

THE JOURNEY *home*



**2023** impact report



neighbors helping neighbors



The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step." —Lao Tzu



HOME SWEET *home*





Dear Friends of FISH,

*The journey home after Hurricane Ian has been long and challenging for all of us.*

But as we continue to navigate obstacles, endure bumps in the road, and search for new ways to keep moving forward, we've found the **road to recovery is also paved with good things—hope, renewal, and resilience.** FISH remains committed to helping all of our neighbors in making their way back to the islands we love and call home.

We cannot stress enough how proud we are of our FISH staff, volunteers, community members and partners who have raised the bar for what **neighbors helping neighbors** means. Without our supporters from around the world, we would not have been able to provide the necessary resources to help our islands in the recovery process. We've maximized your goodwill to aid those who have suffered loss and are in need of financial and other assistance due to Ian.

While we all continue finding our way back, our team is working tirelessly to identify individuals and families with unmet needs and providing case management to prioritize how those needs will be met. Along with our new **Long-Term Recovery Program**, we continue to offer traditional services focused on **our four major pillars—Food Programs, Island Based Education, Social & Senior Services, and Helping Hands** to meet 'blue sky' needs. FISH is here, in clear or stormy skies, as YOUR social service organization.

Maintaining a presence on the islands with a location that offers wrap-around services to those we serve is critical. We continue to explore necessary repairs and potential mitigation plans for our own home—the FISH Walk-In Center—that was heavily damaged by Ian. While we hope to begin repairs soon, **we are grateful to be able to carry on at our new ancillary location next door.** Eventually we will create a one-stop shop offering a welcoming setting to serve local families and house all programs that address immediate and long-term needs.

Because of you, our neighbors helping neighbors organization is stronger than ever. Your kindness, compassion and commitment to our community allows us to provide a road map for so many neighbors who are just beginning or still continuing their journey home. **We are thankful to be on this journey with you and look forward to what the future holds for our community.**

With gratitude,

Jim Metzler, Board Chair

Maggi Feiner, President & CEO



BUILDING

# *new* WAYS TO HELP



## long-term **RECOVERY**

Hurricane Ian changed the landscape of our islands in many ways. *It even changed the role FISH plays in the lives of our neighbors.*

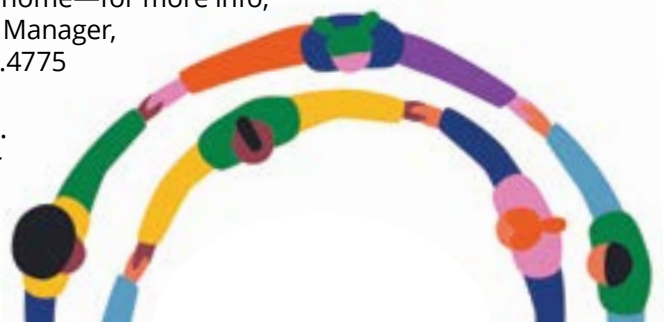
Soon after the storm, FISH stepped into our *newest central role* as the community's **long-term recovery agent**, laying the groundwork and coordinating post-disaster information and activities for dozens of agencies offering key services. This has included coordinating with county, state and federal government to get the right services to islanders with integrity and speed.

We have constructed new ways to help our neighbors as they continue the long journey toward recovery. Today most of that work focuses on *helping residents and the islands' workforce to rebuild their homes and lives in a variety of ways* including:

- bringing mental and emotional support to people who need it in partnership with St. Michael's Church and experts from SalusCare, Project H.O.P.E. and more
- collaborating with the United Way Gifts-in-Kind Program to distribute much-needed home furnishings, materials and supplies for rebuilding and while managing complex logistics
- forging critical local partnerships like the **Tool Shed Program** with the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary
- offering a **Long-term Recovery Application** for homeowners seeking *financial assistance up to \$15,000* to rebuild or repair storm damage to their island home—for more info, call FISH Disaster Case Manager, Nitza Lopez at 239.472.4775



Ian changed everything. It has made us stronger and more resilient. *And that resiliency is the key to recovery.*







a moving tale of neighbors  
literally helping neighbors

In 2023, **FISH purchased the former Gene's Books**—next door to its current location—and began writing the next chapter of local service. Gene's Books moved to the Periwinkle Way neighborhood in 2019 after nearly a decade in operation. Sadly, Hurricane Ian pummeled the building and the business, prompting it to close. **As strong supporters of FISH, the bookstore's owners loved the idea of FISH expanding onto its site and preserving the bookstore's legacy.**

FISH immediately began renovating the building, and has already accomplished our first goal of moving the food pantry there. **Eventually, both neighboring buildings will host current and future FISH programs.** But for now, *here's where you can find us:*

