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**MANATEE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS OVER \$56 MILLION  
MAKING A TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY**

MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA – Manatee Community Foundation (MCF) celebrates over \$56 million of community impact since its inception in 1998, and its commitment to strengthening and enhancing our community through philanthropy, education, and service – now and forever.

In 2023, MCF and its board, committed donor family, corporate ambassadors and nonprofit partners worked **to achieve greater things, together.**

- 152 lives changed through meaningful scholarships
- 825+ grants supporting nonprofit organizations in our community and beyond
- 500+ nonprofit partners supported through capacity building investments
- A swift Hurricane Idalia Response that enabled community resilience
- 25 years as the *only* community foundation in Manatee County
- 56+ million dollars of impact in our community since inception

“We are grateful to our generous community who fuels us to lead, serve, and collaborate to create a better future for Manatee County by addressing its growing needs,” said Veronica Thames, MCF’s executive leader who joined the organization in late August of 2023.

Of the over \$56 million in grants made since its founding, \$25 million were directed to meet human services needs of the communities we support, followed by over \$10 million toward education, \$8 million to support arts and culture, and \$5 million to care for animal welfare and environmental causes. Funding for this important work is provided by the generous gifts of Manatee Community Foundation donors and the diligent management of its resources by its board of directors. These investments have supported projects, initiatives, and causes that contribute to the overall prosperity of our community, and this enduring legacy is a testament to the organization’s sustained impact and unwavering dedication to acting today, for a better tomorrow.

“In this unprecedented time of growth, we will be here for our community when it needs it most, now and forever,” remarked Bob “Buzz” Turner, current Board Chair of MCF.

For information on ways to invest in our community, visit [www.manateecf.org](http://www.manateecf.org).

**About Manatee Community Foundation (MCF):** Manatee Community Foundation (MCF) is a charitable organization founded in 1998. MCF partners with our citizens to **strengthen and enhance our community through philanthropy, education, and service – now and forever**. MCF is the bridge between generous donors, business leaders, our government, and nonprofit partners, who work together so that everyone can thrive because we believe that **together, we can do greater things**. MCF has invested over \$56 million dollars in the areas of health and human services, education, arts and culture, the environment, and animal welfare and is **committed to its diversity, equity, inclusion and access work**. As the only community foundation in Manatee Mouny, **MCF is your partner in philanthropy**, a trusted steward of charitable legacies and the guide for current giving through donor advised funds and beyond. See more information about Manatee Community Foundation at [www.manateecf.org](http://www.manateecf.org).

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