



We are pleased to present the  
**Annual Report of the Carl Angus DeSantis Foundation**  
for the fiscal year  
**2022-2023**

In our short two years of existence, the Carl Angus DeSantis Foundation has impacted 13 non-profit organizations serving Broward and Palm Beach County and beyond. We are making a difference and we've only just begun.

It is important to note that this year was especially poignant since we lost our founder in August. We know that Mr. D would be very proud of the positive impact that his success and generosity has made possible. His spirit guides our foundation.

Carl's heart remains at the forefront of our work. Our commitment to extending his legacy of generosity has only grown. Our founder believed in a hand up, not a handout. Mr. DeSantis believed in second chances and taking risks on ideas that make our world a better place.

It is critically important that Mr. D's spirit lives on so his memory can continue to inspire and help others.

At the Carl Angus DeSantis Foundation, we remain steadfast in our commitment to making a positive and lasting impact on our communities. Our mission--- deeply rooted in the legacy of our founder--- is to empower individuals and organizations to create meaningful change through education, entrepreneurship, and civic innovation.

Our financial strength, community partnerships, and the dedication of our team have been pivotal in our ability to make a difference.

We know that Carl would be proud!

In this report, you will find information on the impact of our grants and programs, and the stories of organizations that have benefited from our support. We are proud to share our progress with you.

Respectfully submitted,

William Milmoie  
Director

Jeff Perlman  
Director

Maritza Benitez  
Executive Director



Here's a capsule look at our grantees:



### **Second Chance Initiative- Creating Employment For Women In Early Recovery (when they are most vulnerable to a relapse)**

Second Chance is a Boca Raton based non-profit that offers women in recovery an opportunity to earn an income, hone new skills and plan their next move in life. We were moved by this organization's focus on helping clients move forward by offering a "hand up, not a handout", a key value of our founder Mr. DeSantis. Our gift will enable the Second Chance Initiative to purchase key equipment to help grow the organization's business, which in turn supports the jobs of their clients.



### **4 Kids of South Florida—A Holistic Answer**

This stellar non-profit serves children in crisis. The Carl Angus DeSantis Foundation provides funding to provide social and psychological services to help children who are in foster care. Our Foundation's support of 4Kids has enabled the organization to dramatically scale its operations in Palm Beach County where there is an acute need to help endangered children. 4Kids has a South County headquarters in CDS' Arbors building giving the organization reach into Palm Beach County. Our support of mental health services offers a lifeline to vulnerable children and helps foster families in their mission. Our support also solves a major flaw in the foster care system. In Florida, when foster children "age out" of the system at age 18 they are often left with no place to go and no help. The Foundation supports 4Kids' "Transitional Independent Living" program which helps these young adults develop the life skills necessary to live independently and thrive.



### **Mayo Clinic (Rochester, Mn., and Jacksonville)- Supporting World Class Research**

The Foundation is supporting important research into Alzheimer's Disease biomarkers at the Mayo Clinic's headquarters in Rochester and in Jacksonville. The key to a cure lies in understanding the markers that trigger Alzheimer's and dementia. We are supporting teams of researchers who are isolating these markers. If successful, the research could lead to early treatment and pharmacological solutions.





## **Indaba Foundation - Investing in South Africa's Next Generation; Sparking A Movement**

Our founder had a special affection for the people of South Africa. We have continued Mr. D's efforts by supporting the Indaba Foundation. Indaba has gained international recognition for its unique approach to breaking the cycle of poverty and ensuring that the next generation has opportunities to thrive. Indaba works with young mothers and trains them to be teachers. This benefits both the women of South Africa and their children. The model is yielding results and is being considered by several countries who wish to improve the lives of young children through early childhood education.



## **Max Plank Florida Institute- Unlocking the Mysteries of the Brain**

The Foundation has endowed a fellowship for a promising young neurologist at Max Planck in Jupiter, Florida. Dr. Nico Spiller works in two award-winning labs that are trying to expand our understanding of the brain so that we may cure and or prevent neurological disease. The computational neurological work being done by Dr. Spiller enables real time analysis of data that is shared with researchers internationally, hopefully cutting the time it takes to eliminate false starts and identifying promising paths of research.