**FISH HEADQUARTERS**

**2422 Periwinkle Way**

**Staff Office Hours**  
Mon-Fri, 8a-4p

**Food Pantry Hours**  
Mon-Wed-Fri, 10a-3p  
Tues-Thurs, 10a-7:30p

**FURNITURE  
DISTRIBUTION**

**2430 Periwinkle Way**

for the latest info, email  
[merari@fishofsancap.org](mailto:merari@fishofsancap.org)

**MENTAL HEALTH SESSIONS**

**St. Michael's—2304 Periwinkle Way**

**Individual therapy opportunities  
with SalusCare in the library of  
St. Michael's Church, main building**

for meeting times and to schedule,  
email [erika@fishofsancap.org](mailto:erika@fishofsancap.org)

A NEW

*chapter*







# food PROGRAMS



*We never thought we would need help putting food on our table, but Ian changed everything."*

"Karla"—whose name has been changed for privacy purposes—moved to Sanibel with her husband and daughter two years before Hurricane Ian hit. Running their own business, they had always been able to make ends meet, but with the extra expenses involved in replacing necessities for their very livelihood that were lost in the storm, having enough money left each week for groceries became a challenge like never before. **Enter the FISH food pantry.** *"With a growing child, not being able to afford the basics is devastating. The FISH food pantry—even with limitations for much of the year due to their own storm damage—has been such a lifesaver in helping us get back on our feet! They truly go above and beyond to help in every way possible."*





The Food Pantry has long been a vital FISH service. *In many ways, it is where our own journey began over 40 years ago.* Today, **FISH receives requests daily** for food assistance from island residents and workers struggling to afford the skyrocketing cost of groceries, particularly since Ian. Once qualified by FISH, neighbors are able to shop the pantry for supplemental grocery items. Each year, we distribute **hundreds of thousands of pounds of food** through the pantry program, and we are committed to carrying on that tradition going forward in our new home.



## obstacles along the way

**2023 was a year of Food Pantry challenges and changes.** After Ian, our severely damaged building had no electric or water. This meant limited pantry hours and tight distribution windows for perishables. We also faced limited product availability. *Prior to Hurricane Ian, FISH received products from numerous partners as well as local food drives and community donations.* While Harry Chapin and the Midwest Food Bank were able to continue providing after Ian's landfall, others fell off due to their own displacement and damages sustained from the storm. Keeping the pantry stocked—with high demand and a sharp increase in qualified users—has been a challenge. **But we are up for it.** *We continue working to find new resources, grow programs, and keep items on our shelves, despite bumps in the road.*



Over the past year, we've seen firsthand how rising food prices coupled with disaster-related expenses is affecting islanders. Many pantry users have faced unexpected out-of-pocket costs to remediate or repair homes. To help combat these obstacles, **FISH continues to offer a variety of additional food programs** including our kid's Backpack Program, Meals-by-FISH delivery for senior or housebound individuals, and Holiday Food Baskets.



## moving forward

We are thankful for our late 2023 relocation of our Food Pantry to our new space next door in what was once Gene's Books. *Out of disaster rose a beautiful new Food Pantry space that will allow us to better accommodate the growing needs we face.*





# ISLAND BASED *education*

Education is a life-long journey. Providing information and opportunities for learners of all ages is an important piece of our wrap-around service. Equipping and empowering neighbors to learn and grow—whether through informational workshops and activities, awarding scholarship funds, or offering classroom supplies and resources—paves the way to a stronger community.



*I couldn't do it on my own. Thanks to FISH, my kids have the tools they need to learn and thrive in school."*

"Jess" is a single mom of three elementary age kids. Although she works full time on island, finances are tight and finding extra money to cover back-to-school supplies each year is a challenge. **FISH provided new backpacks for each of her children, packed with all the necessary supplies to begin the school year.** *"It's amazing to see their confidence grow just from knowing they have what they need. Thank you, FISH, for giving both me and my kids a jump start on a great education."*





## children's tutoring scholarships

FISH offers financial assistance for families with children who can benefit from one-on-one or group tutoring. Parents and the child's teacher may identify a tutor that best fits the child's needs and FISH will work with the family to offset the cost partially or entirely.

## adult scholarships

Our adult scholarship program assists those living and working on the islands in furthering their education for more stable jobs and brighter futures. FISH scholarships help open doors for neighbors to gain new skills and credentials to make positive career changes.

## workshops

Through our network of non-profit and business partners in Southwest Florida, FISH is proud to educate on topics ranging from health and wellness to finance courses. We listen to the needs, and responsively bring activities, information and experts to our community at no cost.





# SOCIAL & *Senior* SERVICES



*I cannot praise FISH enough for everything they do for me and others."*

"Heidi" has been living on Sanibel for many years and is **a happy participant in several of the programs FISH offers for island seniors.** She no longer works and lives modestly with social security being her only source of income.

