AGENDA

Hardee County Board of County Commissioners

WORKSHOP SESSION

January 29, 2026, at 8:30 AM

COMMISSION CHAMBERS
412 WEST ORANGE STREET,
ROOM 102, WAUCHULA, FL 33873

COMMISSIONERS

District I Timothy E. Wells
District II Noey A. Flores
District III E. Donald Chancey, Jr.
District IV Russell A. Melendy
District V Kenneth A. Miller

County Manager Terry Atchley
Clerk Victoria L. Rogers
County Attorney Sarah Johnston
Assistant County Manager Doug Baber
Assistant County Manager Christopher Simpron
Administrative Services Manager Holly Smith
Executive Assistant Brandy Crawford
Deputy Clerk Laura Barker
Deputy Clerk Jessica Santibanez

1. **INVOCATION, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

3. **NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**

   A. **Anita Rogers, Alpha & Omega Freedom Ministries, Inc.**

   B. **Janie Thompson, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast**

   C. **Wendell Smith, Cutting Edge Ministries, Inc.**

   D. **Mark Parker, EPCA Inc. dba. Caring People Recovery Center**

   E. **Jessica Lawson, Peace River Center for Personal Development, Inc.**

   F. **Lori Friers, Hardee County Ministerial Association, Inc. dba. Hardee Help Center**

   G. **Debbie Slade, Nu-Hope Elder Care Services, Inc.**

   H. **Tessa Graham, Rascal's Rescues Inc.**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

5. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.A

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE:	January 29, 2026
SUBMITTED BY:	Brandy Crawford, County Manager's Office
ITEM TYPE:	Presentation
AGENDA SECTION:	**NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**
SUBJECT:	**Anita Rogers, Alpha & Omega Freedom Ministries, Inc.**
SUGGESTED ACTION:	

ATTACHMENTS:
Alpha & Omega.pdf

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

Instructions

Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *
Alpha & Omega Freedom Ministries Inc.

Mailing Address *
P.O. Box 339 Wauchula ,Fl. 33873

Primary Phone *
863-773-5717 x 1

Website
https://www.aofm-hannahshouse.org

Primary Contact Person *
Anita Rogers

Email *
anita@aofminc.com

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
501c3 Non-profit 59-2735813

Proof of Status *
IRS Determination Letter / Sunbiz registration

Service Area *
Operations conducted in Hardee County in a 9 bedroom 4 bath 5000 sq.ft. Emergency Shelter. 17 Transitional Housing 1 bedroom 1 bath apartments

County Residents Served *
85% residents of Hardee County, 10% surrounding six counties 5% out of state

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *
Our Mission is to provide food, comfort, safety, shelter, and support for those who are experiencing Domestic Violence and or homelessness. Our Ministry advocates for needs, rights, social services and education for the clients and communities we serve. We have developed community partnerships to initiate personal and social change.

Programs/Services Overview *
Program consist of Emergency and Transitional Housing for survivors of Domestic Violence and Homelessness. Our program addresses ending the cycle of abuse and homelessness through education and program requirements. Services are; case management, counseling, addictions group, inner healing, parenting, financial education.

Partners & Support *
Partners: South Florida State College, DCF One Hope United, Cutting Edge, Heartland Coalition for the Homeless, RCMA Child care, Advent Hospital, HCSO. The Carlton Group, Joe L. Davis Gift Fund, The Patterson Foundation, and Collabratory.

Section 4 – Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$2,500

Use of Funds *
Funds will be used to meet housing, transportation and utilities for clients and their children.

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
Volunteers and Individuals performing Community Service hours while in our care.

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *

Alpha and Omega Freedom Ministries Inc./Hannah's House aligns with Hardee County Priorities with respect to providing essential services to our county resident population of survivors of trauma and homelessness via housing, education and counseling services and community partners resources. We absorb all associated costs for this population at no expense to the county.

