

2024  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
OF GIVING



## ABOUT BOCA HELPING HANDS

Founded as a modest soup kitchen in 1998, Boca Helping Hands (BHH) has since grown into one of the largest non-profit service providers in Palm Beach County. A staff of 23 and more than 300 dedicated volunteers now serve more than 35,000 clients annually, offering a broad array of services under one roof. Focusing on the “whole person,” BHH programs are integrated to meet the needs of individuals, children, and families, many of whom have jobs but still struggle to make ends meet.

### Our Mission:

Boca Helping Hands provides food, job training, access to healthcare and financial assistance to help individuals and families improve their quality of life and build financial stability.

### Our Vision:

Boca Helping Hands will be the essential community resource helping people cross the bridge from basic need to independence.

## BHH 2024 Board Members

Gary Peters, President  
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Jack Jaiven\*  
Dr. Eric H. Shaw\*

\*Honorary Board Members



Dear Friends of Boca Helping Hands,

I am thrilled and deeply honored to greet you as the new Executive Director of Boca Helping Hands. I've been connected to this organization as a Board Member and Volunteer for many years, so I am no stranger to the wonderful ways Boca Helping Hands helps those in need in our community. I'd like to extend my deepest admiration to my predecessor, Greg Hazle, for his leadership over these past eight years and to the Board Members for entrusting me with this great opportunity. And of course, we thank you all for your support as donors and volunteers this past year.

Reflecting on 2024, we navigated through challenging times with resilience. While inflation rates eased, the need for food assistance remained significant. We were fortunate to receive a record 5.2 million pounds of food that allowed us to distribute 112,000 pantry bags and 73,000 hot meals! As always, we rejoice when we can help someone “get out of the line” with a better job. Our Job Training Program graduated 64 students into higherpaying careers!

Thanks to generous partners, we were able to improve our food assistance distribution program through the purchase of two newer and larger refrigerated trucks. Our Monopoly Fund Raiser and Annual Match campaigns were also very successful. As always, we greatly appreciate the people who put the “hands” into Helping Hands, our devoted and dedicated volunteers.

As I write, we are facing new challenges as governmental food programs are being reduced. It is likely that the need will grow steadily through the coming year. But I am confident that Boca Helping Hands will be able to face these challenges as we have before, with your help!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hagen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Andrew D. Hagen  
Executive Director

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2024

## HUNGER RELIEF



Collected a record **5.2 million lbs. of food** to distribute



Served or delivered **73,175 hot meals** to those in need



Distributed **112,010 pantry bags** via 5 locations in PBC



Provided **3,841 turkeys and holiday meal boxes** for Thanksgiving

## JOB TRAINING & MENTORING (JTP)



**64 clients found employment** via (JTP) & Mentoring Programs.



**48 students graduated** from **accredited partner schools**



**379 Medical, Dental, Behavioral health vouchers** distributed



**738 Family cases** worked on for **Rent, FPL, Utility assistance**

## FEEDING KIDS



Provided **189,708 weekend meals** to 15 local schools



Provided weekend meals to **750 kids at local nonprofits** over the summer

## VOLUNTEERS



**60,375 volunteer hours** across all BHH locations

## ABOUT BOCA HELPING HANDS

Established in 1998, Boca Helping Hands provides food, job training, access to healthcare and financial assistance to help individuals and families improve their quality of life and build financial stability.



Friendship Baptist Church, Boca Raton

# FEEDING KIDS: BHH BACKPACKS

As many as 52,000 kids in Palm Beach County don't know where their next meal is coming from – a problem that the growing inflation rate is not helping.

A signature program of Boca Helping Hands since 2011, BHH Backpacks addresses the crisis of childhood food insecurity – specifically, the 65% of public-school students who receive their primary meals each weekday at school but don't have enough to eat over the weekend. Each Friday, BHH sends local schoolchildren home with a box full of meals, snacks, and drinks that meet recommended dietary guidelines.

When kids aren't worried about where their next meal is coming from, they are more relaxed and fare better academically and socially. In addition, the program positively impacts participants' families, helping parents to better afford other necessities. It also improves working conditions for teachers through better student behavior and performance.

