

# CREATING IMPACT

YOUR FOUNDATION, EMPOWERING CHANGE



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**BOWER CHAPEL**  
THEN, NOW, AND FOREVER  
page 18

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**PARTNER SUPPORT**  
SUPPORTING THOSE  
WHO SUPPORT US  
page 6

**ANNUAL  
REPORT** 2025

# Table of Contents

- Foundation Board** ..... 2
- 2025 Highlights and Accomplishments** ..... 4  
*A Year of Impact, Growth, and Generosity*
- Partner Support** ..... 6  
*Supporting Those Who Support Us*
- Scholar Spotlight** ..... 8  
*Where Ambition Meets Opportunity*
- Resident Support** ..... 10  
*Investing in Well-being, Innovation, and Peace of Mind*
- Community Support** ..... 12  
*2025 Community Grants Program*
- Community Success Stories** ..... 16  
*Philanthropy in Action*
- Bower Chapel** ..... 18  
*A Legacy of Faith, Music, and Philanthropy*
- Galas** ..... 22  
*Compassion, Connection, and Collective Impact*
- Cornerstone Society** ..... 24  
*Honoring Legacy Gifts*
- Orchid Society** ..... 25  
*Recognizing Extraordinary Generosity*
- Orchid Society** ..... 26  
*Celebrating Donors of \$50,000+*
- 2025 Financials** ..... 28
- Ways to Give** ..... 30



Moorings Park



Moorings Park Grande Lake



Moorings Park Grey Oaks

## A Letter from Bob and Jennifer

**Dear Friends of Moorings Park Foundation,**

Gratitude reigns as we reflect on the closing of another wonderful year. 2025 brought us to new heights—marked by meaningful milestones, growth, and impact that bring us great joy and pride. None of this would be possible without your generous support and steadfast compassion.

Through our three Avenues of Service—Community, Partner, and Resident Support—lives were changed. In these pages, you’ll learn about a record-breaking gala season, game-changing affordable housing for partners, impactful community grants, and empowering scholarships. Most importantly, you’ll meet the individuals directly impacted by the Foundation’s mission. Cece is striving to earn her MBA. Joni and Jayden found love and community after the loss of Joni’s daughter and Jayden’s mother. Residents at local senior living communities are healing through the power of music and intergenerational connection. Their stories reflect the warmth and care that shaped their journeys.

We also celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Bower Chapel—a landmark that stands as a beacon for heart-led philanthropy and legacy. Through a month-long celebration, we honored veterans, families, and community members who have been touched by the Bower and Korest families’ enduring commitment to Cathedral Thinking.

On behalf of the Moorings Park Foundation Board of Directors and staff, thank you. Partnering with you to create positive change at Moorings Park and across Southwest Florida is an honor we carry with tenacity and care. The accomplishments in this report are yours. We share them with appreciation for all that has brought us here and excitement for all that is to come. Then, now, and forever, everything we achieve is done together—community at its finest!

With deepest gratitude,

**Bob Rankin**  
Board Chair

**Jennifer F. Clark**  
Executive Director



### Mission Statement

*Promote a culture of philanthropy to enhance successful aging through support of Moorings Park residents, employees, and the greater community.*

# Foundation Board



**Eileen Connolly-Keesler**  
Community Representative

Eileen is President and CEO of the Collier Community Foundation, guiding its mission through community leadership and strategic philanthropy. She joined the Collier Community Foundation in 2013 after ten years leading the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation in Wisconsin. Eileen serves on the boards of the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce and CFLeads. She holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin–Green Bay and the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh and lives in Naples with her husband, Pat.



**Sandy Figge**  
Moorings Park Grande Lake

Sandra is a seasoned leader and philanthropist with more than four decades of service in the arts and nonprofit sectors. She has held leadership roles in Davenport, Iowa, and Sun Valley, Idaho, and is a founding member of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, which has raised over \$366 million to support underserved children in Collier County. Sandra has served on numerous boards and grant committees and remains an active advocate for cultural and community engagement. She and her husband, Jim, live at Moorings Park Grande Lake. Together, they have six children and eleven grandchildren.



**Dan Lavender**  
President/CEO

Dan Lavender is President and CEO of The Moorings Park Institute, overseeing Moorings Park Communities in Naples. An Ohio native, he holds a BA in Accounting and Economics from Bluffton College, an MBA from Ohio University, and is a licensed CPA. Dan has led Moorings Park since 2009, previously serving as CFO, and has held

senior leadership roles with Methodist ElderCare Services and Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services. He serves on the Miami Branch Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, and the Naples Zoo Board. Dan and his wife, Michele, live in Naples and have two daughters.



**John Rakoske**  
Moorings Park

John brings decades of leadership in engineering and cable television operations. He served as Executive Vice President of Operations at Continental Cablevision and earlier led electronics research at Kidder Press. He holds an MS in Engineering Management from Northeastern University and a BS in Electrical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. John has served on multiple industry and community boards, including the Moorings Park Foundation's Grants Committee. He lives at Moorings Park with his wife, Connie, and they have two daughters and three grandchildren.



**Bob Rankin**  
Moorings Park

Bob grew up in Mississippi and earned a degree in Electrical Engineering before serving four years as a U.S. Army officer, attaining the rank of Captain. He had a thirty-year career in defense and computer electronics, including leadership roles at Ford Aerospace and Computer Sciences Corporation. In Aspen, Colorado, Bob and his wife Joyce founded two small businesses and established the Computers for Kids Foundation. Bob later served twelve years in the Colorado legislature, including time in both the House of Representatives and the State Senate. Today, Bob and Joyce enjoy an active lifestyle at Moorings Park.



**John Risk**  
Moorings Park Grey Oaks

John was born in Highland Park, Illinois, and earned degrees from Cornell, Wayne State, and the University of Michigan (MBA). He spent more than three decades at Ford Motor Company in engineering and product development, including leadership on the Lincoln Continental and Taurus/Sable programs. John later served as President and COO of MSX International. He and his wife, Jerry, lived in Bonita Bay for 17 years before relocating to Moorings Park at Grey Oaks where they enjoy being active in the community.