Heidi is a participant in the **Meals-by-FISH** program—a service that provides one hot, nutritious meal per day, up to 5 days/week, including extras for the weekend. *"FISH helps me with the cost, since I am on a fixed income. For that, I am truly thankful."*

She has also received household items through the **FISH Furniture Distribution** program to replace some of what she lost in Hurricane Ian. She uses the **Food Pantry** and enjoys **Weekly Visits** from FISH volunteers who bring her water and supplemental snacks. In addition, Heidi regularly attends the **Friendly Faces Luncheon** and receives an occasional **Smile Box**, which always 'brightens her day'. For the 2023 winter holiday, Heidi was added to the **Sponsor a Senior** gift program designed to bring holiday cheer with personalized gifts, specifically requested by the participant. *"The much-needed gifts I received for the holiday were perfect. It made me feel seen and heard. Erika and the rest of the staff at FISH really care about us older people."*





FISH is keenly focused on issues pertaining to island seniors, including mobility, isolation and loneliness. It is our goal to feed both physical and emotional needs to help seniors remain healthy, independent, engaged, and aging in place with dignity. With a dedicated Senior Services Director, FISH provides care, connectedness and numerous programs.



## hurricane preparedness

Helping seniors prepare for hurricane season—with packets including up-to-date disaster information—is a long-standing top priority. We work with islanders to create a storm plan, ensure they know when to put their plan into action, and follow up after a storm. **In 2023, FISH distributed 745 Hurricane Packets.**



## home health resources & daily reassurance

FISH offers a list of home care providers ranging from RNs to companions. We provide initial background checks for extra peace of mind. Additionally, our Daily Reassurance and Visitation Program pairs FISH volunteers with seniors for a scheduled call or visit, to check in quickly or chat. **FISH made 2,983 reassurance calls and 124 home visits last year.**

## medical equipment

For islanders with mobility issues, those recovering from a medical procedure, or visitors unable to travel with their bulky equipment, individuals are able to borrow items from FISH at no cost. Types of equipment for loan include wheelchairs/transport wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, bedside commodes, bath chairs, canes, knee scooters and shower transfer chairs. **In 2023, FISH loaned 375 equipment items to friends in need.**



## smile boxes

Combating social isolation and its mental and physical effects is central to many of our senior service offerings. Smile Boxes delivered by FISH volunteers provide connection with seniors with enriching, fun, and often tasty items to bring a smile to their face. **FISH happily distributed 208 Smile Boxes in 2023.**



# helping HANDS & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FISH is honored to offer a helping hand to our neighbors—removing obstacles and creating opportunities for families to thrive. Our Helping Hands program is short term emergency financial assistance primarily for rent, utilities and medical expenses as well as youth scholarships and adult education available to those that live or work on the islands. Our professional staff helps with immediate needs while working with clients to develop a long-term plan for financial recovery and independence. **FISH provided 5,740 instances of Case Management in 2023.**

“*I never thought I'd be able to continue my life on the island, but FISH made it possible. I'm forever grateful.*”

“Jack” has been a part of the community for nearly 20 years, working hard, paycheck to paycheck. When storm surge destroyed his longterm place of employment, he found himself without income and desperate. **He turned to FISH for help with rent so he could remain in his home.** While searching for work, Jack also began volunteering to help in anyway he could. He built connections and soon found a new job. Now he's back on track financially and has found a new purpose. **“FISH was there for me. From now on, I'll proudly be there for them as a volunteer!”**





## furniture distribution— bringing neighbors home again

Since Hurricane Ian, more islanders than ever are now in a position of needing help. **FISH is providing that helping hand to people of all ages, and in all economic brackets.**

As islanders continue the journey home, FISH has been providing furnishings, and helping to turn damaged houses into homes once again. We've partnered with businesses and organizations to provide resources and supplies to help ease the financial burden that so many are facing. From drywall to bedding, rugs and cleaning supplies, appliances and more, FISH has become a greater resource than ever for our island neighbors.







What the caterpillar calls the end of the world  
the master calls a butterfly.” —Richard Bach



*gratitude*  
INSPIRES HOPE

Thanksgiving plays two crucial roles—*gratitude for the past and promise for the future*. With a focus on our community’s post-hurricane progress, FISH appropriately spotlighted both by providing food baskets and hosting a special community meal that included a butterfly release symbolizing **transformation, hope and connection**—*all the things we have been most thankful for over the past year*.







## thanksgiving celebration and butterfly release

In partnership with Sanibel Community House and Jerry's Foods, FISH hosted an inspiring Thanksgiving Celebration and Butterfly Release. The entire community was invited to enjoy a delicious turkey dinner with pumpkin pie and all the fixings. Then after the feast, **several hundred guests had the extraordinary opportunity to release Zebra Longwing butterflies—a species unseen since the storm**—to mark a fresh start for the islands. FISH also provided biodegradable seed packets of plant species known to attract butterflies. It was a truly unique and uplifting way to give thanks and celebrate with our island neighbors.