Local organizations such as the Boca Raton Community Church, First United Methodist Church, and Junior League of Boca Raton pack the boxes each week on-site at Boca Helping Hands. BHH staff and volunteers deliver the boxes to the schools each Friday.



# HIGHLIGHTS



**2,082**  
Kids



**15**  
Schools and  
**5**  
Summer Programs



**37,577**  
Boxes Distributed



**225,462**  
Meals Provided



**75,154**  
Snacks Provided





**5.23M LBS**  
OF Food  
Distributed



**112,010**  
Pantry Bags  
Distributed

**FOOD RECOVERY:**

Food recovery efforts, led by our food bank and other community partners (see below), helped BHH recover over 5.2 million pounds of food last year, which was utilized in our pantry bags and hot meal programs.

**TOP GROCERY PARTNERS:**

- 1) Publix (8 locations) - 559,486 lbs.
- 2) Target (3 locations) - 126,584 lbs.
- 3) Walmart - 85,836 lbs.

**TOP RESTAURANT PARTNERS:**

- 1) The Capital Grille - 24,726 lbs.
- 2) Chick Fil-A (2 locations) - 20,160 lbs.
- 3) Flakowitz Bagerin - 8,782 lbs.

**TOP COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVES:**

- 1) Nation Safe Drivers (NSD) - 6,238 lbs.
- 2) Pine Crest School - 3,595 lbs..
- 3) St. Joan of Arc School - 3,157 lbs.

**We are grateful for the support from contributors, donors, and food recovery partners who helped us feed 21,285 people.**

# HUNGER RELIEF

Boca Helping Hands remained steadfast in continuing to address food insecurity in our community. **We were able to distribute more than 530,000 pounds more in 2024 than 2023. An increase of more than 11% year over year.**

## PANTRY BAG PROGRAM

The BHH Pantry Bag Program distributed 112,010 pantry bags of groceries to Palm Beach County residents living at or below 130% of the federal poverty level. Bags containing perishable and non-perishable food are distributed by staff and volunteers six days per week via a drive-thru service at five Palm Beach County locations.

## HOT MEAL PROGRAM

BHH prepared and served 73,175 to-go hot meals and delivered 8,439 meals to homebound clients. Kitchen volunteers tirelessly and creatively cooked about 225 meals per day to meet demand six days per week.



**73,175**   
Meals Served



# THANKSGIVING BOX BRIGADE

Thanks to our community's incredible support in the fall, over 4,000 local families celebrated a Happy Thanksgiving. Through our 2024 Thanksgiving Box Brigade, we sourced and distributed a record number of turkeys and boxes filled with Thanksgiving dinner essentials, ensuring that our clients would have what they needed to prepare holiday meals at home.

**Distribution Locations:**  
**East Boca Raton**  
**West Boca Raton**  
**Delray Beach**  
**Boynton Beach**  
**Lake Worth**

A heartfelt thank you to Dalfen Industrial, our Thanksgiving Dinner Sponsor, along with East Boca Sponsors Robert & Anita Kriensky, Boynton Beach Sponsor Purity Wholesale Grocers, West Boca Sponsor Humana Healthy Horizons, Delray Beach Sponsor Vertical Bridge Holdings, and Lake Worth Sponsor AvalonBay Communities.



# HIGHLIGHTS



**4,000**  
Families



**5**  
Locations in Palm  
Beach County



**130**  
Volunteers



**20**  
Years Distributing





## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE & HEALTHCARE ACCESS

The Boca Helping Hands Resource Center houses a variety of services—such as financial assistance and access to healthcare—to positively impact those most vulnerable in our community. In 2024, BHH continued its expanded reach, providing emergency financial assistance services to residents of Delray Beach, Boynton Beach, and Lake Worth who were experiencing financial crises.

BHH increases access to healthcare services, including medical, dental, and behavioral care, by providing vouchers to uninsured individuals in Palm Beach County through a partnership with Genesis Community Health.

Boca Helping Hands remains committed to empowering individuals and families by providing essential resources that promote stability and self-sufficiency. Through financial assistance, healthcare access, and support for working parents, BHH continues to make a lasting impact on those in need.