**Karen Schneider**  
Moorings Park Grande Lake

Karen graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1985 and built a career in high-quality printing, serving as VP of Sales and Marketing and later as an owner. After moving to Naples in 2007, she joined Greater Naples Leadership and served on several community boards. Karen has been deeply involved with Moorings Park Foundation, including chairing the Grande Lake Gala and Grants Committees. She and her husband, Ron, enjoy golf and community life at Moorings Park Grande Lake. Together, they have 5 children, 11 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.



**Gail Webster-Patterson**  
Moorings Park

Gail has more than 40 years of experience in personal trust and wealth management, holding senior roles at Virginia National Bank, Marine Midland Bank, Continental Illinois Trust Company of Florida, Huntington National Bank, and currently serves as Managing Director at Coons Advisors. She has also taught estate, trust, and employee benefit programs and remains deeply engaged in community service through cultural and nonprofit organizations. Gail lives at Moorings Park and enjoys traveling, reading, and gardening.



**Guy Wiebking**  
Moorings Park Grande Lake

Guy was born in Baltimore and earned a B.S. in Business from the University of Maryland, followed by an MBA in 1973. He spent 28 years at Abbott Laboratories in senior management roles and later served as CEO of the Provena Health Care System. Guy's governance experience spans Catholic healthcare and educational institutions, including Provena, Presence Health, San Miguel School, and Lewis University. He and his wife, Sharon, have two married children and two grandchildren and enjoy an active life at Moorings Park Grande Lake.

*“The impact of giving extends far beyond a single moment—it creates a legacy. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are building a community where connection, compassion, and opportunity will endure for generations.”*

• Bob Rankin, Foundation Board Chair

# 2025 Highlights and Accomplishments:

## A Year of Impact, Growth, and Generosity

**62**

PARTNERS ADVANCED THEIR SKILLS THROUGH ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES

**751,500**

DOLLARS AWARDED IN 30 COMMUNITY GRANTS TO LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

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**100,000**

DOLLARS APPROVED FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING INITIATIVES

**1,700,000+**

DOLLARS RAISED FOR THE PARTNER HOUSING INITIATIVE

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**57**

SCHOLARSHIPS TO PARTNERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

**142,863**

DOLLARS IN BENEVOLENT CARE FOR RESIDENTS

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**1,700,000+**

DOLLARS RAISED FOR THE PARTNER HOUSING INITIATIVE

BEGAN RENOVATIONS OF THE SUPER 8 HOTEL, WITH COMPLETION ANTICIPATED IN FALL 2026

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# Partner Support: Supporting Those Who Support Us

## Partner Housing Initiative: A Future Worth Investing In

Collier County is often described as paradise—a place of beauty, beaches, and exceptional quality of life. Yet for many of the working men and women who sustain this community every day, the peace that comes with that promise remains out of reach. Rising housing costs have pushed essential workers farther from the places they serve, creating a widening gap between those who support our community and their ability to live within it.

The people who care for our residents, prepare meals, maintain facilities, and support daily operations are increasingly compelled to seek housing in Fort Myers, Cape Coral, Immokalee, and even Hendry County. These long commutes take time from families, cost money, add strain to demanding schedules, and diminish overall quality of life. Each mile traveled represents a sacrifice—one that affects not only employees, but the long-term strength and stability of Southwest Florida.



## A Commitment to Those Who Care for Others

At Moorings Park Foundation, we believe that those who dedicate their time and talents to caring for others deserve the opportunity to build stable, fulfilling lives of their own. In 2024, we took an important first step by partnering with Habitat for Humanity to provide qualified employees with \$10,000 toward closing costs on their homes. For many, this support transformed the dream of homeownership into a reality.

But one step is not enough. Employees represent a wide range of life stages and financial circumstances, and meaningful progress requires multiple pathways. This understanding led to the launch of the Partner Housing Initiative—a three-year, \$5 million campaign designed to expand attainable housing options for Moorings Park employees.



## A Year of Extraordinary Progress

In 2025, Moorings Park residents demonstrated remarkable leadership, contributing \$1.7 million toward this ambitious goal. Their generosity allowed the Foundation to move quickly, beginning the transformation of a former Super 8 hotel—acquired by Moorings Park Institute—into 57 thoughtfully designed and fully furnished one-bedroom apartments and two studio apartments. These new homes will give employees something many have gone without for far too long: the chance to live near where they work, spend more time with their families, and enjoy a better quality of life.

This milestone reflects the deep commitment of our residents to the people who make all the Moorings Park Communities such a special place. Their willingness to invest in meaningful, long-term solutions is already changing lives.



## The Work Ahead

While this progress is significant, it represents only the beginning of a larger vision. Affordable rental housing provides stability today, but long-term community strength also depends on pathways to homeownership. With continued donor support, the Foundation is exploring innovative models that will allow employees not only to live in Collier County, but to build equity, security, and a future for their families.



If Collier County is truly paradise, it must be one that includes the people who make it possible. The next chapter of this work depends on those who believe a thriving community is one where everyone has the opportunity to belong.

Your support can help ensure that the people who care for us have a place to call home.

To learn more, please contact Jennifer Clark, Executive Director of Moorings Park Foundation, at 239-359-6805.

# Scholar Spotlight:

## Where Ambition Meets Opportunity

### **Cecelia Beard— Pursuing an MBA, Graduating Debt-Free**

Originally from Bloomington, Indiana, Cecelia (Cece) is pursuing her Master of Business Administration at Florida Gulf Coast University and will graduate in May 2026.

Cece began her journey with Moorings Park in August 2023 as a Wellness intern. Her talents quickly stood out, leading to a full-time role by year's end. Currently, she serves as the Resident Coordinator at Moorings Park Grey Oaks.

