



**VGCC
FOUNDATION**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Agenda

February 18, 2026

9:30 a.m. – Club Board Room

- I. Call Meeting to Order and Determine Quorum
- II. Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting on February 19, 2025
- III. President's Report
- IV. Treasurer's Report
- V. Program Reports
 - A. Grants
 - B. Scholarships
- VI. Approval of Slate of 2026-27 Board of Directors:
Reelected By Acclamation: *Rick Brann, Carolyn McKinney*
Returning Elected Members: *Bob Gilcrest, John Murphy, Nita Robertson, Karen Stamatakos, Diana Tremblay*
Returning Appointed Members: *Roxanne Baker, Joan Kelly Hall*
- VII. Comments
- VIII. Adjournment

Organizational Meeting for the 2026-27 Board of Directors immediately following.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Minutes

February 19, 2025

I. Call Meeting to Order and Determine Quorum

Meeting commenced at 9:30 a.m.

Board members present: Rick Brann, Carolyn McKinney, Don Richardson, Nita Robertson, Karen Stamatakos, Michael Stamatakos

Board members absent: Bob Gilcrest, John Murphy, Diana Tremblay

II. Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting on February 21, 2024

Motion to approve made and seconded; passed unanimously

III. President's Report

Report accepted as presented by President Karen Stamatakos

IV. Treasurer's Report

Report accepted as presented by Treasurer Rick Brann

V. Program Reports

A. Grants - *Report accepted as presented by Peggy Jarvie, Cycle 20 Committee Chair*

B. Scholarships - *Report accepted as presented by Sherry Borgsdorf, Foundation Administrator*

VI. Approval of Slate of 2025-26 Board of Directors:

Reelected By Acclamation: *John Murphy, Karen Stamatakos, Diana Tremblay*

Returning Elected Members: *Rick Brann, Robert Gilcrest, Carolyn McKinney, Nita Robertson*

Returning Appointed Members: *Don Richardson, Michael Stamatakos*

Motion to approve made and seconded; passed unanimously

VII. Comments – *None*

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

The 2025-26 Board of Directors then convened for its Organizational Meeting.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 18, 2026

President's Report

After 20 years of VGCC members giving beyond our gates, I'm thrilled to report your Board has approved the following charitable giving totals through 2025:

- \$1,205,144 dollars funded
- 395 grants awarded
- 83 organizations impacted

There's a focus on numbers in this report, throughout the grant review process, and at our Board meetings. We measure our success by how much money is raised and how many grants are awarded. But our purpose is so much smaller AND bigger than that. It's the impact we have on any given day to a single person who needs a helping hand; a child who doesn't go to bed hungry, insuring a person gets medicine they desperately need, helping a family avoid the tipping point from unexpected expenses. These are only a few examples of what we make possible. We will never know how many people the Foundation has impacted, it's impossible to count, but I'm sure it's a number to be proud of.

There's no better way to see the result of one year of fundraising, than to attend the Grant Awards Breakfast on Wednesday, March 18th at 8:30am. Hear inspiring stories from grant recipients about the important work they do in our community and that we help fund.

Sunday, March 22nd is another important date. We are hosting our annual fundraiser – "March Madras." An evening of tried-and-true games, good food and friendship to support the next round of grants.

As we enter a new decade of giving, I'd like to establish a new goal for the VGCC community. Like the Olympic athletes who train for years in their quest for a medal, this goal sets its sights on reaching \$2 Million dollars in total grant awards by 2032. It will require an average of \$133,000 in grants awarded annually for the next six years. I think this number is within reach if we:

- Continue to push for increased member support of the annual appeal
- Fine tune and expand fundraising efforts
- Solicit business and corporate sponsors

This is a long-term goal that we reach by a sustained, six-year effort. We have been very close to the target amount of \$133,000 the last two years. 2032 happens to be another Olympic year, it's the Summer Games in Australia. If we hit the mark, we can award the community a gold medal. If we get close, we will have to settle for silver. If the stock market is unfavorable and

we don't get the influx of investment returns that helped us achieve the first million, we will settle for bronze. But with a committed and hardworking Board and an inspired membership, I think we can do this.

It takes a village, and I am so grateful for ours. I want to thank every member who supported the Foundation by making a direct donation, attended fundraising events or gave their time to insure thoughtful distribution of funds through the grant review process. Big thanks to the Grants Committee for their hard work reviewing 47 grant applications and conducting 25 site visits. This is the heart and soul of our mission. To my colleagues on the Board, I acknowledge and appreciate your continued service to support the VGCC Foundation. Let's keep up the good fight.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Stamatakos, President



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Treasurer's Report

2025 was another successful year with \$115,000 in Grant funds awarded. Both donations and returns on Foundation assets increased over the prior year. The returns on Foundation assets served to fund approximately six of the total of 25 grants awarded this year.