## thanksgiving food baskets

*Holiday food baskets are a long-time FISH initiative, but they held special meaning in 2023.*

The baskets—generously filled with community-donated stuffing, rolls, canned vegetables, pie and a gift card for turkey or other holiday protein—were designed to bring a sense of normalcy and a return to the traditional Thanksgiving dinner for islanders to enjoy at home. **FISH volunteers distributed 316 baskets to residents and island workers to celebrate the day.**







*It was a great weekend with people of all ages and places, coming together to support neighbors helping neighbors.”* —Diane Cortese, event co-chair



YOU PUT THE *Fun* IN FUNDRAISING



The annual FISH Road Race celebrated its 15th year, and it didn't rest on its laurels! **A record 530 runners hit the streets for the December event—the first in-person run since the pandemic.** Participants came from as far as the UK and Germany, and everyone had a choice between the **10K or the new 5K race, or even both!** Age-group awards were extra-special, too. Local residents Rachel Pierce and Rachel Tritaik created unique and stunning awards, featuring the Sanibel lighthouse, using shells from Sanibel beaches.

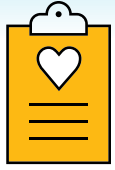






There was much to do after the race as well! A **Youth Reindeer Run** and **Family Fun Day** were sponsored by the Sanibel Recreation Center, followed by FISH's first-ever **Sound+Waves Music Festival** at Tween Waters Island Resort. The beach concert was capped off by an impressive **fireworks** display at the end of the night. We can't wait until next year!

# 2023 *impact* FACTS



**5,740**

INSTANCES OF  
CASE MANAGEMENT



**1,408**

MUCH NEEDED  
MISCELLANEOUS  
ITEMS  
DISTRIBUTED

**2,983**

REASSURANCE  
CALLS  
TO ISLAND SENIORS

**208**



SMILE BOXES  
CHEERED SENIORS



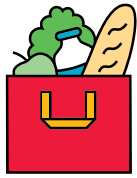
**10,603**

VOLUNTEER HOURS



**5,486**

FOOD PANTRY  
VISITS



**896**

HOLIDAY MEALS  
DISTRIBUTED

**1,060**

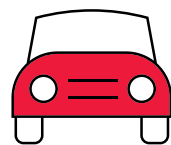


FURNISHINGS DISTRIBUTED

**295**



INSTANCES OF  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



**24,000**

VOLUNTEER MILES



**745**

HURRICANE PACKETS  
DISTRIBUTED &

INSTANCES OF  
**285** HOLIDAY TOY

ASSISTANCE



**217**

CHILDREN RECEIVED MUCH NEEDED  
SCHOOL SUPPLIES

**4,018**

HURRICANE RECOVERY  
SERVICES & SUPPLIES PROVIDED

*Thank you for choosing FISH as your island nonprofit partner.*

86% of every dollar spent goes directly to our over 30 programs and services.

Together, we will continue to make an impact, remove obstacles,  
fill in the cracks, and help individuals recover from the storms of life—

*neighbors helping neighbors.*



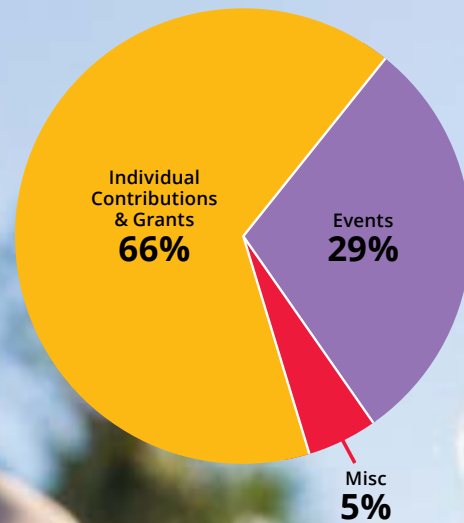


# financial

## JOURNEY OF 2023

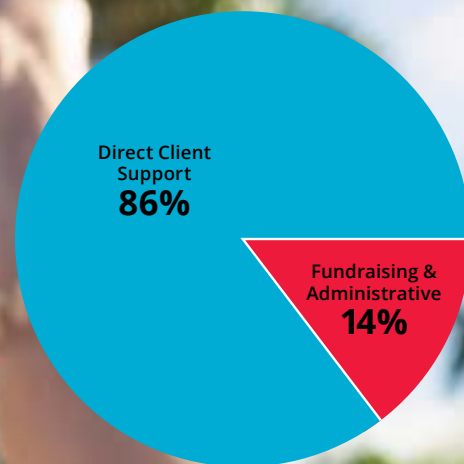
### 2023 revenue—

Individual Contributions & Grants	<b>\$2,514,129</b>
Events (Net)	<b>\$1,099,481</b>
Misc & Other	<b>\$194,686</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE:</b>	<b>\$3,808,296</b>



