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Adopt-A-Family is a 501(c)(3)
not-for-profit charitable
organization established
in 1983. Our mission is to
strengthen families with children
in their efforts to achieve stability
and self-sufficiency by providing
access to all-encompassing services.











ADOPT-A-FAMILY

of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

12th ANNUAL BETTER BALL INVITATIONAL

In April, we hosted our 12th Annual Better Ball Invitational at The Park West Palm. With 21 foursomes competing on a perfect spring day, a record-breaking \$272,000 was raised in support of Adopt-A-Family's programs.



Players began their day with lunch and a practice session on the driving range. After 18 holes, the attendees enjoyed cocktails and hors-d'oeuvres during the awards ceremony. There was a feeling of camaraderie in the air as the group celebrated the tournament's ongoing growth and success.

This event would not have been possible without the hard work of our tournament committee: Frank Bresnan, Sean Bresnan, Joe Carron, Tom Frankel, Ned Grace.



Joe LaRocca,
Jr., Gary
Pohrer, and
Jeff Preston.
This core
group has
spearheaded
this effort for
many years,
and they
consistently





bring it to new heights. We'd like to extend our thanks and a warm welcome to our newest committee member, Will Ryan.

Congratulations to the winning foursome (pictured below): Jeff Preston, Hampton Beebe, John Criddle, and David Abers! And thank you to all of the sponsors and players who showed their support for our work and mission.



We are grateful to every sponsor who made the 2025 Invitational possible.

Tournament Sponsors: Nancy J. Kyle; The Bresnan Family; NADG; Brooklyn Water Bagel Co. Lunch Sponsors: Miles Nadal; David Lambert; The AMG Charitable Foundation; Spina O'Rourke; Louis Copano. Cocktail Hour Sponsors: CIBC; Michele and Howard Kessler; Press Ganey. Golf Ball Sponsors: Moss; Collins and Arnold; Marsh & McLennan Agency. Forecaddie Sponsors: CAC Group; Blue Cross Blue Shield; First Horizon; Comvest; MAI Capital Management; Wealth Partners Capital Group; Eastdil Secured. Golf Cart Sponsors: Kolter; Wells Fargo; Miskel Backman Law; Alvarez and Marsal; Wick Phillips; J. Raymond; Stuart & Shelby. Signage Sponsor: Larocca & Associates/Risk Strategies. Closest to the Pin - Men: The Matthew and Tracy Smith Foundation; TD Bank. Closest to the Pin - Women: Regions Bank. Longest Drive - Men: Citizens; PNC. Longest Drive - Women: Streetsense; Dowbuilt. Hole Sponsors: Howard L. Friedberg; Michael and Jacki Crosby; The Rendina Family Foundation; The Coniglio Family. Eagle Sponsor: State Farm/Gil Martinez.

CARRIER'S INAUGURAL FUNDRAISER FOR ADOPT-A-FAMILY

On April 1, Carrier hosted a spectacular inaugural fundraiser to benefit our agency at their global headquarters in Palm Beach Gardens. Over 200 guests from all over the world attended the *Building Communities* – *One Family at a Time* event. An air of community spirit and goodwill permeated every aspect of the evening, which included cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, an impressive dinner buffet, testimonials from agency clients, and a galvanizing speech from Carrier CEO David Gitlin.

We were blown away by the incredible generosity of the event sponsors, donors, and attendees. This event, combined with the proceeds of Carrier



Supplier Golf Tournaments throughout the year, will raise over \$1 million for Adopt-A-Family. This tremendous level of support will be a gamechanger for our agency and will equip us to provide housing, hope, and a path to long-term stability for families who are facing homelessness.

We send our utmost gratitude to David Gitlin, Adopt-A-Family board

member Stephanie Gitlin, and everyone at Carrier who helped make this event a success. The Carrier team executed the event with a commitment to excellence and genuine care for the children and families we serve. It was an honor to partner with Carrier for this monumental endeavor.





Carrier CEO David Gitlin,

AAF Board Member Stephanie Gitlin,
and AAF CEO Matt Constantine

IMPACT THE PALM BEACHES GRANT AWARD WINNER

For the first time in agency history, Adopt-A-Family has been selected to receive a prestigious \$100,000 grant from Impact the Palm Beaches, a collaborative of women who share a commitment to philanthropy and social change. Supplemented by contributions from generous donors, the Impact grant will fund the installation of an exciting new playground at Project Grow.



Designed with input from our students, the new playscape includes a shade structure, slides, a spinning element, and a climbing frame, all designed to meet the unique needs of the children we

serve. The equipment will be surrounded by a colorful activity track where students can play hopscotch, run races, or make up games of their own. As a replacement for the much-loved 23-year-old structure, the new playscape will get decades of use and enjoyment.



After the multi-step grant application process, hundreds of Impact members gathered on April 30 at the 10th Annual Awards Celebration to hear presentations from the six finalists before selecting three top winners in a live, real-time vote. The YWCA of Palm Beach County and the

Hispanic Human Resources Council also received \$100,000 grants. The remaining finalists were awarded generous Merit Grants.

Congratulations to this Impact community for surpassing \$2 million in grant awards, representing their significant investment in central and northern Palm Beach County. Adopt-A-Family is grateful and honored to be one of your 2025 awardees.