# HIGHLIGHTS



**95**

Families Helped  
with Rent/Utilities



**26**

Families, which  
Include 38 Children,  
Received Childcare



**379**

Healthcare  
Vouchers  
Distributed

# JOB TRAINING PROGRAM

Boca Helping Hands' Job Training Program provides individuals with the skills and support they need to build a sustainable career. Our comprehensive, "one-stop-shop" approach helps unemployed clients secure jobs and assists employed clients in advancing their careers. We fully fund 8 vocational training programs in partnership with schools like Palm Beach State College and Atlantic Technical College, preparing students for in-demand careers.

Our apprenticeship programs allow students to earn while training in electrical work, and HVAC, and we continue to expand our offerings, including drafting and carpentry.

All Job Training students begin with BHH Job Readiness, a one-week course covering essential workplace skills such as time management, conflict resolution, customer service, financial literacy, and wellness. The course also includes a resume-building workshop led by Job Mentor Greg Morency.

To reinforce these lessons, we offer "booster" classes for students in longer training programs, focusing on goal-setting, confidence-building, and staying motivated. Once students complete their training, they work with a BHH Job Mentor to refine their resumes, prepare for interviews, and successfully enter the workforce.





# HIGHLIGHTS



**64**

Students Enrolled  
In Job Readiness



**79**

Clients Received  
Job Mentoring