### 2023 expenses—

Direct Client Support	<b>\$1,357,629</b>
Fundraising & Administrative	<b>\$229,338</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$1,586,967</b>



### net operating income—

	<b>\$2,221,329</b>
(*Omitted Insurance Proceeds	<b>\$387,231</b>
<b>(NET INCOME:</b>	<b>\$2,608,560</b>

Note: figures not audited



*This is the perfect way for me to make a lasting impact for the next generation of islanders in the community I love.* —a FISH Legacy Society member



**Planned giving** is a commitment—either revocable or irrevocable—to give to a Section 501(c)(3) charity, such as FISH or its Foundation, as part of a donor’s overall financial or estate planning (as contrasted with typical annual donations).

types of planned gifts

**Bequests**—donations at death (through a Will or Trust) of cash, real estate, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or other intangible assets

**Retirement Plans**—designation of FISH as a beneficiary of a retirement account, such as an IRA, 401(k), 403(b), pension or profit sharing plan

**Life Insurance**—designation of FISH as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy (whole life or term)

**Retained Life Estate**—transfer of real estate, such as a residence or commercial property, to FISH, but with the donor retaining the use of the property for the remainder of the donor’s lifetime (e.g., the Woodring property)

with a planned gift, a donor may

- *Create an endowment to generate annual income that provides for the development and enhancement of designated FISH programs and activities (e.g., Helping Hands or Food Pantry)*
- *Create an endowment to enhance FISH staff development or subsidize the compensation for a specific position, similar to endowing a professorship at a university*
- *Name the FISH Walk-In Center (or an office) for the donor or in honor/memory of a loved one or another person*

already included FISH in your estate plan?

We would love to know so that we may appropriately recognize you as part of our **FISH Legacy Society**. Please contact Maggi Feiner or Maria Espinoza at 239.472.4775.

LEAVE A  
*legacy*  
WITH PLANNED GIVING





The **AngelFISH Society** allows women in our community to direct their giving in focused, strategic ways, with the goal of providing sustainable funding for the **FISH of Sanibel-Captiva Foundation, Inc.** while addressing a current island need through programmatic projects. While some AngelFISH activities have been on pause due to ongoing post-Ian recovery, we're still here, tackling our annual project and making a difference.



## bumps in the road couldn't stop the food box program

**The AngelFISH Society helped provide food for 52 island households and families in 2023—** a great accomplishment in difficult times.

The products provided in the Food Boxes—*mostly fresh foods that could no longer be stocked in our original pantry location without electricity*—needed to be delivered or picked up by clients quickly. Additionally, many recipients had not yet begun the rebuilding process—living in homes without plumbing, refrigeration and cooking appliances. Occasionally, the boxes also contained much needed supplies for grilling which has become an essential method for feeding families.

So while things looked quite different from FISH food programs before the storm, **the impact of our Food Box Program—even with its temporary limitations—has been felt more deeply in the hurricane aftermath, thanks to the work of our wonderful AngelFISH.**





No one has ever become poor by giving.” —Anne Frank



# thankful

## FOR DONORS

## PAVING THE WAY HOME

### VISIONARIES

Anonymous (1)  
American Red Cross  
Maggi & Don Feiner  
Laura & Bill Harkey  
Kristi & John MacKinnon  
Middendorf Family Foundation  
Joan & Don Sherman  
The Sanctuary Golf Club Foundation

### CHAMPIONS

Liz & Jim Birmingham  
Dixie & Robert Bowden  
Charitable Foundation of the Islands  
Christina Donohue  
Dulce & Jim Doss  
Barbara & Tom Dunham  
Mika & David Filkins  
Lisa & Gregory Larkin  
Pat & Frank Middendorf  
Jerri Mihaly  
Kay & John Morse  
State of Florida  
The Theodore Cross Family  
Charitable Foundation  
United Way—Lee, Hendry & Glades  
Wescustogo Foundation

### LEADERS

Anonymous (6)  
Margie & Mike Bennett  
Barb & Todd Bluedorn

Barbara & Jim Brady  
Debbie & Ron Brooks  
Patricia & Anthony Brunsing  
Judith & Robert Burgstahler  
Mary & Dick Butler  
Chapel by the Sea  
Congress Jewelers  
Amanda Cross  
Cathy & Jim Cryder  
Jo & Manny Fernandez  
Janet Frane  
Kristin & Chris French  
Susie & Steve Fritze  
Sherry & Doug Gentry  
Sally & Al Hanser  
Susan & George Heisler  
Timothy Horne  
Ann & Kevin Ingram  
Kerscher Family Foundation  
Sue & John Lawson  
Linda & Nick Linsmayer  
Delores & Dudley Malone  
Antonette & Bruce McDonald  
McGrath-Spellman  
Family Foundation  
Lisa Ann & Bob Miller  
Carolyn & Joe Palchak  
Peter & Ann Lambertus  
Family Foundation  
Mary Ellen & Eric Pfeifer  
Pittsburgh Foundation  
Elizabeth Reynolds