## **EJS Project- An Alternative To The Streets; A Pathway To Leadership**

The Foundation has given a small but meaningful grant to the EJS Project, a Delray Beach based nonprofit that works with local teenagers on job skills, leadership projects and the soft skills it takes to succeed. Through community service projects and interactions with business and civic leaders, the EJS Project helps teens see alternatives for a more productive life.





## Achievement Center for Children and Families- Helping Children Reach Their Full Potential



This highly rated nonprofit has been providing critical early learning opportunities to the poorest children in our community for over 50 years. The Center believes in a holistic approach to breaking the cycle of poverty and despair by working with families who have “skin” in the game by paying what they can for services and signing a contract to be involved in their children’s education. The Achievement Center was founded 53 years ago to address challenges such as low-wage jobs, unemployment and limited access to nutritious food and health care. The center enables parents to seek and maintain employment while their children receive high quality and affordable care.

Children receive nutritious meals and snacks prepared by onsite chefs, which is essential to their health and ability to learn.



## Florida Alzheimer’s Center for Excellence at Florida Atlantic University- A Pioneering Effort



Governor DeSantis has launched an innovative statewide program to combat Alzheimer's. A first for Florida, the program offers social services and research opportunities and works to coordinate all the resources in the community under one umbrella. This is an important endeavor for families which are often lost when a loved one is diagnosed.

The Foundation teamed with other generous donors to become a leader in this effort which started with the recruitment of a nationally recognized neurologist.

## Rutgers University- Memorializing A Special Friendship Forever



The Foundation is proud to have endowed a scholarship named after Mr. DeSantis’ best friend, Jerry Kay. The E. Gerald Kay Scholarship in Nutrition will support the next generation of entrepreneurs pursuing careers in this important field. We worked with Mr. Kay’s family on the scholarship and researched Rutgers which has one of the finest nutrition programs in the nation.

## Bound for College—Blowing Away Barriers To A Better Future



We are proud to support this innovative non-profit that helps kids go to college.

A lack of academic support coupled with challenging financial circumstances, creates significant barriers to higher education, undermining the dreams of so many young people in our community.

Many students are first generation Americans seeking to become the first in their families to attend college. We believe these efforts will help break the cycle of poverty. Bound for College spends four years with students providing them with tutoring and valuable counseling services. The program uses highly rated teachers who are compensated for their time providing a win-win. Students benefit from the help and underpaid educators get an important source of extra income. The program is working in several local high schools with plans to offer more tutoring slots to students passionate about their future. Students must opt-in to this program and remain committed to their future. Again, a hand up, not a handout.



## Convoy of Hope- Meeting A Need In A Time of Tragedy



The Foundation partnered with Convoy of Hope to contribute to recovery efforts in Hawaii after the tragic fires that displaced families and upended lives.

### CATALYST AWARD- Celebrating Those Who Move Mountains

Steve Jobs called them the “crazy ones”, the unique people in our world who believe with every fiber of their beings that they can change the world.

That was Carl. He dreamed big dreams and made it happen. These are the people that change our world.

The Foundation created the Catalyst Award to honor and celebrate the transformational leaders in our community. The award honors individuals who exhibit Mr. DeSantis’ spirit and bias for action.

Our first Catalysts are Pastor Bill Mitchell of CityLead and Sgt. Danny Pacheco of Delray Kicks.

Bill Mitchell, until recently the senior pastor at Boca Community Church, founded CityLead which gathers a wide variety of community leaders once a month for educational lectures on business and life. In a divisive world, Pastor Mitchell has found a way to unite the community.

Sgt. Pacheco is a rising star in the Delray Beach Police Department who founded the program “Delray Kicks.”

In his off-hours, Pacheco and other officers play soccer with immigrant children who historically have avoided interaction with police officers. The program builds trust and friendships and enables officers to access a difficult population.

The program has garnered national attention. Pacheco is a passionate leader who is having a positive impact in neighborhoods once off limits to law enforcement. Our prize funds the program and other “Kids and Cops” initiatives which build trust and relationships.

