



**Carl Angus
DeSantis**
Foundation

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE & MANAGING DIRECTORS

In 2025, the Carl Angus DeSantis Foundation reached a new level of maturity, scale, and impact.

This year, we invested \$3,274,771 in grantmaking — our strongest single-year commitment since the foundation was created. These investments flowed directly into the hands of organizations doing exceptional work throughout Palm Beach and Broward counties. Since inception, CADF has now awarded \$10,479,771 in philanthropic resources to nonprofits working in Civic Innovation, Faith-based support, Health & Nutrition, and Leadership & Entrepreneurship. Thanks to our founder’s generosity we’ve only just begun.

As always, our guiding spirit remains the legacy of Carl Angus DeSantis. Carl believed in possibility. He believed that the right people, empowered with resources and encouragement, could change their lives and transform their communities. He believed in “wins”—large and small—and he believed in leaders who get up every day wanting to make a difference.

This year’s grantmaking reflects that ethos: bold bets, meaningful risks, multiyear commitments, and catalytic investments that strengthen institutions and lift up people.

We have learned, once again, that leadership is the secret sauce of progress. When we support strong, values-driven leaders—whether in education, health, youth development, or community building—we unlock transformation that lasts.

We want to thank our grantee partners for their heart, their courage, and their dedication. And we want to thank our Board for their steady guidance, thoughtful oversight, and unwavering belief in Carl’s vision of building people, building community, and building opportunity.

With gratitude,
Jeff Perlman & Maritza Benitez



MISSION & VISION

Mission

To support and grow leaders who have the potential to make our community and our world a better place.

Vision

To be a catalyst — a connector — a force for transformation by elevating people and organizations who lift their communities.

Review of 2025 of Grantees

Total amount granted: \$ 3,274,771.22

Max Planck 5yr (YR3)	\$75,000.00
Northend Rise 3yr (YR1)	\$100,000.00
Community Classroom Project	\$25,000.00
George Snow Scholarship Fund	\$300,000.00
Suits for Seniors	\$25,000.00
Boca Helping Hands	\$75,000.00
Take Stock in Children 5yr (Yr2)	\$340,000.00
South Florida YMCA	\$400,000.00
SOS Children’s Villages	\$50,000.00
CityHouse	\$25,000.00
Broward College Pledge2Success	\$100,000.00
4KIDS 2yr (YR1)	\$350,000.00
Center for Family Services	\$30,000.00
EJS Project (3yr grant) Yr2	\$50,000.00
1909 (entrepreneurial incubator)	\$60,000.00
Roots and Wings	\$25,000.00
HabCenter Boca Raton	\$120,000.00
Delray Citizens for Delray Police	\$25,000.00
Education Foundation Palm Beach County	\$75,000.00
Place of Hope	\$125,000.00
Miracle League of Palm Beach County	\$25,000.00



Bound for College	\$80,000.00
Hannah's Home	\$25,000.00
Broward Partnership	\$125,000.00
Palm Beach School for Autism	\$50,000.00
AD Henderson School	\$85,000.00
Achievement Center for Children & Families	\$365,000.00
Citylead	\$25,000.00
Florida Pre-Paid (supporting new CADF scholarship program)	\$39,771.22
Catalyst	\$80,000.00

Grants By Pillar Fiscal 2025

Civic Innovation	\$1,240,000.00
Faith-Based	\$550,000.00
Health	\$595,000.00
Leadership	\$889,771.22
	\$3,274,771.22

Total Given Since Inception

Civic Innovation	\$2,115,000.00
Faith	\$1,350,000.00
Health	\$5,415,000.00
Leadership	\$1,599,771.22
	\$10,479,771.22



IMPACT STORIES

While we can proudly point to impact from **each** of our grantee partners, we'd like to highlight seven "Impact Stories" for 2025.

1. Take Stock in Children — Changing the Trajectory of a Generation

Our multi-year commitment continues to provide scholarships, mentors, and stability to students who need it most. The \$340,000 allocation in 2025 represents one of our strongest bets on the future. Dozens of students now have a postsecondary path that would not exist without this support.

2. Habitat Center Boca Raton — Creating Dignity Through Work

HabCenter continues to be one of the quiet engines of goodness in Palm Beach County. Our \$120,000 grant strengthens their workforce and life-skills programming for adults with disabilities. Their clients often call the center "a second home." We are proud to help keep that home thriving.

3. George Snow Scholarship Fund — Removing Barriers

With a \$300,000 grant, we expanded our partnership with one of the region's most respected scholarship organizations. From housing stipends to emergency funding, Snow supports students in a holistic, high-touch way that aligns perfectly with Carl's belief that opportunity is everything. Our scholarship, for the first time in Snow Fund history, creates opportunities for students seeking vocational training. This enables the Snow Fund to offer all students a path. The program has proven to be very popular with students as more opt for careers in the trades.