WILEY REYNOLDS SOCIETY CELEBRATION

The Wiley Reynolds Society is composed of dedicated donors who have lifetime contributions to Adopt-A-Family exceeding \$100,000. The Society carries on the tradition of philanthropy and goodwill that was embodied by its namesake, Mr. Wiley Reynolds, one of the agency's first "adopters." Every year, Adopt-A-Family hosts a gathering for all Society members as an expression of our gratitude for their generous support of our mission. The 2025 Wiley Reynolds Society Celebration took place at the North Palm Beach Country Club on May 7. As always, the highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Society's two esteemed annual awards.



Wiley Reynolds Society Award of Appreciation: Penny Heller

For nearly 20 years, Penny has generously dedicated her time, talent, and unwavering support to the mission of Adopt-A-Family. As a dynamic member of our Board of Directors, she has played a vital role in driving the agency's growth and expanding

its impact. Penny leads with passion, integrity, and genuine care for those around her—qualities that inspire everyone fortunate enough to work with her. A true ambassador of our mission, she constantly seeks innovative ways to amplify Adopt-A-Family's reach and effectiveness. Just as important, Penny values the well-being of our staff, recognizing that caring for our team is essential to serving our community. Penny exemplifies generosity, compassion, and heart in everything she does for our agency.



Crystal Castor Award for Oustanding Volunteer Service: Tequisha Myles

Tequisha has been a tireless volunteer, dedicated board member, and steadfast agency supporter for nearly two decades. Her legal expertise and guidance have strengthened our work in countless ways and have helped us overcome a range of challenges over

the years. Tequisha has been involved in nearly every aspect of Adopt-A-Family's mission, bringing professionalism, compassion, and care to every role she takes on. She serves at events ranging from large fundraisers to client events, and what makes her contributions even more special is that she often brings her family, turning service into a shared act of kindness and responsibility. We are deeply grateful for Tequisha's leadership, generosity, and heartfelt commitment to our work.

STAFF SIDEBAR

In 2024, Matt Constantine shared his thoughts here in the CEO's Corner section of each newsletter. This year, this space will be used to give our staff members the opportunity to share their unique insights.

Program REACH is the largest emergency shelter for families in Palm Beach County. Adopt-A-Family partnered closely with the shelter for many years before assuming operations of the facility in 2016. The agency hired the entire Program REACH team, understanding the importance of their expertise and longstanding connection to the community. Program REACH serves 100 families each year, providing 90 days of safe shelter to families while they work to secure housing.

Clint, Shelter Operations Manager:



"I've been with Adopt-A-Family since 2016, but I've been working with the homeless population at Program REACH since 1996. Over the years, I've served as an on-site shelter case worker, a hotel/motel shelter case manager, and provided Traveler's Aid assistance to help families reunite with relatives. Now I'm the Shelter Operations Manager, and boy have things changed over the years. Back in the early

2000's, there were more programs out there to help the homeless, rent was around \$700, and landlords didn't ask for 3X the rent just to move in. It's getting harder out there for clients to find housing. To survive now, you need to have two incomes. Clients have to be very strong to make it. But I love to see families succeed. I get satisfaction from seeing families stay together during hard times."

Ina, Shelter Services Coordinator:



"I have worked for Adopt-A-Family at Program REACH for four years. Every family that comes through has their own unique story of how they came to need shelter placement, but they all want the same thing: stable housing for their family. Despite what many think, most of the families we serve work full-time—they just cannot overcome the barrier of needing to have \$5,000 - \$8,000 in cash

to move into a new unit. In many cases, we help many families access move-in assistance, and others are able to use their time in the shelter to save up the money. Program REACH provides a place for families to get their lives back on track. We get to provide the resources and support families need to end their episode of homelessness."

EVELYN & ARTHUR POP-UP SHOP FOR RESIDENTS



Evelyn & Arthur treated our clients to an unforgettable shopping experience when they set up a pop-up shop on our campus in April. Shop owner Adrianne Weissman, along with her dedicated team—Lori, Pat, and Mary—transformed an apartment into a boutique filled with racks of new clothing and accessories. They helped over 20 resident teenagers and adults select and style multiple outfits, ensuring each woman left not only with a bag full of new clothes but also feeling valued, uplifted, and confident. We are deeply grateful to Adrianne for her ongoing support of our agency. In addition to generously providing this experience to our clients for the past three years, Evelyn & Arthur has hosted in-store events that benefit our mission.



PROJECT GROW'S 2nd ANNUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY

On May 15, we celebrated the graduation of eleven fifth graders at our second annual Project Grow Graduation. The event began with a ceremony that included words of advice and encouragement from Lake Worth Middle School Principal Caelethia Taylor, Adopt-A-Family CEO Matt Constantine, and Project Grow Director Daron Morse. A resident high school student, Antoine Cowart, invited the students to join the Youth Success Program, our educational and social support program for middle and high school students. Project Grow Teacher Evan Schoenly (Mr. S.), described each student's personality and potential as they stepped forward to receive their diploma and a gift from the agency. After the ceremony, families, committee members, board, and staff enjoyed a delicious meal and graduation cupcakes. Thank you to the Project Grow Graduation Committee for your commitment to honoring the resilience and achievements of our students.



2025 GROW GRADUATION COMMITTEE

Mia Bain Elizabeth DeBrule Heather Ferguson Stephanie Gitlin Penny Heller Eli Morales Kirstin Turner









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	CJ:	a

I would like to make a difference in the lives of families who are experiencing homelessness by contributing the following:



\$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 Donor's Choice \$		
Mail your tax-deductible donation to Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches, Inc. in the enclosed envelope or give online at www.aafpbc.org/donate	☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AmEx	
Name (please print): Address:		
City, State, Zip:	Exp. Date	CVV#
Phone: Email:	Signature	