### **What personal or professional challenges have you overcome?**

One of my biggest challenges was transitioning from fitness into operations while pursuing my MBA. Stepping into a new professional role required confidence, resilience, and a willingness to grow outside my comfort zone. Balancing full-time work with a graduate program strengthened my time management and discipline—skills that will stay with me throughout my career.

### **What academic achievement are you most proud of?**

I am graduating summa cum laude, the highest academic distinction.

### **What leadership opportunities have you taken on?**

I am a graduate of the Moorings Park Management Essentials program and serve on the Partner Enrichment Team.

### **Why is this scholarship meaningful to you?**

This scholarship allowed me to pursue my MBA without the burden of financial stress while continuing to work full-time at Moorings Park. Graduating debt-free with a master's degree is an opportunity many do not have, and I am deeply grateful for that support.

### **How has it impacted your future plans?**

Without this scholarship, I likely would not have pursued my master's degree. It gave me the confidence to invest in my professional growth and develop

leadership, financial, and global business skills that will support my future at Moorings Park and beyond.

### **Who inspires you?**

My mother. She has always encouraged me to try my best and pursue opportunities—even when I doubt myself. Her belief in growth through effort has shaped the way I approach both my education and leadership opportunities.

### **Share an experience that shaped your academic journey.**

Stepping into the Resident Coordinator role during a large-scale window replacement project at Grey Oaks significantly shaped my academic journey. Although my background was in wellness, I found myself managing vendors, coordinating logistics across multiple buildings, and communicating construction updates to residents and partners. It allowed me to apply MBA concepts in real time—organizational change, project management, financial awareness, and leadership communication—and confirmed my desire to continue growing in operations.

### **What are your career goals?**

My long-term goal is to continue growing into leadership roles within Moorings Park. I hope to strengthen my expertise in operations and project management and lead complex initiatives that positively impact residents and partners.

### **What advice would you share with fellow Moorings Park partners considering a scholarship?**

Don't wait until you feel completely ready, there will never be a perfect time. If continuing your education is important to you, take the step. Moorings Park is a mission-driven organization that supports growth, and you may be surprised by how much encouragement you receive once you share your goals.

### **Tell us about you personally. Do you have hobbies outside of school?**

Yes! I enjoy spin classes, traveling, and trying new baking recipes.

### **Just for fun, what is your favorite movie?**

I can't pick just one, but two favorites are Yours, Mine & Ours and The Devil Wears Prada.



# Resident Support:

## Investing in Well-being, Innovation, and Peace of Mind

### GardenView: A Transformative Vision Realized

Moorings Park Grande Lake reached an exciting milestone with the opening of GardenView—its new state-of-the-art assisted living and memory support facility—alongside beautifully designed botanical gardens that elevate the campus in extraordinary ways.



GardenView

GardenView reflects Moorings Park's commitment to excellence, offering some of the largest and most technologically advanced residences in the country. Designed with both innovation and compassion, every detail supports comfort, dignity, and the evolving needs of residents.

Just beyond its doors, GardenView's botanical gardens provide a relaxing and restorative retreat. Lush landscaping, tranquil pathways, and inviting gathering spaces create opportunities for reflection, connection, and renewal—enhancing daily life in meaningful ways.



Grand Opening of GardenView



Palmetto Sunroom

This transformation was made possible through the generosity of Moorings Park donors, whose capital gifts bring visionary projects to life. With the flexibility to direct their giving, donors create lasting legacies—each gift honored with care and used exactly as intended.

A highlight of the new building is the **Palmetto Sunroom**, named by **Lucy and Jack Kuhne**. Framed by floor-to-ceiling views of the gardens, it offers a light-filled sanctuary where residents can gather, linger, and take in the quiet beauty of their surroundings.

The paths amongst the botanical gardens unfold as a gentle journey. Along the **Serenity Pathway**, the soft sounds of the **Peace Fountain**—a meaningful gift from **Joanne Wyss**—set a tone of calm and reflection. The path leads to the **Botanical Tapestry**, a living wall of vibrant greens generously given by **Gene and Anne Culler**, bringing texture, color, and a sense of renewal. Nearby, the **Garden Outlook**, made possible by **Kathy and Bill Avery**, invites moments of pause and perspective.

Adding a touch of joy and companionship, the garden also features a dedicated dog park. **Fluffington Garden**, lovingly named in memory of **Jack and Willy**, was created by their owners as a heartfelt tribute to the dogs who brought them such delight.

This special space celebrates the simple happiness pets bring—an enduring reminder that love, in all its forms, enriches community life.

On the Memory Support side, the experience becomes even more intimate. Residents pass beneath the **Pergola Pathway**, thoughtfully named **Listen** by **Carol Town**—an invitation, in both name and spirit, to slow down, reflect, and simply be.

Together, these spaces reflect the shared vision and generosity of a community deeply committed to one another. **Because when generosity leads, transformation follows—and the impact will be felt for generations to come.**

### TrueSpan: A New Standard for Living Well

Moorings Park Foundation is proud to support TrueSpan—a guiding philosophy shaping our culture, daily operations, and shared future.

“True” represents an evidence-based approach to healthy living, while “Span” speaks to longer, healthier, and more fulfilling lives. Together, they define a path toward well-being rooted in belonging, connection, and the opportunity to flourish.

To bring this vision to life, the Foundation supports initiatives that inspire and engage residents, including a guest speaker series and support for a position dedicated to advancing the work.

This impact was evident when residents welcomed Dr. Roger Landry, a nationally recognized leader in healthy longevity. In his presentation, *Ten Tips for Successful Aging*, he shared practical, evidence-based strategies to support physical health, cognitive vitality, and emotional resilience—reinforcing that longevity is not just about adding years to life, but life to years.

Dr. Landry's visit is a powerful example of TrueSpan in action—empowering individuals to live with purpose, connection, and vitality at every stage of life.