**64**

Clients Obtained  
Employment



## 2024 EVENTS

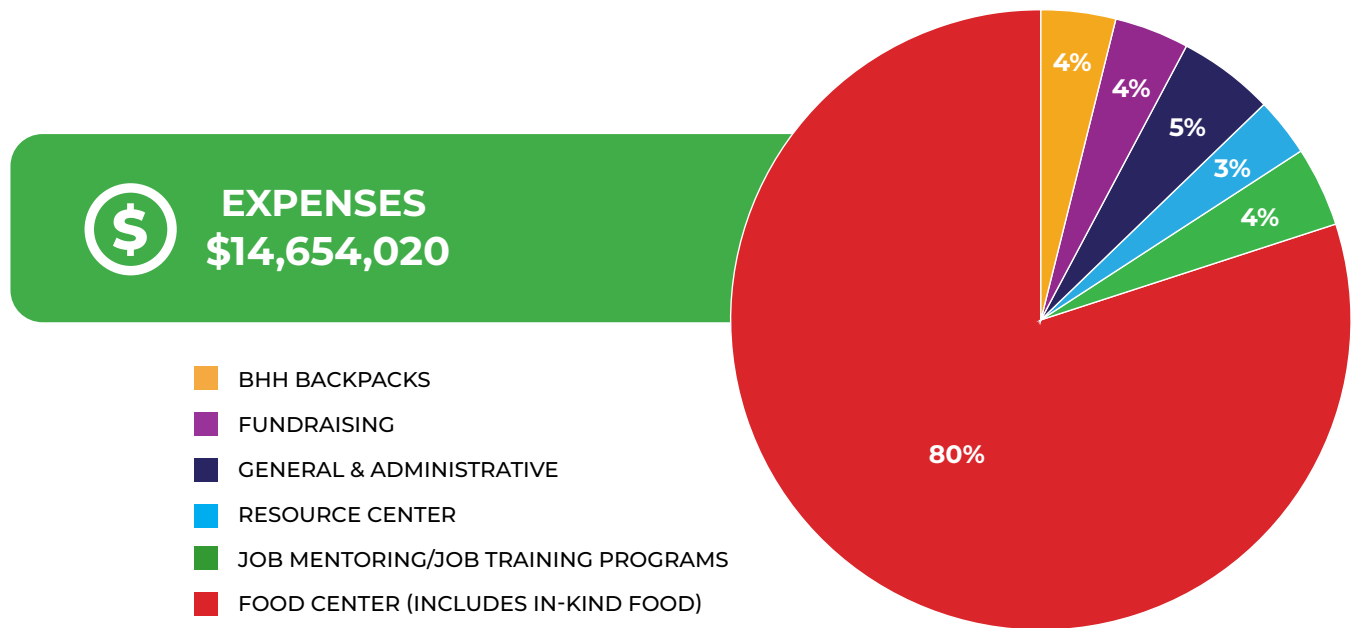
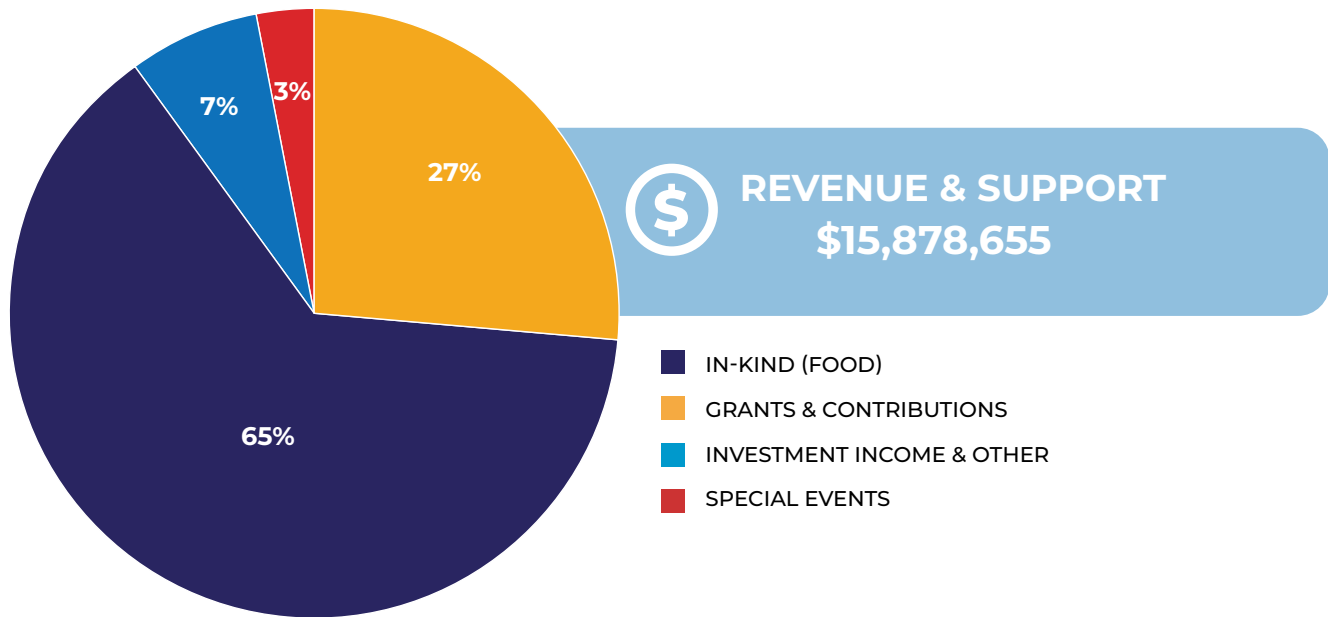
Boca Helping Hands is proud to host multiple events annually that benefit our clients and community, including the MONOPOLY & Casino Night Gala in the spring, Bowling For Bread (which benefits the BHH Backpacks program) in the summer, and the Car Show in the Winter.





# FINANCIAL RECORDS

Boca Helping Hands maintains sound financial practices, including compliance with applicable state and federal laws and having its financial statements audited by an outside firm annually. Below is an overview of the UNAUDITED, consolidated BHH and BHH Endowment Fund financial statements for 2024. The audited financial statements will be available on BHH's website or by request later this year.



**CONSOLIDATED NET ASSETS,**  
END OF YEAR: \$13,790,388  
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS:  
\$240,963

**PERCENT OF TOTAL**  
EXPENSES SPENT ON PROGRAM  
SERVICES PROVIDED: 91%

# LIFETIME CONTRIBUTORS

*Boca Helping Hands is pleased to recognize the individuals, corporations, foundations, congregations, and others who have given more than \$50,000 cumulatively to grow and sustain our programs and operations. We are deeply honored to have your support.*

## **Blue Diamond Level: \$2,000,000 or more**

Cecelia and Gary Peters\*♥  
Arthur J. Remillard, Jr.\*

## **Diamond Level: \$1,000,000 or more**

Cobb Foundation\*♥  
Leslie L. Alexander Foundation  
Sun Capital Partners Foundation, Inc.\*