Measurable Outcomes *

We service approximately 100 clients annually with affordable housing and access to needed resources. Our metrics for outcomes are case management assessments, benchmarks achieved, teachers evaluations, behavior reports from managers, employment achieved and sustained, proper money management, and higher education grades and reports. Our metric is 85% of non recurrence of abuse and homelessness.

Public Support & Risk Mitigation

Public support demonstrated through monetary gifts, public recognition, volunteers and various in-kind support. Short term risk minimization is families are housed and immediate needs of health care, food, shelter, and transportation are met. Long term minimization is seen through early prevention strategies for sustainable self practices and stability demonstrating productive community members.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *

Karen Tibbs Executive Director

Signature *

Karen N. Tibbs

Date *
December 10, 2025

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

IRS Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

OGDEN UT 84201-0038

In reply refer to: 0437618930
Jan. 17, 2025 LTR 4168C 0
59-2735813 000000 00
00058214
BODC: TE

ALPHA AND OMEGA FREEDOM MINISTRIES
INCORPORATED
% LORRAINE GILESPIE
PO BOX 339
WAUCHULA FL 33873-0339

010160

Employer ID number: 59-2735813
Form 990 required: Yes

Dear Taxpayer:

We're responding to your request dated Jan. 08, 2025, about your tax-exempt status.

We issued you a determination letter in July 1989, recognizing you as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3).

We also show you're not a private foundation as defined under IRC Section 509(a) because you're described in IRC Section 509(a)(2).

Donors can deduct contributions they make to you as provided in IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts under IRC Sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

In the heading of this letter, we indicated whether you must file an annual information return. If you're required to file a return, you must file one of the following by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your annual accounting period:

- Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or Form 990-EZ
- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

According to IRC Section 6033(j), if you don't file a required annual information return or notice for 3 consecutive years, we'll revoke your tax-exempt status on the due date of the 3rd required return or notice.

You can get IRS forms or publications you need from our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

If you have questions, call 877-829-5500 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., local time, Monday through Friday (Alaska and Hawaii follow Pacific

Sunbiz.org DIVISION of CORPORATIONS an official State of Florida website

Welcome/Login	Report & Update Information	Final Review	Payment

Business Name	Type	Document Number	Filing Fee
ALPHA AND OMEGA FREEDOM MINISTRIES, INC.	**Florida Not For Profit Corporation**	**N24869**	**$61.25**

File Date	Feb 29, 1988
Filing State or Country	FL
Status	Active

1 of 6 - Review and Edit Your Information

FEI/EIN Number	59-2735813	Edit FEI/EIN Number

Principal Address

102 Carlton Street
WAUCHULA, FL 33873 US

Edit Principal Address

Mailing Address

P O BOX 339
WAUCHULA, FL 33873 US

Edit Mailing Address

		1/1/2025	
Admin	**Chart #**	**Proposed**	**Actual-2024**
Executive Director-Karen	66000	31,200.00	$0.00
EXPENSES			
Advertising and Promotion	**60000**	1,500.00	$377.01
Bank fees/checks	**60100**	75.00	$30.00
Paypal fees	**60120**	70.00	$123.03
Loan Fees		15.00	$1,102.75
Automobile Expense	**60200**		
Gas-transporting clients	60200.1	8,000.00	$4,380.94
Maintenance & repairs	60200.2	6,000.00	$6,281.01
Tags/licensure expense	60200-other	175.00	$568.72
Dues & Subscriptions	**60400**	60.00	$228.00
Contributions to other ministries	**61100**	1,200.00	$1,200.00
Fundraising Expense	**62050**	1,500.00	
Giving Challenge	62050.4	60.00	$56.54
Battle of the Best	62050.9	425.00	$426.50
Fundraising Expense-other	62050	200.00	$343.81
Professional Fees	**62100**		
Certifications/permits	62100.1	450.00	$131.25
Accounting-1099	62100.2	4,000.00	$4,385.00
Bookkeeping	62100.3	10,500.00	$10,500.00
Fundraising Fees	62100.4	0.00	$25.00
Program Expenses	**62150**		
Drug Tests	62150.2	375.00	$374.50
Insurance Expense	**62170**		
Automobile	62171	13,000.00	$12,479.60
General Liability	62172	6,000.00	$5,888.74
Property-102 Carlton	62175	7,000.00	$6,966.79
Directors & Officers	62176	1,600.00	$1,562.88
1st Insurance HH & Old office 1917 s. fl	62177	2,000.00	$7,758.47
(note old office removed)			
Licenses and Registrations	**62200**	2,000.00	$2,100.00
licenses and Registrations-other	62200	130.00	$131.48
Contract Labor-1099s	**62400**		
Evening Onsite Manager Shelter*	62403-1099	10,400.00	$7,500.08
Lawn Maintenance	62404	4,000.00	$682.00
Day Labor	62405	5,000.00	$4,100.00
Counselor	62406	5,200.00	$5,200.00
Assistant Director	62408	10,400.00	$10,400.00