Fluffington Garden

### Benevolent Care: A Promise That Endures

Life is unpredictable. Even with thoughtful planning, circumstances can change. Benevolent Care, provided through the Foundation, ensures that residents who have outlived their financial resources continue to receive the same exceptional care, comfort, and quality of life they have always known.

It offers something deeply meaningful: peace of mind. The assurance that residents and their families will never face the possibility of leaving the community they call home due to unforeseen financial hardship.

The impact of Benevolent Care is profoundly personal. It is felt in the reassurance that tomorrow is secure, in the confidence of continued independence, and in the simple, irreplaceable comfort of home. **Because at Moorings Park, care is not conditional—it is enduring.**

# Community Support:

## 2025 Community Grants Program

Through our Community Grants Program, Moorings Park Foundation uplifts seniors, students, and caregivers across our community.

This year, our resident-led grants committee proudly selected 30 worthy nonprofit organizations to receive a total of \$751,500 in funding. Your continued support helps us fund these life-changing initiatives.

Each grant reflects a shared commitment to enhancing quality of life and spreading kindness throughout our community. From housing and healthcare to education and emotional support, these organizations deliver essential resources to those who need them most.

**Together, we're building a stronger, more compassionate community.**

### Senior Health & Wellness Support



**2025 Grant Amount: \$15,000 • Total Grant History: \$30,000**  
Direct financial assistance to cancer patients aged 60+



**2025 Grant Amount: \$35,000 • Total Grant History: \$170,000**  
Palliative care for those with chronic or terminal illness



**2025 Grant Amount: \$25,000 • Total Grant History: \$105,000**  
Financial assistance and support programming for older adult cancer patients



**2025 Grant Amount: \$35,000 • Total Grant History: \$160,000**  
Navigation support for seniors accessing social services



**2025 Grant Amount: \$65,000 • Total Grant History: \$438,500**  
Mental health counseling and financial aid for low-income people aged 60+



**2025 Grant Amount: \$25,000 • Total Grant History: \$154,000**  
Behavioral healthcare for uninsured/underinsured seniors



**2025 Grant Amount: \$25,000 • Total Grant History: \$70,000**  
Vision-saving surgical care for older, underserved individuals



**2025 Grant Amount: \$14,000 • Total Grant History: \$75,500**  
Safety in the Kitchen Series—designed to empower individuals who are blind or visually impaired to cook confidently and independently



**2025 Grant Amount: \$10,000 • Total Grant History: \$119,500**  
Parkinson's support for patients and caregivers



**2025 Grant Amount: \$40,000 • Total Grant History: \$70,000**  
Mobile clinic offering free screenings and disease prevention for seniors in Immokalee

### Housing & Homelessness Prevention



**2025 Grant Amount: \$40,000 • Total Grant History: \$140,000**  
Home Bundles—thoughtfully curated collection of brand-new household essentials for older adults transitioning from homelessness



**2025 Grant Amount: \$20,000 • Total Grant History: \$40,000**  
Shelter and wraparound services for vulnerable seniors



**2025 Grant Amount: \$60,000 • Total Grant History: \$257,000**  
Homeless prevention, rapid rehousing, and outreach for SWFL seniors



**2025 Grant Amount: \$25,000 • Total Grant History: \$78,500**  
Rapid, affordable housing for senior veterans—offers stability, dignity, and access to mental health services and peer connection



St. Matthew's House courtyard at Campbell Lodge

## Community Support *continued*

### Community Connection



**NEW RECIPIENT • 2025 Grant Amount: \$10,000**  
Intergenerational Music and Social Exchange Program—brings together youth and seniors through music



**2025 Grant Amount: \$25,000 • Total Grant History: \$45,000**  
Warrior Health & Fitness Program—empowers veterans to take charge of their physical wellbeing while providing a portal to complex care for conditions such as PTSD

### Specialized Learning Support



**NEW RECIPIENT • 2025 Grant Amount: \$10,000**  
Support for a structured, multisensory approach for children with language-based learning disabilities like dyslexia



**2025 Grant Amount: \$15,000 • Total Grant History: \$71,000**  
Project Explore—career exploration for young adults with special needs

### Higher Education Support



**2025 Grant Amount: \$30,000 • Total Grant History: \$240,000**  
Scholarships for high-achieving future health care professionals



**2025 Grant Amount: \$20,000 • Total Grant History: \$255,000**  
Scholarships for future licensed health and emergency professionals



**2025 Grant Amount: \$20,000 • Total Grant History: \$173,000**  
Emergency/gap funding for students at Immokalee and Collier campuses



**2025 Grant Amount: \$50,000 • Total Grant History: \$230,000**  
Expanding access to healthcare education with scholarships and advanced RN simulators for real-world readiness

### Support to Building Brighter Futures



**2025 Grant Amount: \$20,000 • Total Grant History: \$395,000**  
LEAD Program—college and career readiness for Golden Gate High School students



**2025 Grant Amount: \$20,000 • Total Grant History: \$282,000**  
Tutor Corps—college-preparatory and scholarship program for high school students in Immokalee



**2025 Grant Amount: \$25,000 • Total Grant History: \$80,000**  
Healthcare Summer Camp—a hands-on learning experience designed to inspire students from Immokalee to seek careers in healthcare



**2025 Grant Amount: \$10,000 • Total Grant History: \$75,000**  
After-School Education Program—provides tutoring, mentoring, and character-building support to under-resourced students from kindergarten through 12th grade

### Caregiver & Family Support



**2025 Grant Amount: \$35,000 • Total Grant History: \$567,000**  
Programming Support—mental and physical well-being support for caregivers



**NEW RECIPIENT • 2025 Grant Amount: \$10,000**  
Generations of Hope Initiative—support for grandparents caring for grandchildren removed from abusive homes



**NEW RECIPIENT • 2025 Grant Amount: \$7,500**  
Care Pack Program—essentials and emergency aid for grandparent caregivers



**2025 Grant Amount: \$10,000 • Total Grant History: \$71,000**  
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program—provides resources and emotional support to grandparents who have become primary caregivers for their grandchildren due to family crisis

# Community Success Stories:

## Philanthropy in Action

### Restoring Stability, Rebuilding Lives: Warrior Homes

For many veterans, the transition home is not easy. The challenges of re-entering civilian life can begin immediately—navigating a new routine, finding work, and adjusting to life beyond service. For some, those challenges deepen over time, as fixed incomes, rising costs, and unseen wounds like Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) make it harder to maintain a place of their own.