## **Ruby Level: \$500,000-\$999,999**

Anonymous  
The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.  
Boca West Children's Foundation\*  
Gary Peters Family Foundation, Inc.  
Gerstner Philanthropies\*  
Jim Moran Foundation, Inc.  
Lawrence A. Sanders Foundation, Inc.\*  
Remillard Family Foundation, Inc.\*

## **Emerald Level: \$250,000-\$499,999**

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Loretta Amsdell\*  
Asofsky Family Foundation\*  
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Susan and Peter Brockway\*♥  
Christine E. Lynn, E.M. Lynn Foundation  
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## **Sapphire Level: \$100,000-\$249,999**

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SBMT Charitable Trust  
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Small Business Administration  
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Beach and Martin Counties  
Town of Palm Beach United Way  
Truist Foundation  
Walmart Foundation  
Warten Foundation, Inc.

## **Topaz Level: \$50,000-\$99,999**

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Boca Rio Foundation\*  
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Lucy Craske♥  
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The Smith Family\*  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
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United Way of Palm Beach County  
Vertical Bridge Holdings\*  
Stanley Waldshan\*  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
The Wisteria Foundation\*

## **Lifetime Donor List Key**

\* = donated 5 or more straight years  
♥ = Heart & Spirit Lifetime Member  
*italics* = deceased  
∞ = monthly giver

# 2024 PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS

*Boca Helping Hands would like to acknowledge the generous individuals, corporations, foundations, congregations and other groups who contributed to BHH's operations between Jan. 1, 2024 and Dec. 31, 2024. We could not meet the growing need in our community without your support.*

## **Visionaries: \$100,000 or more**

Anonymous (1)  
Christine E. Lynn, E.M. Lynn Foundation  
Dalfen's Limited\*  
Gerstner Philanthropies\*  
Cecilia and Gary Peters\*❤️  
Remillard Family Foundation, Inc.\*  
G. Robert Sheetz\*❤️  
Sun Capital Partners Foundation, Inc.\*

## **Heros: \$50,000 - \$99,999**

Anonymous (1)  
Ajram Family Foundation\*  
Boca West Children's Foundation\*  
Carl Angus Desantis Foundation  
Cobb Foundation, Inc.\*❤️  
Men Giving Back - South Palm Beach County  
Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller of Florida, Inc.  
The Smith Family\*  
Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation  
Town of Palm Beach United Way

## **Patrons: \$25,000-\$49,999**

Anonymous (3)  
Loretta Amsdell\*  
Amzak Capital Management LLC  
Asofsky Family Foundation\*  
Susan and Peter Brockway\*❤️  
City of Boca Raton\*  
Cole Schotz P.C.  
Emergency Food and Shelter Program\*  
Gary Peters Family Foundation, Inc.\*  
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## **Sustainers: \$10,000 - \$24,999**

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Shugar Family Fund  
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St. Mark Greek Orthodox Church  
Dr. Alan and Dena Stern\*

Stoops Family Foundation Fund of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties.  
Strandberg Family Foundation  
United Way of Palm Beach County  
Nelly Van Blois  
Verhaeghe Family Foundation  
Elise Micati\*  
William and Helen Thomas Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee\*

## **Supporters: \$5,000-\$9,999**

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Kathy and Paul Adkins❤️  
Advent Lutheran Church\*∞  
Altman Family Foundation  
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AvalonBay Communities, Inc.\*  
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 Brad and Sue Tunis  
 Valley National Bank  
 Vertical Bridge Holdings\*  
 W.F. Baird & Associates, Ltd.\*∞  
 Pat and Chip Wilson\*  
 The Wisteria Foundation\*

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 Elyse Wander  
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 Haley and Brad Winstead  
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 Brenda and Eric Berch  
 Michelle and Stephen Birnbaum  
 Barbara and Michael Bivona\*  
 Leslie and Kevin Blank  
 Brian Blechman  
 Boca Delray Women's Golf Association  
 Boca Raton Community Church\*∞

*“At The Lawrence A. Sanders Foundation, we are proud to support Boca Helping Hands and the vital work they do every day. It’s an honor to help bring hope, relief, and dignity to those in need in our community.”*

~ Lawrence A. Sanders Foundation

***“Goody Two Shoes has supported, for 20 years, the amazing work that Boca Helping Hands does on a daily basis for the residents of our community who are at-risk and need assistance.***