Extermination	**62500**	300.00	$300.00
Interest	**62700**		
Interest #1991	62710	4,500.00	$4,292.13
Interest #1852	62760	2,200.00	$2,156.56
Facilities and Equipment	**62800**		
Equipment	62800.1	19,000.00	$19,055.04
Repairs & Maintenance	62800.2	15,000.00	$17,862.13
Lawn Maintenance	62800.3	560.00	$558.43
Facilities and Equip, other	62800	120.00	$118.08
Ministry Expense (Program Expenses)	**64600**		
Supplies-Alpha & Omega	**64602.1**	950.00	$927.55
Supplies other	**64602**	1,500.00	$1,200.00
Food for Hannah's House	**64603**	1,000.00	$1,200.00
Benevolence	**64604**	750.00	$720.00
Transportation-clients to appointments	**64605.1**	100.00	$114.22
Clients-medical/dental	**64605.2**	500.00	$280.98
Birth certificates/marriage & records	**64605.3**	75.00	$33.25
Education		250.00	$0.00
Personal Items		200.00	$0.00
Other		40.00	$40.00
Postage, mailing expenses	**64800**	500.00	$523.74
Printing & copying	**65000**	1,500.00	$1,499.78
Office Supplies-HH Complex	**65040.1**	300.00	$288.91
Office Supplies-HH Shelter	**60540.2**	200.00	$21.44
Office Supplies-Other	**65040**	400.00	$380.00
Telephone, internet services	**65050**	12,800.00	$12,664.76
Security	**65060**	1,400.00	$3,875.82
TOTAL PAYROLL			
Payroll Expense-other	**66000**	70,000.00	$65,617.84
AFLAC insurance	**66000.1**	2,600.00	$2,551.59
Software Expense	**67000**	1,000.00	$930.80
Bonus-Christmas	**66000.2**	500.00	$475.00
Travel & Entertainment			
Meals-staff and clients		500.00	$128.36
Travel & Entertainment-other		25.00	$22.00
Utilities/water & electric	**68600**		
102 Carlton Street-City of Wauchula	**68603**	4,000.00	$3,153.66
Electric 1917 S. FL Ave	**68605**		
Hannah's House DV Shelter-1917 S. FL	68605.3	5,000.00	$5,722.20
1917 S DE #6245566489- apt	68605.4	3,000.00	$3,237.34
Water-new unit 1917	**68607**	2,000.00	$12,000.00
Utilities, Water/Electric - Other	**68600**	2,000.00	$2,068.35

Total Budget/ Expense		372,100.00	
		$12,000.00	
Note-expenses due to projects		$19,055.04	
		$17,862.13	
	sub-TOTAL	$48,917.17	
	Expenses	$372,100.00	**$259,324.06**
	Less projects	-$48,917.17	
	TOTAL Expenses	**$323,182.83**	

AOFM/Hannah's House Total Budget	**$323,182.83**
	$133,971.00
	$457,153.83

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.B

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE:	January 29, 2026
SUBMITTED BY:	Brandy Crawford, County Manager's Office
ITEM TYPE:	Presentation
AGENDA SECTION:	**NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**
SUBJECT:	**Janie Thompson, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast**
SUGGESTED ACTION:	

ATTACHMENTS:
BBBS.pdf

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

RECEIVED
DEC 22 2025
BY: 1:45pm

Instructions

Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast, Inc.

