nonprofit organizations to apply for several competitive grants to enhance their strategic goals and impactful missions. Gifts are granted to causes connected to a donor’s passion or concern, such as animals and the environment, arts and culture, education, and health and human services. As of 2023, more than \$396 million in grants has been distributed throughout the community.

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About the Community Foundation of Sarasota County: The Community Foundation of Sarasota County is a public charity founded in 1979 by the Southwest Florida Estate Planning Council as a resource for caring individuals and the causes they support, enabling them to make a charitable impact on the community. With assets of \$460 million in more than 1,570 charitable funds, the Community Foundation awarded grants and scholarships totaling \$45.3 million dollars last year in the areas of education, the arts, health and human services, civic engagement, animal welfare and the environment. Since its founding, the Community Foundation has been able to grant more than \$396 million to area nonprofit organizations in our community thanks to the generosity of charitable individuals, families, and businesses. For more information, visit www.CFSarasota.org or call (941) 955-3000.