Sargent Family Foundation  
Ellen Sloan &  
Marco Neven-Dumont  
Solstice Foundation  
Debbie & Mike Szymanczyk  
Texas Instruments Foundation  
The Campbell Foundation  
The Daniel R. &  
Anne M. Harper Foundation  
The Lighthouse Foundation  
The Right Hand Foundation  
Sue & Chuck Turner  
UNFI  
Amy Lou Waters  
Diane & Robert Williams  
Trudy & Tommy Williams  
Melissa & Marc Yelenich  
Adriana Zivelonghi &  
Christopher Ouellette  
Zonta Foundation of  
Southwest Florida

### PARTNERS

Anonymous (1)  
Linda & Charlie Adams  
Alco Fence  
Robert & Jan Allinder-Anestis  
Sarah Ashton & Jim Metzler  
Christine & Michael Attardo  
Bailey's General Store  
Bank of the Islands  
Adam Botana

CAMEO of Lee County  
Vibeke & Gustav Christensen  
Cielo Restaurant &  
The Boler Family Foundation  
Chris Coile  
Ann & Lee Cooper  
Nancy Denk Boudreau &  
Garry Abraham  
Sally & Tom Dina  
Katie & Kenny Ernstoff  
FISH of Sanibel Captiva Foundation  
JoAnn & Robert Glick  
Jean & Bob Gryzmala  
Irving S. Johnson & Alwyn N. Johnson  
Family Foundation  
Island Interiors of Sanibel  
Mary & Dick Jalkut  
Barbara Kerscher  
Sam & Steve King  
Susan Kressley & Gregory Anderson  
Inky & Jack Meng  
Linda & Joe Mondelli  
Barry Moss  
Mudbugs Cajun Kitchen  
Munchkins Legacy Foundation  
Mary & Jim Nelson  
Robin & Fred Perry  
Pfeifer Realty Group  
Sallie Pins  
Donna & Ron Ripley  
Robbie & Geoff Roepstorff  
Rotary Club of Sanibel-Captiva

Peg & John Roysse  
Laura & Rhys Rudolph  
Susan & Fred Ryckman  
Vreni Scheu  
Barbara & Garry Scheuring  
Dawn Schumann  
Jane & Buzz Shepard  
Sheridan & Dick Snell  
South Seas Island Resort  
Patty & Jim Sprankle  
Ginny & Ed Stringer  
The Cara Foundation  
The Richard Schulze  
Family Foundation  
Trademark Roofing  
Virginia & Ken Trudell  
United Way—Emergency  
Food & Shelter Program  
Kathy & Bob Wiesemann

### ADVOCATES

Linda & Charlie Adams  
Asplundh Foundation  
Betsy & William Baumgartner  
Katharine & Doug Britton  
Ruth & William Brooks  
Cindy & Jay Brown  
Carol & Cameron Campbell  
Heather & Alexander Cianfrocco  
Carol Clever & Pat Camp  
Mary & Red Culver  
Mark Cushing





Peter Danford  
David S. Baum Foundation  
Brenda & Bob Debolt  
Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille  
Leslie Fleischer  
Susie & John Freund  
Kelly & Christopher Gould  
Shelley & Bill Greggs  
Hafener Charitable Foundation  
Melissa & Jason Halliburton  
Donna & Peter Holden  
Elizabeth & Michael Ivers  
Marybeth & Kyle Jackson  
Jerry's Enterprises  
John MacLennan  
Jane & Paul Majeski  
Brittney Nee  
Sue & Carl Nelson  
Pam & Bob Norton  
Nancy & Chip Roach  
Nancy & Don Rolley  
Rudolph Family Foundation  
Ma & Jay Sanders  
Sanibel Captiva Trust Company  
Sanibel Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
St. Michael & All Angels  
Episcopal Church  
Betty & Bob VanTassel

**SUSTAINERS**

Anonymous (5)  
Sarah Adolph  
Andrea Miller Foundation  
Ashton Kirchner Group  
Keller Williams  
June Bailey  
Joan & Jim Bajek  
Bat Yam Temple of the Islands  
Susie & Jim Berg  
Wendy & Walter Berninger  
Pat & Mike Boris  
Helen & Philip Bradbury  
Pam Brady  
Bridewell-Henning Foundation  
Maryann & Scott Bridge  
Rebecca & Stephen Briggs  
Ellen & Bart Brnjac  
Maggie & Tom Butcher  
Carter Family Foundation  
Caterpillar Foundation  
Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry  
Kim & Dede Chart  
Chavurat Shalom of SWFL  
Judy & Bill Cheney  
Chevron  
Amy & Jim Clapp  
Coastal Vista Design Inc  
Marilyn & Vince Conoscenti  
Augusta Crane & Eldon Bohrofen  
Cultivate Advisors  
Dan Hahn Custom Builders  
David & Mindy Gross  
Family Foundation  
Nancy Dehmow  
Diane Zimmerman Law  
Pamela & Stephen Elias  
Sharon & James Ellen  
Sally & Peter Ettlinger