Mailing Address *
5731 Rosin Way *Sarasota, FL 34233*

Primary Phone *
(941)488-4009

Website
https://bbbssun.org

Primary Contact Person *
Kamala Martinez, CEO/President

Email *
development@bbbssun.org

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
501(c)(3)

Proof of Status *
IRS determination letter and SunBiz registration

Service Area *
Our office is located at 1017 US Highway 17 North in Wauchula. Service locations include our Wauchula office, all Hardee County schools, and community-based locations throughout Hardee County that are suited to the Big(volunteer mentor) and Little(youth client) match's needs and interests (such as at a library, park, or sporting event). As of Spring 2026, we will also launch a Beyond School Walls workplace mentoring (career exploration) program at Peace River Electric Cooperative for at-risk students enrolled at Hardee Senior High School.

County Residents Served *
100%

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast's mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. Its vision is for all youth to achieve their full potential.

Programs/Services Overview *
We provide youth with screened, trained, and compatibly matched volunteer adult mentors who help them remain in school and make academic progress, avoid risky behaviors, develop positive relationships, and transition to a self-sufficient adulthood. We continually monitor and support the progress of each youth served through the One to One Mentoring Program. Our nationally certified Mentor Managers ensure clients' family's basic needs are met, and they refer youth and the youth's family to additional targeted social service providers as other needs are determined. Mentors and Mentor Managers help with FAFSA completion, SAT/ACT prep, grants/scholarships, Dual Enrollment, and technical certifications/licenses. Agency partners provide career coaches, internship opportunities, job search assistance, resume-building, and interview practice workshops. All program services are available at no cost to youth, their families, and mentors. *- Through Resilient Youth (launching Spring 2026), students experiencing a high level of stress or anxiety gain the tools and resources to better manage their stress and anxiety levels.* *- Reading Bigs (including its Summer Reading initiative) fosters a love of literature and aids in the development of grade-level reading skills for students that have been identified by school personnel as reading below grade level and at risk of not earning promotion.* *- Bigs in Badges matches youth with mentors who work in—or are retired from—law enforcement, the military, private security, forestry service, and fire and rescue.* *- Beyond School Walls (BSW) gives high school students a hands-on opportunity to experience what it means to work in a business setting. BSW youth explore various career options, learn how to interview, gain financial literacy knowledge, learn business etiquette, and gain motivation to succeed academically.*

Partners & Support *
Community Partners include the Hardee County School District, Hardee County Sheriff's Office, Hardee County Fire and Rescue, Peace River Electrical Cooperative, Hardee Chamber of Commerce, Tri County Human Services, Farm Bureau, Rotary, Hardee Education Foundation, and South Florida State College. *Other funding sources include United Way of Central Florida, Florida Department of Education, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Florida Blue Foundation, Truist Financial Corporation, Suncoast Credit Union Foundation, and Duke Energy.*

Section 4 – Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$10,000.00

Use of Funds *
All grant funds will be used to partially cover the following direct and essential Hardee County One to One Mentoring Program costs: volunteer recruitment, screening, and training; client outreach and advocacy; compatibility matching; program operations; ongoing professional Mentor Manager match support services; and youth outcomes evaluations. *Our continuum of one-to-one mentoring services positively impacts the futures of at-risk youth and Hardee County's economic health. By supporting at-risk youth from elementary school through high school graduation and guiding them toward--and during--higher education and/or a career that fosters financial independence, a solid foundation is established for a secure financial future for our youth and the community.*

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
N/A

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *

We serve some of the most vulnerable youth in the Hardee community. When youth facing serious life challenges have the opportunity to receive consistent one-to-one guidance from a trained and professionally supported mentor, they are empowered to change the trajectory of their lives. By supporting youth through high school graduation and guiding them toward--and during--higher education and/or a career that fosters financial independence, a solid foundation is established for a secure financial future for at-risk youth and the community in which they live and will thrive as adults. This results in a community of self-sufficient citizens no longer requiring the county's resources to meet their basic needs, and who have the economic ability to give back to the community that helped them.