***We appreciate the Boca Helping Hands numerous programs, feeding, job training, job placement, filling backpacks for school children, and providing Turkeys at Thanksgiving, for which we love to volunteer.***

***Boca Helping Hands is the gold standard for organizations that make a difference in the Community, and Goody Two Shoes is proud to be a sponsor.”***

**~ Goody Two Shoes**

Boca Real Estate Investment Club, Inc. (BRIC)  
Charles Bolick  
Kris and Makenzie Bonham  
Lisa and Dean Borg\*♥  
Robin Branch\*∞  
Melody and Gerald Brandom  
Yoli Brennan\*  
Pearl Cantor\*  
Caring House Project  
Larry and Helen Cellon\*  
Yasmine and Scott Coleman♥  
Daniel and Susan Cornin  
Ruth and Walter Dalickas\*  
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Donald and Sylvia Robinson Family Foundation\*  
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Donna and Joe Ender\*  
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Susan and Jeffrey Firestone  
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Bobbie Ford  
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Sue-Rita and Meyer Goldstein  
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Gordon  
Thomas Grant  
Robin and Lawrence Greenhall\*  
Judy and Naren Gursahaney  
The Rev Dr. Andrew and Dr. Susan Hagen\*∞  
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Irene and George Harper\*  
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Peter Marra  
Cathy and Jim Maxim  
Pat McCarthy\*  
Patti and Gary McDougale\*  
Christy and Mark McElhaney\*  
Christina McEntee  
Suzanne McGee  
Laura and Jim McMullen∞  
Rhonda and Steve Miller∞  
Dr. Michelle Mina  
Mizner Country Club  
Women's Association  
Heather and Todd Mohr  
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management  
NCCI Holdings, Inc.  
Justin Nearing\*∞  
Ian Nestler  
Dr. Karen Newman\*  
Amanda Oberholtzer & Jessica Peltz  
Daniel O'Brien  
Yvette and Chris Palermo  
Pamela Higer Polani, Attorney at Law

Alexa and Zack Pechter  
 Pennsylvania Lumbersmens Group  
 Lucianna Perlin\*  
 Adam Peters  
 Darrell Pfeffer\*  
 Kerri and Eric Platero  
 Kathleen and Peter Resnik  
 Restivo Contracting, Inc.\*  
 Arthur Rhein  
 Robert Rifkin  
 RJ Hutton Charitable Trust  
 Leia and Adam Rudikoff  
 Debra Sabato  
 Jeanne and Bruce Sallah\*  
 Kim Sandler  
 Marla Schaefer  
 Jay Schiff  
 Betsy and Rick Schuster\*  
 Jerry Schwartz and Charles Bolick  
 Betty Seraphin\*  
 Andrew Shankman  
 Gregg and Elizabeth Shavitz  
 Signature Gives Back, Inc.  
 Michelle, Ryan & Hudson Silverman  
 Dr. GB and Lexi Singh\*♥  
 Slafsky Family Charitable Fund  
 Michael Smagala\*∞  
 Glenn Smith  
 Rosa and Todd Snyder  
 Kristy and Justin Sporrer\*  
 St. Andrews Estates North  
 (ACTS Retirement Community)  
 Carrol Ann Stankovitz  
 Starbucks Foundation:  
 Neighborhood Grants Fund  
 Debbie and Mickey Stern♥  
 Steve Stolec\*∞  
 Strong Heart Foundation  
 Surplus Giant, Inc.\*  
 Karen and Donald Sussman  
 Task Consolidated, Inc.  
 Chris and Greg Turner  
 UHG  
 Victory Wholesale Group\*  
 Ruth and Herbert Weiss\*  
 Pat and Thomas Wilson\*∞  
 Stacey A. Winick\*♥  
 Michael Wohl & Catalina Molner  
 Women's League of B'nai Torah\*  
 Elaine and Michael Zimmerman\*♥

**Lifetime Donor List Key**

\* = *donated 5 or more straight years*  
 ♥ = *Heart & Spirit Lifetime Member*  
*italics = deceased*  
 ∞ = *monthly giver*



# VOLUNTEERS – 2024

# HIGHLIGHTS



**2,860**  
Total  
Volunteers



**8,440**  
Hours of  
Groups



**51,937**  
Individual  
Volunteer  
Hours



**60,735**  
Total  
Volunteer  
Hours

# SAFEGUARDING YOUR BHH LEGACY

Boca Helping Hands manages resources so that we can meet both current and future community needs. And we plan to be around for the long haul, thanks to volunteers and contributors like you! Pitching in your time, talents, and financial support allows us to carry out our mission – and a legacy gift can help ensure that the investments you’re making, through your hard work and donations, will continue to support what we’ve built together.