Warrior Homes of Collier Bravo House

Through a grant from the Moorings Park Foundation, Warrior Homes of Collier County is helping change that reality—one veteran at a time. This grant specifically

supports elderly veterans—individuals carrying the lasting weight of their service while navigating financial and personal challenges later in life. For them, even a small setback can put everything at risk. Warrior Homes offers something profoundly simple and life-changing: a place to land.

In these homes, veterans find more than shelter. They find community, dignity, and the chance to move forward.

The impact is deeply human. A veteran who once faced uncertainty can now rest knowing they are safe. They can begin again—reconnecting with others, rebuilding confidence, and rediscovering a sense of purpose.

Because honoring our veterans means more than words.

**It means ensuring they are never left without a place to call home.**

### When Music Bridges Generations

With support from the Moorings Park Foundation, Gulfshore Opera's Connecting Seniors and Youth Through Music brought laughter, song, and connection to senior living communities across Collier, Lee, and Charlotte Counties in 2025–2026.

Around 100 at-risk youth participated in six Harmony Choirs, learning more than music—they discovered empathy, confidence, and the joy of connecting with older generations. Each choir prepared concerts with songs well-loved by seniors, then shared cookies, drawings, and conversation with residents, creating moments that touched hearts on both sides.

One young girl noticed a gentleman sitting quietly in the front row. She slid him a lyric sheet and asked to sit beside him. A smile spread across his face as they sang together, like friends reunited after years apart. Another group of residents, unable to see their own grandchildren over the holidays, said the children's visit had "lightened that sadness."

The program also transformed the youth. Students who were once shy learned to guide conversations, mentor peers, and discover the joy of giving back.

*"It touched her soul in a way she couldn't put into words."*

• **Lucy Mason**  
Life Enrichment Director, Terracina Grand

Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the Moorings Park Foundation, this program has reached over 700 seniors and created meaningful, lasting connections for children and older adults alike. Through music, cookies, and conversation, generations come together in joy, empathy, and human connection.



Joni and her grandson Jayden at Valerie's House

### Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

When a child loses a parent, their world shifts instantly. For many families served by Valerie's House, that loss is followed by another profound change—grandparents step in to raise their grandchildren while grieving the loss of their own child.

With support from the Moorings Park Foundation, Valerie's House created a dedicated space for these families through its Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program.

So far through the 2025-2026 grant, 34 grandparents have participated in 123 peer grief-support group experiences, finding connection, guidance, and a community that understands their journey.

For Joni and her grandson Jayden, Valerie's House became a lifeline after the loss of Joni's daughter, Jayden's mother. Through weekly group nights, Jayden found peers who understood his grief, while Joni found strength among other grandparents navigating the same unimaginable path. Today, Jayden is thriving, and Joni now gives back as a volunteer—helping other families find hope amid loss.

Healing often happens in small, meaningful moments—a story shared, a memory honored, a child finding the courage to speak about someone they love and miss.

**Because of programs like these, families like Joni and Jayden are finding connection, strength, and hope for the future—ensuring that no child or grandparent has to grieve alone.**



Gulfshore Opera's Harmony Choir

# Bower Chapel: A Legacy of Faith, Music, and Philanthropy



Dolly Bodick Korest with a photo of Alan Korest

At Moorings Park, philanthropy is more than generosity—it is vision. It is the belief that what we build today should enrich the lives of those who come after us. This philosophy, often described as Cathedral Thinking, reflects the mindset of the great cathedral builders who worked with care and purpose, knowing their efforts would serve communities long beyond their lifetimes.

Few places embody that spirit more profoundly than Bower Chapel. For 25 years, it has stood as both a sanctuary and a symbol of what generosity can build.

## The Visionary

Edwin H. Bower, a former Moorings Park resident, was born in 1906 on his family's farm in Michigan. The youngest of five children, he came of age in a time defined by hardship and resilience. The Great Depression left a lasting imprint, shaping a lifelong philosophy: work hard, live modestly, value relationships, and never take prosperity for granted. Those who knew him often said he saw good fortune not simply as a gift—but as a responsibility to give back.

In his later years at Moorings Park, Ed sought a meaningful way to give back to the community he had come to love. He was the first to suggest the need for a chapel—not a grand structure, but a simple, intimate space for quiet prayer and reflection. What he envisioned was modest. What it became, through his generosity and the stewardship of his family, far exceeded anything he imagined.



## The Chapel

Planning began in the late 1990s, guided by a shared belief that a thriving community must nurture the whole person—mind, body, and spirit. With the leadership of his daughter, Marilyn Korest, and her husband, Alan, the vision for a non-denominational chapel began to take shape—one that would welcome all, regardless of background or belief.

Alan Korest brought a deep appreciation for architecture, music, and cultural spaces. He traveled extensively, drawing inspiration from chapels and cathedrals around the world, studying the elements that made them spiritually moving and timeless. Building upon Ed Bower's original vision, Alan helped expand the concept of the chapel into something far greater—a space that would not only serve as a sanctuary, but also as a destination for music and the arts.

With Ed's support, the project moved forward with extraordinary care and craftsmanship. Every detail—from the chapel's soaring architecture to its remarkable acoustics—was designed to uplift and inspire. On October 22, 2000, Bower Chapel was formally dedicated. Its handcrafted pipe organ, considered to be an instrument of international significance, quickly established the chapel as a home for music as much as for worship.