Measurable Outcomes *

During our last completed fiscal year (ending June 30, 2025), we served 74 at-risk Hardee County youth. Of those, 96% achieved timely grade level promotion or graduation and 100% of graduated seniors continued their education, joined the military, or successfully entered the workforce. Additionally, 100% of the Hardee youth served avoided risky behaviors and 100% remained arrest-free.

With full funding, we will have the capacity to serve 85 Hardee County youth that want and need a mentor.

Public Support & Risk Mitigation

The parent/guardian must provide written consent for the youth to participate in the One to One Mentoring Program. Volunteers must complete a thorough background screening process, including digital fingerprinting, State and Federal criminal background checks, sexual offender registry review, personal interview, and references check. Volunteers in the community-based One to One Mentoring Program must provide a copy of their driving record since they will be transporting the youth they mentor. All volunteers are trained in the areas of child safety and effective mentoring practices. Our highest priority is the safety of the youth we serve. Extensive background checks ensure that our agency can provide safe, caring, dedicated mentors to at-risk youth.

Our agency has a current and annually renewable Interagency Agreement with the Hardee County School District that provides the means for us to obtain student referrals, access relevant school personnel and grade progress, and hold match meetings on each student's school campus.

The One to One Mentoring Program contributes to positive youth development by providing at-risk youth with mentors who help them to remain in school and make academic progress, avoid risky behaviors, and work toward a transition to a productive adulthood, affording clients the capacity to give back to the community. As such, the costs the County bears for reliance on public assistance for food, housing, medical care, and other critical needs is reduced. While no data source can accurately reflect the dollar cost to the County if our services were not provided, our outcomes show consistently that virtually all of the youth

we serve--most of whom were referred by the Hardee County School District, local law enforcement agencies, and other youth-serving agencies due to significant life challenges and academic and/or behavioral issues, achieve timely grade level promotion or graduation, and enroll in higher education, the military, or are gainfully employed upon high school graduation. Thus, our services alter the path of the youth referred to us, and thereby benefit clients, their family, and the Hardee County community.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *
Kamala Martinez, CEO/President

Signature *
Kamala J Martinez

Date *
12/19/2025

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

IRS Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
KCSC
Kansas City MO 64999

In reply refer to: 3552739361
May 14, 2025 LTR 4168C 0
59-1361826 000000 00
00066321
BODC: TE

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE SUN
COAST INC
5731 ROSIN WAY
SARASOTA FL 34233

025819

Employer ID number: 59-1361826
Form 990 required: Yes

Dear Taxpayer:

We're responding to your request dated May 05, 2025, about your tax-exempt status.

We issued you a determination letter in April 1978, recognizing you as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3).

We also show you're not a private foundation as defined under IRC Section 509(a) because you're described in IRC Sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors can deduct contributions they make to you as provided in IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts under IRC Sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

In the heading of this letter, we indicated whether you must file an annual information return. If you're required to file a return, you must file one of the following by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your annual accounting period:

- Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
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- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

According to IRC Section 6033(j), if you don't file a required annual information return or notice for 3 consecutive years, we'll revoke your tax-exempt status on the due date of the 3rd required return or notice.