As in prior years, donations from members were supplemented by event proceeds of \$18,000 from the Groundhog Games fundraiser, \$2,600 from the Kentucky Derby Dash and \$1,300 from a new event, Closet to Cause.

The Bleu George Scholarship Fund continues to award scholarships to outstanding local students. A Scholarship of \$2,000 was awarded in 2025.

The attached schedule summarizes the past year's activity and current funds in the various Foundation accounts.

The Foundation Board continues to work diligently to ensure the long- term viability of the Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Brann, Treasurer



2025 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Gulf Coast Community Foundation Funds:

General Fund		Endowment Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$ 237,611	Beginning Balance	\$ 172,226
Additions:		Additions:	
Contributions	\$ 93,280	Contributions	
Dividends/Interest	\$ 5,647	Dividends/Interest	\$ 1,707
Realized Gain/(Loss)	\$ 1,890	Realized Gain/(Loss)	\$ 224
Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	\$ 20,212	Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	\$ 24,857
Disbursements:		Disbursements:	
Grants	\$ (132,368)	Grants	\$ -
Admin Expenses	\$ (1,771)	Admin Expenses	\$ (1,407)
Ending Balance	\$ 224,501	Ending Balance	\$ 197,607

Trust Operating Account:

2025 Operating Expenses	\$ 2,555
Year End Balance	\$ 8,845

2025 Fundraisers:

	<u>Groundhog Games</u>	<u>Derby Dash</u>	<u>Closet to Cause</u>
Gross Proceeds	18,290	2,660	1,373
Expenses	-	-	-
Net Proceeds	\$ 18,290	\$ 2,660	\$ 1,373

Notes: General Fund Ending Balance will be reduced by \$115,000 in February for Cycle 21 Grants.
Balances shown above do not include Bleu George Scholarship Funds

Bleu George Scholarship Funds

Total Contributions in 2025	\$ 8,515
Total Scholarships Awarded	\$ 2,000
Year End Balance	\$ 27,585



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 18, 2026

Grant Program Report

Cycle 21 Grants Committee

Andrea Gielen, Chair	Peg Berry	Elaine Fischer	Karen Sullivan
Don Urbanowicz, Vice Chair	Teri Checki	Jo Murphy	Jerry Thompson
Lynette Ashby	Susan Crenshaw	Kathy Rogers	Kris Weber

Awards

The Cycle 21 Grants Program awarded 25 grants to local nonprofit organizations for a total of \$115,000. All but six were for the maximum of \$5,000. These grants will support service programs addressing community needs in education, housing, nutrition, life skills, literacy, among others. See attached list.

Work of the Committee

The Committee's work was made possible by Sherry Borgsdorf, Foundation Administrator who facilitated our progress and provided all needed materials. The Committee had four meetings (October 9th, November 20th, January 15th, and February 19th) with Zoom options for anyone not on campus.

The 12 members of the Grants Committee reviewed a total of 47 proposals, assigning 1-3 points for each of four criteria: Use of Funds; Community Need; Successful Outcomes; and Service Area. Each proposal was then ranked by its total average score.

This year's proposals ranged from 22.75 to 35.75, out of a possible 12-36. The approved funding level allowed us to potentially fund 25 proposals with scores of 32.50 and above. This work was completed between the October and November meetings.

To determine the Committee's recommendations about funding, we made site visits to the 25 selected programs between the November and January meetings. Committee members identified a site visit partner for their visits, using their own network or a list of residents who had previously expressed interest. See attached list.

Teams of one Committee member and one non-member from VGCC then made site visits to each of these 25 top scoring organizations (2-3 organizations per team). A brief site visit summary for each organization was submitted to the Committee and discussed at its January meeting. The Committee recommended funding all 25 organizations, and the Foundation approved the funding at its January 21st meeting.

At our February 19th meeting, we will be discussing plans for the March 18th celebratory breakfast at which the funded programs present their services to the VGCC community.

Final Thoughts

There were two substantive thoughts from our work this year, which may be useful for future committee work.

First, the Committee sought guidance from the Foundation on potential conflicts of interest for members who may be volunteering with an organization that has submitted a proposal. Such guidance should be incorporated into Committee member orientation at its first meeting.

Second, the Committee expressed interest and willingness to amplify its role as “ambassadors” for the Foundation. To that end, we invited the Foundation’s President Karen Stamatakos and Membership Chair Nita Robertson to our final meeting in February to explore how next year’s Committee might address this.