Concerts, recitals, and cultural programs soon became cherished traditions, drawing residents and guests together in shared experiences of beauty and connection. The story of the chapel's creation is beautifully chronicled in *The Sanctuary*, a book that captures the vision, craftsmanship, and devotion behind its design.

After Marilyn's passing, Alan later found love again with Dolly Bodick. The two shared a deep appreciation for community, travel, and the enduring impact of philanthropy. Dolly has thoughtfully honored the legacy Alan and Marilyn built together, holding space for the love they shared while celebrating Marilyn's passion for music, the arts, and giving back—values that remain woven into the fabric of the Southwest Florida community.

In June 2022, the chapel served as the setting for the memorial service of Alan Korest—a fitting tribute to a man whose leadership helped bring it to life.

Today, Dolly carries that commitment forward with remarkable care and intention. Through her leadership roles, including serving on the Bower Chapel Advisory Committee and as Resident's Council Campus President, she helps ensure the chapel remains a place of belonging and connection for all. She has also played a meaningful role in planning milestone celebrations, including the chapel's 25th anniversary, and shares its history through personal talks—keeping its story, and the people behind it, alive for future generations.

## A Living Legacy

Bower Chapel stands as a testament to the enduring power of vision and generosity. Its legacy lives in every concert, every wedding, every memorial, and every quiet moment of reflection. It lives in the memories created within its walls and in the community it continues to inspire.

Because meaningful giving is never just for today—it is for all the tomorrows to come.

“The chapel is more than a place—it’s where people come together in life’s most meaningful moments. It holds so many memories for our family and for this community, bringing comfort, connection, and peace to all who enter.”

• Dolly Bodick Korest



### **Honoring a Quarter Century of Inspiration**

In 2025, Moorings Park celebrated Bower Chapel’s 25th anniversary—honoring not only the building itself, but the people whose generosity shaped its story. Residents, families, and friends gathered to celebrate what many call the “soul of Moorings Park”, a place where music, memory, and meaning converge.

The anniversary also paid tribute to the philanthropic spirit that made the chapel possible. Leaders like Alan Korest exemplified the belief that true generosity is not measured by what we give today, but by the lives we touch tomorrow. During the month-long celebration’s closing concert, Dolly Bodick Korest announced a transformational gift in honor of Alan—continuing a legacy of vision, generosity, and enduring impact.

### **Bower Chapel reflects the heart of Moorings Park Communities:**

**A cultural treasure**, renowned for its exceptional acoustics and internationally significant handcrafted pipe organ

**A home for music**, hosting concerts, recitals, and performances that have become cherished traditions

**A place of remembrance**, where families gather to honor loved ones—including the service for Alan Korest

**A place of celebration**, where partners and families exchange wedding vows, marking new beginnings

**A sanctuary for reflection**, offering space for prayer, meditation, and personal peace

Together, these moments reflect Bower Chapel’s unique role as both a spiritual haven and a vibrant cultural center—one that continues to evolve with the communities it serves.

# A Record-Breaking Gala Season: Compassion, Connection, and Collective Impact

The 2025 gala season was nothing short of extraordinary! Thanks to the generosity of our residents, our three campuses came together to raise **\$1.7 million** for the **affordable housing initiative for partners**. Each contribution made a direct impact, bringing hope, stability, and opportunity to our valued team members. The joy, connection, and shared purpose at every event reflected the incredible power of our communities—proof that when donors like you unite, lives are truly transformed.

*“There is something truly exceptional about coming together and making affordable housing a reality.”*

• **Karen Schneider**  
Foundation Board Member and Grande Lake Gala Chair



## Cornerstone Society: Honoring Legacy Gifts

### A Legacy Rooted in Purpose

Joanne Wyss has long been guided by a simple principle: leave every situation better than you found it. After a 25-year career in strategic communications with McKinsey & Company, she brought her expertise to Naples, where she became a leader in the nonprofit community.



As a founder of Greater Naples Leadership and of Books for Collier Kids—an initiative that has provided more than two million books to underserved local children—Joanne’s impact is both profound and far-reaching. The generosity of Joanne and her late husband, Karl, has helped advance education, healthcare, and the performing arts in our community.

Through her generous \$500,000 planned gift to Moorings Park Foundation, supporting areas of greatest need and community grants, Joanne ensures her commitment to the community will continue for generations.

As a member of the Cornerstone Society, her legacy is reflected in its symbol—the tree: rooted in strength, grounded in stability, and reaching outward to touch lives for years to come.



Marcelo and Betty Alvarez  
 Paula Bannister  
 John and Fran Beamer  
 Michael Benigno  
 Jodi Bertholdt  
 Dolly Bodick Korest  
 Steve and Helen Brinkert  
 Clare Carragan  
 Henry and Caryl Cohen  
 Jerry Coomes  
 Susan Cope and Alan Horton  
 Al and Helen Febbo  
 Elliot Feinberg and Sandy Parker  
 Glen and Shirley Gronlund  
 Jack and Marcia Hall  
 Jim and Liz Jessee  
 Kayda and David Johnson  
 Gary and Helen Kaenzig  
 Linda Leatherbury  
 Dudley\* and Vee Lyons  
**Larry and Chuckie McPherson**  
 James Mines\*  
 Laurie Morss  
 Douglas and Baerbel Munson  
**Robert and Joyce Rankin**  
 David and Rena Rutstein  
 Ron and Patti Salvagio  
 Karl and Alice Sheffield\*  
 Peter and Anne Spears  
 Don Ullrich  
 Joanne Wyss

\*in memoriam  
 New 2025 members are in **bold**

## Orchid Society: Recognizing Extraordinary Generosity

Just as hummingbirds bring life to ecosystems through their gentle pollination, philanthropy breathes vitality into our community—sustaining the people, programs, and purpose that help it thrive. The Orchid Society celebrates this spirit of generosity, recognizing donors who have thoughtfully given or pledged \$50,000 or more to the Foundation.