You can get IRS forms or publications you need from our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

If you have questions, call 877-829-5500 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.,

IRS Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
KCSC
Kansas City MO 64999

025819.670940.472339.26700 1 AB 0.593 532

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE SUN
COAST INC
5731 ROSIN WAY
SARASOTA FL 34233

025819

CUT OUT AND RETURN THE VOUCHER AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE IF YOU ARE MAKING A PAYMENT.

The IRS address must appear in the window.

Use for payments

3552739361

Letter Number: LTR4168C
Letter Date : 2025-05-14
Tax Period : 000000

BODCD-

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

KANSAS CITY MO 64999-0202

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE SUN
COAST INC
5731 ROSIN WAY
SARASOTA FL 34233

591361826 HW BIGB 00 2 000000 670 00000000000

2025 FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

FILED
Jan 08, 2025
Secretary of State
7453163944CC

DOCUMENT# 715586

Entity Name: BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE SUN COAST, INC.

Current Principal Place of Business:

5731 ROSIN WAY
SARASOTA, FL 34233

Current Mailing Address:

5731 ROSIN WAY
SARASOTA, FL 34233 US

FEI Number: 59-1361826

Certificate of Status Desired: Yes

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

MARTINEZ, KAMALA L CEO
5731 ROSIN WAY
SARASOTA, FL 34233 US

The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE: KAMALA L. MARTINEZ 01/08/2025

Electronic Signature of Registered Agent — Date

Officer/Director Detail :

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	WOODS, RANDAL
Address	4413 BEAUMARIS DRIVE
City-State-Zip:	LAND O'LAKES FL 34238

Title	CHARIMAN
Name	NACHEF, MICHAEL
Address	4211 METRO PARKWAY 300
City-State-Zip:	FORT MYERS FL 33916

Title	SECRETARY
Name	BALDO, ANTHONY
Address	2 TAMIAMI TRAIL
City-State-Zip:	SARASOTA FL 34236

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	HARDY, JESSICA
Address	4229 CLARK ROAD
City-State-Zip:	SARASOTA FL 34233

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	KORSZEN, PERRY
Address	1314 E. VENICE AVE. A
City-State-Zip:	VENICE FL 34285

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	TENNANT, MICHAEL
Address	12650 WESTLINKS DRIVE
City-State-Zip:	FORT MYERS FL 33913

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	JAMES, TATE JR.
Address	1790 E. VENICE AVENUE 202
City-State-Zip:	VENICE FL 34292

Title	TREASURER
Name	FLYNN, SUSAN
Address	1767 LAKEWOOD RANCH BLVD 304
City-State-Zip:	LAKEWOOD RANCH FL 34211

Continues on page 2

I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am an officer or director of the corporation or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 617, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.

SIGNATURE: KAMALA MARTINEZ CEO 01/08/2025

Electronic Signature of Signing Officer/Director Detail — Date

Officer/Director Detail Continued :

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	COLLINS, CARRIE
Address	900 SARASOTA CENTER BLVD.
City-State-Zip:	SARASOTA FL 34240

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	CHRISTINE, KARLY
Address	5531 MARGUESAS CIRCLE
City-State-Zip:	SARASOTA FL 34233

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	PATTERSON, DONALD
Address	188 GOLDEN GATE PT 101
City-State-Zip:	SARASOTA FL 34236

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	JELLISON, VERONICA
Address	5262 WESTMINSTER DRIVE
City-State-Zip:	FORT MYERS FL 33919

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	BARRINGER, JOHN
Address	1000 PROGRESS PLACE
City-State-Zip:	CONCORD NC 28025

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	IBRAHIM, BONNIE
Address	2 S. ENGLEWOOD ROAD
City-State-Zip:	ENGLEWOOD FL 34223

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	WEBB, JOANNE
Address	106 E, MAIN STREET
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	BURTT, RICHARD
Address	2020 HARBOURSIDE DRIVE #431
City-State-Zip:	LONGBOAT KEY FL 34228

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	GLEASON, SHEILA
Address	3314 FOUNDERS CLUB DRIVE
City-State-Zip:	SARASOTA FL 34240