The Committee’s continuing success and the Foundation’s support are highly valued by everyone who has volunteered their time and energy since its inception 21 years ago. This year’s grant committee is no exception. Members expressed this sentiment in myriad ways. We shared comments such as, “all the proposals are worthy,” the site visit was “eye-opening,” and “inspiring.”

Committee members suggested ways that VGCC could increase service activities and opportunities, such as special collection drives, a repeat of the community fair, and increased advertising to VGCC of volunteer opportunities in the community. As we move forward, the Grants Committee looks forward to continuing to support the Foundation and VGCC residents’ participation in “giving beyond our gates.”

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Gielen
Cycle 21 Grants Committee Chair

CYCLE 21 GRANTS APPROVED JANUARY 21, 2026

1	All Faiths Food Bank	5,000	Back Pack Program: Address critical issue of childhood food insecurity; provide 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches plus snacks for 1,000 backpacks
2	Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice	5,000	Empowering Homeless Families at Our Mother's House: Transitional housing for single moms & kids age 0-3
3	Child Protection Center	5,000	Educating Community to Keep Kids Safe: Support for Personal Safety & Community Awareness Program
4	Children's Guardian Fund	4,000	Normalcy & Enrichment: Support the needs of children & young adults in foster and state care
5	Circus Arts Conservatory	5,000	Arts-Integrated Science Curriculum Program: Teach physics principles to South County 5th graders
6	Family Promise of South Sarasota Cou	5,000	Family Emergency Funds: As needed by client families for childcare, car repairs, auto insurance, counseling, shelter, rent, etc.
7	Florida Center for Early Childhood	2,500	Early Intervention, Lasting Impact: Developmental therapy for children in need
8	Forty Carrots	5,000	Partners in Play: Provide developmentally appropriate activities for parents and kids at both Venice libraries
9	Good Sam Health Services	4,500	Provide prescription medication for uninsured and financially struggling members of community
10	Habitat for Humanity of South Sarasot	5,000	Windows & doors for the Torres family home being built on Hobart St. in Venice
11	Haven	2,500	Culinary Life Skills Program at its Adult Day Training South Campus in Venice for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities
12	Kiwanis of North Port Foundation	2,500	Peanut Butter, Jelly & a Book to bridge the food insecurity gap between the time school gets out and the library begins its free lunch program
13	Laurel Civic	5,000	Kid's Café: Provide hot nutritious meals for low income, at-risk kids in Afterschool Academic Program
14	Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota	5,000	Teacher Edition books for volunteers to ensure a consistent, high-quality learning experience for adults seeking to improve English proficiency
15	Mote Marine Laboratory	4,000	Marine science explorations for students at Laurel Civic who may otherwise lack access to the C-STEM program
16	Mothers Helping Mothers	5,000	Provide struggling families in South County with baby equipment/supplies through their mobile relief trailer
17	North Port Meals on Wheels	5,000	Meals delivered to seniors and homebound individuals in North Port
18	On the Spot Aid	5,000	Outreach support for mobile unit that provides essential medical care/supplies to unhoused individuals
19	Pregnancy Solutions	5,000	Prenatal services and parenting education program
20	Safe Children Coalition	5,000	Schoolhouse Link Housing Assistance Program: provide rental aid and support services to unaccompanied homeless youth enrolled in school
21	Twig	5,000	Supply clothing/shoes/accessories for children in foster care
22	Venice Area Mobile Meals	5,000	Free meals delivered to Venice residents in need
23	Venice Lions Club Foundation	5,000	Two new cameras used for screening underserved populations who may not have insurance or regular access to optometrists
24	Warehouse Venice	5,000	New badge printer for Drug-Free Youth Program empowering youth and raising awareness regarding impact of drug/alcohol/nicotine use
25	Womens Resource Center	5,000	Scholar Program: Provide two postsecondary educational scholarships to South County clients based on individual needs

115,000



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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 18, 2026

Scholarship Program Report

2025 Scholarship Committee

MGA

Bruce Rice

WGA-18

Glenda MacKeen

WGA-9

Joanne Duffy

Couples

Karl Reuter

For 2025, our fourth year of scholarship giving, we received one application from the only Venice High School senior on the Boys Golf Team. There were no seniors participating on the Girls Golf Team that school year.

The Scholarship Committee recommended Mason Umbrell for a \$2,000 scholarship; on April 16, the Board approved a grant award in that amount to Rotary Futures College Resource Center for distribution to the student.

I would like to thank the golf associations for their continued support and participation in our fourth round of scholarship awards.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Borgsdorf
Foundation Administrator