Within the Orchid Society, each milestone reflects a deepening legacy of care. Donors whose cumulative giving reaches \$250,000 are recognized as Leaders—

individuals whose generosity help guide and strengthen our shared mission. At \$500,000, Landmark members are celebrated for the profound and lasting difference their support makes, shaping the future in meaningful and enduring ways. Gifts of \$1 million and above are honored with the Bower Award, the Foundation’s highest distinction, recognizing visionary philanthropy that leaves a lasting imprint on the lives of so many.



### The Bower Award

In honor of Edwin Bower, whose vision, generosity, and unwavering commitment set a standard for philanthropy at Moorings Park, the Bower Award recognizes donors whose extraordinary gifts of \$1 million or more shaped the heart and future of our communities.

This award celebrates those who, like Edwin, invest not only in buildings and programs, but in people—leaving a lasting legacy of care, connection, and opportunity that will inspire generations to come.

- **Edwin H. Bower**
- **Alan Korest Family**
- **John and Connie Rakoske**
- **Alice and Karl Sheffield**
- **Anonymous**

# Orchid Society:

## Celebrating Donors of \$50,000+



Marcelo and Betty Alvarez  
 Bill and Kathy Avery  
 Michael Benigno  
 Jodi Bertholdt  
 Rosemary Blankley  
 Warner Blow  
 Dolly Bodick Korest  
 Richard and Jane Borchers  
**Tony and Lorraine Bour**  
 Tom and Pat Brand  
 Doug and Nancy Campbell  
**Ray and Grace Ciccolo**  
 Susan Cope and Alan Horton  
 Gene and Anne Culler  
 Mary Cuthbertson  
 Art\* and Fairfield Dubois  
 Tom and Mariana Duncan  
 Robert and Connie Eaton  
 Ray and Alice Eshelman  
 William and Sandra Fennessy  
**Jim and Sandy Figge**  
 Jim and Cathy Fischer  
 Bob and Georgia Fisher  
 Robert Fisher and Kimberly Moss  
 Gene and Sue Frey  
 Sally Fritz  
 Mike and Bonnie Gaffney  
 Larry and Pat Gastreich  
 Barbara Glowacki  
 Irene Graham  
 Glen and Shirley Gronlund  
 Jack and Marcia Hall  
 Jim and Bettie Hall  
 Bob Hartsock  
 Barbara Hebeke  
 Tony and Hanna Hess  
 Burt and Ruth Holmes  
 John and Gail Hull  
 Bill and April Jennings

Jim and Liz Jessee  
 Annette Johns  
 Kayda and David Johnson  
 Gary Kauffman  
 Jerry and Julie Kerr  
 Len and Sally Koor  
 Steve and Beverly Koren  
 Susanne Kuhn  
 Lucy and Jack Kuhne  
 Christine Kurtz  
 David and Lynn Ladd  
 Linda Leatherbury  
 Bob and Barbara Levine  
 John and Veora Little  
 Wayne Lyon and Jan Lovins  
 Dudley\* and Vee Lyons  
 Jeanne Marani  
 Denis and Linda McCarthy  
 Betty McManus  
 David and Patricia McNicholas  
 Larry and Chuckie McPherson  
 John Morrison  
**Mark and Anne Nagan**  
 Robert and Mary Jo Naylor  
**Bob and Joy Neubert**  
 Mary Nice  
 Tom and Janet O'Connor  
 Doris Palmer  
 George Pappas and Bonnie Barker  
 John and Connie Rakoske  
 Robert and Joyce Rankin  
**Steve and Sue Reimer**  
 David and Elizabeth\* Richardson  
 John and Jerry Risk  
 David and Rena Rutstein  
**Ron and Patti Salvagio**  
 Ed Schefer  
 Patt Schneider  
 Ron and Karen Schneider

**Skip and Linda Schoenhals**  
**Carl and Daniele Schwarz**  
 Ed and Beth Selby  
**Bob Sheetz**  
 Karl and Alice Sheffield\*  
 Mitch Sill  
 Gail Sit  
 Ed\* and Maggie Smith  
 Jim Snediker  
 Janet Solot  
**Peter and Ann Spears**  
 Peggie Stine  
**Dick and Marie Stonesifer**  
**Bob and Linda Taylor**  
**Stuart Taylor\***  
 Irene Thompson  
 Bobbi Tolley  
**Carol Town**  
 Bob Transou  
 Maureen Trerice  
 Dee Turner  
**Hendrik and Hilda Verfaillie**  
 Rich Vitkus and Ann Allison Vitkus  
 Chuck and Joy Waterman  
 Gail Webster-Patterson  
 Guy and Sharon Wiebking  
 Van and Myra Williams  
 Larry and Barbara Wilson  
 Joanne Wyss  
 John and Marlene Yasinsky

\*in memoriam  
 New 2025 members are in **bold**

# 2025 Financials

## Charitable Giving and Impact • \$3,036,903

### Partner Support • \$337,332

Childcare Assistance .....	\$55,279
Scholarships .....	\$248,717
Other Support .....	\$33,336

### Community Support • \$701,500

Educational Grants .....	\$220,000
Community Grants .....	\$481,500

### Resident Support • \$1,998,071

Financial Assistance .....	\$142,863
Capital Projects & Programming .....	\$1,855,208

### Operating Expenses • \$463,858

For every dollar entrusted to Moorings Park Foundation, 88 cents go directly to impact—supporting initiatives like partner housing and community grants.

The remaining 12 cents sustain the foundation behind that impact, ensuring thoughtful stewardship, strong donor relationships, and the ability to grow our mission for years to come.

It’s a balance we are proud of—efficient, responsible, and built for lasting impact.

### Investing in Spaces That Care for People

Capital projects at Moorings Park Foundation are funded exclusively through restricted gifts designated for this purpose, ensuring these funds are used exactly as intended by the donor.