David Felker  
FineMark Bank & Trust Company  
Rosemarie & Jim Flaherty  
Elizabeth Freeman  
Tracy Frick  
Lenore & Jay Friedland  
Gig & Woody Ginkel  
Melissa & Scott Glaze  
Goecke Family Foundation  
Joanne Goggin  
Tracy & Steve Graff  
Connie & Stanley Grayson  
Sandy & Roger Grogman  
Jeanne & Bruce Grossnickle  
Helene & Michael Hall  
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Kris & Jim Harvey  
Betsy & Taylor Hay  
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Dean Hill  
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Louise & Tim Huyck  
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 The generosity  
 of each and every  
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 Thank you for walking  
 alongside us on  
 this journey.”  
 —Maria Espinoza

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*You make a living by what you get.  
 You make a life by what you give.* —Winston Churchill





did you know—

The definition of a volunteer is *“a person who works for an organization without being paid.”*

FISH is truly blessed with many such volunteers who generously give their time and talents on a regular basis for the sole purpose of helping to carry out our mission—**neighbors helping neighbors.** You might be surprised to know that **one of those volunteers is our very own CEO, Maggi Feiner.** Maggi has always been dedicated to the betterment of our island community. *She has led FISH for nearly 20 years and has never taken a salary for her (more than) full-time work.*

Maggi has the passion and commitment that any nonprofit leader should have and then some. She consistently works to build coalitions within the community to maximize impact and produce better outcomes for those we serve. She also fosters partnerships with off-island organizations and businesses to bring more services to the islands, while strengthening connections with greater Lee County.

In the face of Hurricane Ian, Maggi has taken her volunteerism and leadership to a whole new level. As disaster recovery continues, she is working nonstop with the rest of the FISH team to navigate new challenges and ensure all islanders have the supports they need. She is collaborating with others to create a FISH rebuilding plan for the future that promises a greater physical presence on the island to provide even more services for unmet and growing needs. *And she does it all from the heart.*

As a leader, CEO, neighbor, and volunteer, **Maggi would like to encourage you to consider becoming a FISH volunteer.** *The opportunities are endless, and the reward is priceless.*

# COMMUNITY

# partners

HELP CARRY THE LOAD

As we continue on the road to long-term recovery, partnerships are more important than ever before. FISH is grateful to be sharing our journey home with these amazing businesses, organizations and individuals.

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Sanibel & Captiva Business  
Women Association  
Sanibel Bike Club  
Sanibel Captiva  
Chamber of Commerce  
Sanibel Captiva Community Bank  
Sanibel Captiva Island  
Assoc. of Realtors  
Sanibel Captiva Lions  
Sanibel Community Church  
Sanibel Community House  
Sanibel Deli  
Sanibel Fire Department  
Sanibel Island Farmer's Market  
Sanibel Island Therapy  
Sanibel Police Department  
Sanibel Public Library  
Sanibel School  
Sanibel School Alumni Club  
Sanibel School PTA  
Sanibel Taxi  
Sanibel-Captiva American  
Legion Post #123, Inc  
Sanibel-Captiva Islander  
Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club  
Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club  
Santiva Chronicle  
SCCF  
Sea Oats Day Spa



Senior Friendship Center of SWFL  
SHINE  
Small Business Association  
South Seas  
Starbucks Foundation  
The Gathering Place  
The Green Flash  
The Salvation Army  
Thrive Senior Living at Beachwalk  
Tidal Basin Sheltering in Home  
for Recovery Continuation  
Timbers Restaurant & Fish Market  
Times of the Islands  
UMCOR/FL Conference of the  
United Methodist Church (UMC)  
Unite Us  
United Way 211  
United Way Gifts in Kind  
United Way—Lee, Hendry & Glades  
United Way Reunite  
United Way VITA Program  
Unmet Needs Long Term  
Recovery Group  
Valerie's House  
Visiting Nurses Association of SWFL  
Volunteer Florida  
We Care of Lee County  
WINK News  
World Renew Disaster Response  
Yale Climate Connections Radio





# big THANKS

a big truck makes a big difference

As the islands' comprehensive social service organization offering wrap around services to islanders in need, FISH's job is a big one. *But thanks to grant funding provided in 2023 by our generous partners at The Sanctuary Golf Club Foundation, that job just got a little easier through the purchase of a box truck.*

This wonderful 14' long truck—complete with a hydraulic lift—gives FISH the capability to **help more people, more efficiently**. In the first few months of use, the truck has proven to fill a great need and has cut down on multiple off-island trips, due to its size and capacity. FISH can now **haul several thousand pounds—at a time**—of food and other items including furnishings, appliances, rebuilding materials, personal hygiene products and more.