## ABOUT OUR ENDOWMENT

Established in 2012, the Boca Helping Hands Endowment Fund helps guarantee the sustainability of our mission and programs. Having an endowment diversifies our sources of income, creating a safety net that makes it easier to face the ups and downs of the economy and fundraising. Earnings from the Endowment Fund can provide assistance wherever we may need it most, whether that’s supporting operations, launching new programs, or repairing and maintaining BHH’s facilities.

## PROVIDING LONG-TERM SUPPORT

Legacy gifts – of any size – make a real difference in securing Boca Helping Hands’ future. Endowment contributions can take many forms, from cash gifts to bequests and annuities, and can be as easy as designating BHH as one of the recipients of your annual 401(k) distributions or as one of its beneficiaries.

Jean, a retired United Flight attendant of 30 years, found her way to Boca Helping Hands through a friend and fellow BHH volunteer in 2008. Since then, she has dedicated her time as an active volunteer, lending a hand once or twice a week.

Jean’s talents as a volunteer go way beyond working in our warehouse or preparing meals in our kitchen, years spent working in a basket store shine brightly at BHH at events like MONOPOLY & Casino Night and Bowling for Bread, where her skillful hands craft beautiful baskets.

Beyond her creative contributions, Jean has brought more friends into the BHH family, fostering numerous meaningful friendships along the way. Reflecting on her time, Jean finds inspiration in BHH’s growth and positive impact on the community.

*“Boca Helping Hands is more than a cause—it’s family. Including BHH in my 401(k) allows me to turn gratitude into a lasting legacy of hope and compassion.”*



# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## DONATE

Our programs and services wouldn't be possible without your financial support. To help BHH respond to critical needs in the community and provide the resources necessary for people to get back on their feet, visit [BocaHelpingHands.org/Donate](https://BocaHelpingHands.org/Donate) or call (561) 417-0913 ext. 202.

## SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL MATCH

Every year, all contributions made between November 1 and December 31 are matched 100% up to a specified amount. Follow us on social media for the dedicated link once our campaign starts! @BocaHelpingHands

## GIVE A HAND

Become a monthly contributor – at any amount – and generate reliable support for our programs. Just \$25 can provide more than 100 meals through our Pantry Bag Program. Sign up at [BocaHelpingHands.org/MonthlyGiving](https://BocaHelpingHands.org/MonthlyGiving).

## JOIN HEART & SPIRIT

Become a member of Heart & Spirit, a group of BHH ambassadors dedicated to spreading the word about our work and recruiting new supporters. Join today by visiting [BocaHelpingHands.org/Heart-Spirit](https://BocaHelpingHands.org/Heart-Spirit).

## EXPLORE LEGACY GIVING

Safeguard the BHH causes that touch your heart, ensuring that work will continue, with a legacy gift. Learn more at [BocaHelpingHands.org/LegacyGiving](https://BocaHelpingHands.org/LegacyGiving).

## VOLUNTEER

The dedicated men, women, and youth who contribute their time and talents are the backbone of our organization. Visit [BocaHelpingHands.org/Volunteer](https://BocaHelpingHands.org/Volunteer) to join the BHH family.

## HOST A FOOD DRIVE

Food donors help keep our pantry stocked, especially with staple non-perishables like cereal and peanut butter. To organize a food drive on our behalf, go to [BocaHelpingHands.org/food-drives](https://BocaHelpingHands.org/food-drives) or call (561) 417-0913 ext. 204.



1500 NW 1st Court  
Boca Raton, FL 33432

(561) 417-0913 • [BocaHelpingHands.org](https://BocaHelpingHands.org)

     @BocaHelpingHands