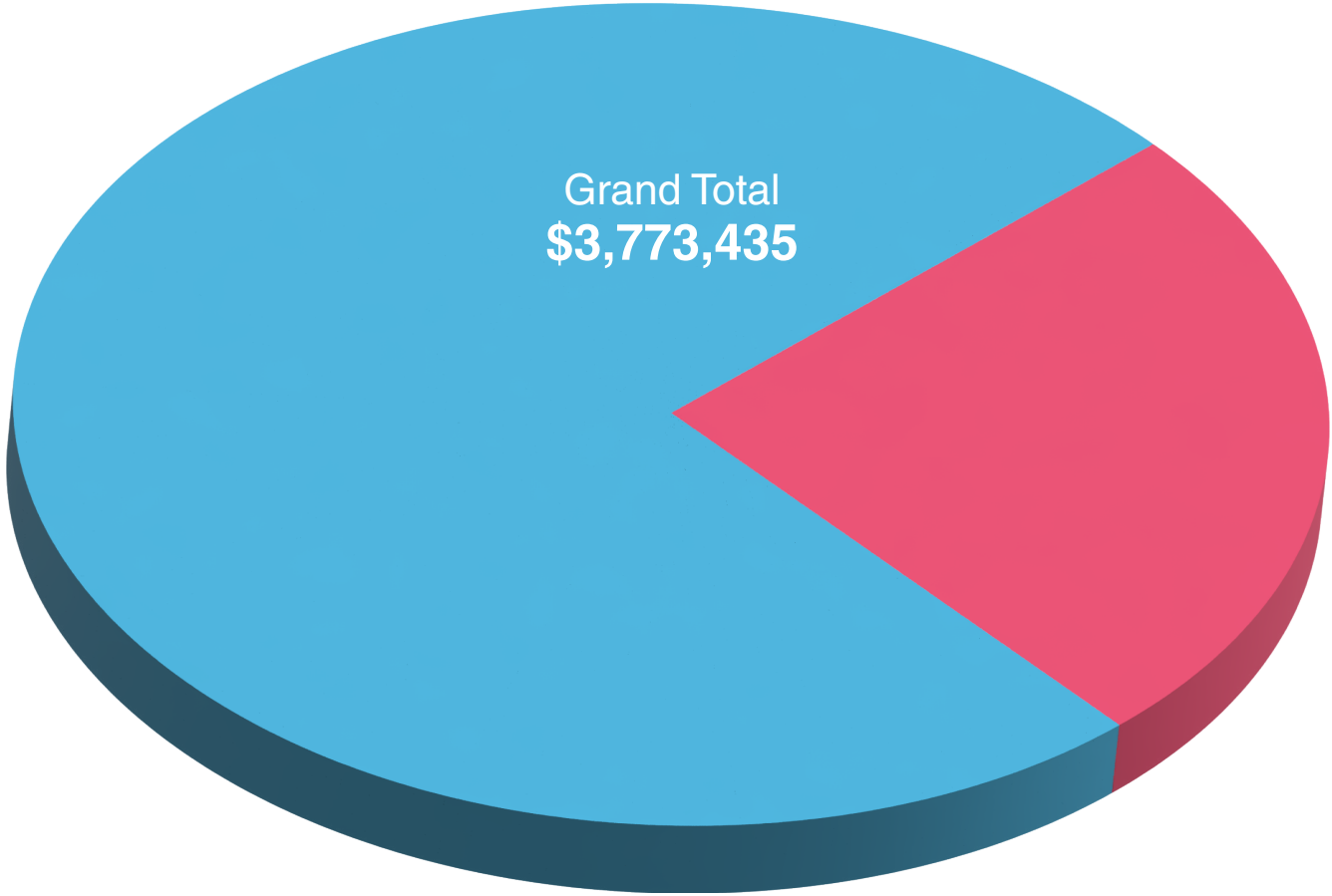
These investments create safe, welcoming, and thoughtfully designed environments that support the well-being, dignity, and daily experience of those we serve.

Perhaps most meaningfully, they are a visible reminder that this is a community where neighbors care for one another—where generosity quite literally shapes the places we call home.



Croquet Court at Moorings Park

## 2025 Contributions to Moorings Park Foundation:



**Unrestricted Contributions • \$950,152 (25.2%)**  
Unrestricted funding, often described as support for our greatest need, provides the flexibility to direct resources where they will have the most immediate and meaningful impact, allowing us to respond to emerging priorities and sustain essential programs.

**Restricted Contributions • \$2,823,283 (74.8%)**  
Restricted funding is designated for a specific purpose or program, ensuring a donor’s gift is applied exactly as intended to support a defined initiative or area of care.

### Restricted Funds:

- Capital Projects
- Community Grants
- Disaster Relief
- Educational Grants
- Friends of Art
- Friends of the Woodshop
- Johns Hopkins Fellows
- Partner Housing
- Partner Scholarships
- Partner Support
- Resident Support

# Ways to Give



Credit Card



Cash or Check



Stock or Securities



Wire Transfer



Qualified Charitable Distributions

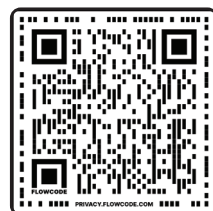


Donor Advised Fund



Planned Gifts

Scan this code to make a one-time gift or monthly recurring donation



**Foundation Staff** (left to right)  
Amberly Harris, Foundation Coordinator  
Jennifer Clark, Executive Director  
Georgia LeBlanc, Foundation Administrator



Thank you for a great year!



Created in honor of the Bower Chapel's 25th anniversary, this painting by Moorings Park resident Kris Paradis celebrates the chapel's enduring legacy of music, reflection, and community.



120 Moorings Park Drive • Naples, Florida 34105 • [Foundation.MooringsPark.org](http://Foundation.MooringsPark.org)