4. 4KIDS – Strengthening Families, One Home at a Time

Our first-year investment of \$350,000 in the 4KIDS multi-year grant is already producing visible, meaningful outcomes. 4KIDS works at the intersection of foster care, prevention, and family stability — arguably one of the most difficult landscapes in the nonprofit sector.

What distinguishes 4KIDS is the depth of their work. Their model surrounds families with counselors, mentors, case managers, and life-skills teams who walk beside children and caregivers from crisis to stability. In 2025, our grant supported:

- Recruitment and training of new foster families

- Transitional programs for youth aging out of care

- Case management for families at risk of losing housing or custody

This work reflects Carl's belief that when you invest in people early, you can change an entire lifetime. Because of 4KIDS, dozens of children in Palm Beach and Broward counties



avoided placement disruption, found permanent homes, and experienced the kind of love and stability every child deserves. The winning formula is the faith-based philosophy infused through every part of the program.

5. ACCF – Lifting Up Families and Breaking the Cycle of Poverty

Our \$365,000 grant to the Achievement Centers for Children & Families (ACCF) represents one of the most strategic anti-poverty investments of 2025. ACCF is a Delray Beach institution — a place where children learn, families are supported, and communities rise together. This grant proved to be crucial since it enabled the program to survive state and federal cuts.

In 2025, CADF’s investment helped expand:

- High-quality early childhood education
- Afterschool and summer learning programs
- Mental health services for children and parents
- Family stabilization programs including food, rent, and employment support

What makes ACCF an anchor institution is its philosophy: wraparound support works. When a child gets quality education, a parent gets workforce help, and a family gets stabilized, the entire neighborhood benefits.

This is “root cause philanthropy” in action — the kind we aspire to practice. Long-term opportunity. Multi-generational change. Real pathways out of poverty.

6. Hannah’s Home – A Sanctuary for Mothers and New Beginnings

Our \$25,000 investment in Hannah’s Home in 2025 supported one of the most tender, emotionally resonant missions in our region: offering a safe, loving, faith-centered home for pregnant women and young mothers facing crisis.

At Hannah’s Home, mothers receive:

- A stable and nurturing place to live
- Counseling and mental health support
- Parenting education
- Life-skills training
- Pathways to education and employment



The outcomes speak to something we believe deeply: when you lift up a mother, you lift up her child — and you lift up generations.

In 2025, our grant helped increase capacity, strengthen counseling services, and ensure mothers had the wraparound support needed to build new lives. Many arrive frightened and uncertain; many leave confident, hopeful, and ready to build stable futures for their children.

This is the kind of deeply human, deeply moral work that carries forward the heart of our mission.

7. 1909 – Empowering the Next Generation of Creators and Entrepreneurs

Our \$60,000 investment in 1909 helped fuel one of the region’s most exciting ecosystems for creators, innovators, and young entrepreneurs. Named after the year Palm Beach County was founded, 1909 is built on a simple but powerful philosophy: talent is everywhere, but opportunity is not.

The organization provides:

- Coworking and creative studios
- Startup incubator programs
- Entrepreneur coaching and mentorship
- Community events that build connections and confidence

In 2025, our grant enabled 1909 to expand its support for early-stage founders, many of whom lack access to traditional capital or networks. The ripple effects are enormous. Entrepreneurs grow into job creators. Creatives become community builders. Young leaders find their voice.

This is a classic Carl DeSantis investment: bet on people with heart, hustle, and ideas — and watch them change the world.

1909 embodies that ethos, helping build a future where entrepreneurship is accessible, inclusive, and vibrant.



LESSONS LEARNED OR REINFORCED IN 2025

1. Multi-year commitments work. (With the right partners)

They provide stability to nonprofits and help them plan, hire, and scale.

2. Leadership is a force multiplier.

When we invest in leaders with vision and integrity, the ripple effects are enormous.

3. The gulf between wealth and poverty is growing, especially in our region.

This drives home Carl's belief that opportunity must be deliberately created and intentionally shared.

4. Data matters — but so does instinct.

Carl believed in taking chances on people and ideas he believed in. We continue to blend measurable outcomes with intuitive, human-centered investments. Carl's "feel" for people drives us every day. Before we recommend funding opportunities to the board we ask a simple question: "Are these Carl's kind of people?"

Looking Ahead

We write this letter already amid fiscal 2026.

We have added two Community Impact Officers to assist us in identifying, evaluating and managing our growing portfolio as we seek to make a difference in two large counties.

Our goal since formation was to be an extraordinary foundation befitting the legacy and spirit of our founder.

"I'm not in this for cracker jack prizes," he wrote about Celsius in the early days. And that sums up Mr. D's philosophy. Aim high, change the world, disrupt the status quo and make your mark. We remain committed to building a Foundation that does that and more, as Carl would say.