The truck, purchased through *Sam Galloway Ford* and wrapped by *Sabal Signs*, showcases the Foundation partnership with their logo prominently placed. Keep an eye out on your journeys for this big truck doing big things to help our neighbors.



“We are so thankful to the Foundation for funding this amazing purchase.” —Maggi Feiner





*Spread your wings and let the winds of resilience carry you to new heights.” —Mia Foster*



FISH is dedicated to navigating the winds of change that impact these islands we call home. **We are thankful for our leadership—board members and caring staff—**who work hard to lift others up, provide resources, find solutions, and *renew hope along the way.*



### 2023 board members

- Jim Metzler, PhD—*Chair*
- Maggi Feiner—*President & CEO*
- Ellen Sloan, PhD—*Vice Chair*
- Greg Burton—*Treasurer*
- Nicole McHale—*Secretary*
- John Morse, Esq—*Chair Emeritus, Director*
- Sheridan Snell—*Chair Emeritus, Director*
- P. James (Jim) Brady—*Director*
- Melissa Congress—*Director*
- Jane Majeski—*Director*
- Lisa Ann Miller, MD—*Director*
- Susan Ryckman, MSN, RN, CPNP—*Director*
- Kathy Samson—*Director*
- Ann-Marie Wildman—*Director*







## professional staff

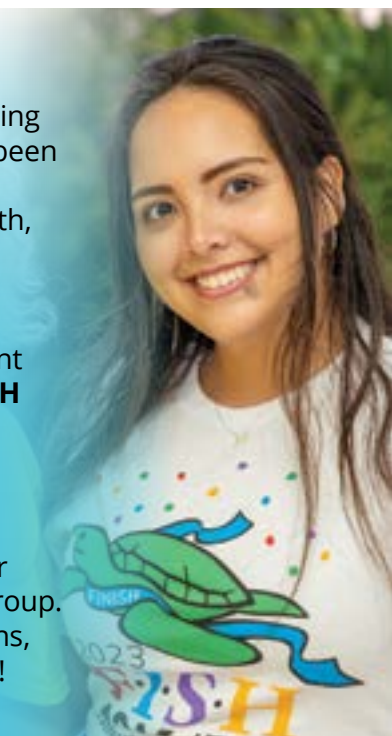
Maria Espinoza—*Executive Director*  
Erika Broyles—*Senior Services Director*  
Maggie Goldsmith—*Grants & Marketing Director*  
Nitza Lopez—*Social Services Director*  
Emery Lowden—  
*Social Media & Resource Manager*  
Manuela Martinez—  
*Disaster Administrative Director*  
Kim Ouellette—*Operations & Volunteer Manager*  
Sean Pierce—*Accounting Director*  
Andrea Rubio—*Disaster Program Coordinator*  
Merari Salinas—*Outreach Coordinator*



## meet FISH family member—Maria

Maria Espinoza has called SWFL home for 23 years and is passionate about helping the community through volunteer work and her professional career. Maria has been with FISH since 2017, when she began as a volunteer after Hurricane Irma. She then joined the staff and has played a critical role in FISH's operations and growth, particularly in Food Programs. She has held various positions—**Walk-In Center Manager, Director of Food Programs, and Assistant Executive Director**—before accepting her current role as **Executive Director**. Maria now oversees FISH of SanCap programs and strategic plans, supports the team, and serves as the point of contact within the broader community. Maria continues to spearhead the **FISH Long-Term Recovery Program**, joining with local, regional and state coalitions and groups to assist survivors with recovery from the state's costliest natural disaster—and one of the most impactful storms in US history—Hurricane Ian.

In 2022, Maria won the **Young Professional of the Year** award from the Greater Fort Myers Chamber. She is Vice Chair of the Lee County Long Term Recovery Group. Always helping someone in need or being an advocate for vulnerable populations, Maria is truly dedicated to her island neighbors. And that makes her FISH family!



impact report graciously underwritten by



# RENEWED LIFE *begins* HERE



*The journey back after Hurricane Ian has not been easy. But FISH of SanCap continues to lead the way, bringing help, hope and new life back to our island communities.*

We are truly blessed to have such an invaluable social service organization to provide resources and creative solutions to meet the needs of our island neighbors. As we continue the journey home and—once again—find our wings, FISH will be there to help. Together, we will reach new heights.”

—Geoffrey W. Roepstorff  
CEO, Bank of the Islands/Edison National Bank  
Island Neighbor