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	SHEPARD, SUSAN
Address	12751 NEW BRITTANY BLVD. 201
City-State-Zip:	FORT MYERS FL 33907

Title	PRESIDENT, CEO
Name	MARTINEZ, KAMALA L CEO
Address	5731 ROSIN WAY
City-State-Zip:	SARASOTA FL 34233

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	COURTENAY, LINDSEY
Address	4535 DOMESTIC AVENUE
City-State-Zip:	NAPLES FL 34104

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	MCKIE, JOSHUA
Address	4224 RENAISSANCE PRESERVE WAY
City-State-Zip:	FORT MYERS FL 33916

State of Florida
Department of State

I certify from the records of this office that BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE SUN COAST, INC. is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida, filed on November 18, 1968.

The document number of this corporation is 715586.

I further certify that said corporation has paid all fees due this office through December 31, 2025, that its most recent annual report/uniform business report was filed on January 8, 2025, and that its status is active.

I further certify that said corporation has not filed Articles of Dissolution.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Florida at Tallahassee, the Capital, this the Eighth day of January, 2025

Secretary of State

Tracking Number: 7453163944CC

To authenticate this certificate,visit the following site,enter this number, and then follow the instructions displayed.

https://services.sunbiz.org/Filings/CertificateOfStatus/CertificateAuthentication

Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OF THE SUN COAST

APPROVED AGENCY-WIDE BUDGET
Fiscal Year 7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026

	Budget 2025-26
Revenue	
Public Funding	2,199,090
Foundation & Trusts	899,050
Special Events	688,000
Annual Campaign	650,000
Grant Asset Disposition	479,251
United Ways	210,000
Endowment	190,000
	5,315,391
Expense	
Salary & Benefits	3,911,563
Occupancy	206,694
Event Expense	168,000
Tech	154,800
Professional Services	133,536
Marketing	128,000
Dues & Subscriptions	109,764
Insurance	103,500
Communications	85,116
Program	45,000
Grant Fees	44,976
Printing, Copying & Postage	39,200
Supplies & Misc Services	32,636
Volunteer Screening	32,000
Staff Development	30,719
Travel	30,057
All Other	30,000
HOA Fees	29,830
	5,315,391

Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OF THE SUN COAST

Revenue	Amount	* Awarded ** Pending
Hardee County Board of County Commissioners	$10,000.00	**
Florida Department of Education	$38,214.00	*
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice	$21,315.00	*
Office of the Attorney General	$6,478.00	*
Annual Fund	$10,954.00	*
United Way of Central Florda	$20,000.00	*
Private Foundations	$11,639.00	**
TOTAL REVENUE	**$ 118,600.00**	

Expenses	Amount
Case Management Services	$88,422.00
Insurance	$1,935.00
Accounting & Professional Fees	$1,088.00
Occupancy/Utilities	$5,626.00
Licenses & Misc.	$335.00
Screenings/Background Checks	$839.00
Marketing, Promotion & Outreach	$7,712.00
Telephone	$1,471.00
Travel/Mileage	$919.00
Office Supplies	$291.00
Technology & Equipment	$1,323.00
Printing/Copying	$1,108.00
Dues, Meetings & Subscriptions	$2,750.00
Program Activities	$2,319.00
Staff Development/Education	$1,081.00
Postage	$144.00
Training - BBBSAF Fee	$1,237.00
TOTAL REVENUE	**$ 118,600.00**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.C

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Brandy Crawford, Grants Management Department

ITEM TYPE: Presentation

AGENDA SECTION: **NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**

SUBJECT: **Wendell Smith, Cutting Edge Ministries, Inc.**

SUGGESTED ACTION:

ATTACHMENTS:
Cutting Edge.pdf

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2026
BY: B 13:00

Instructions

Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *
Cutting Edge Ministries Inc

Mailing Address *
PO BOX 1640 Wauchula, FL 33873

Primary Phone *
863-773-2484 or 863-581-7610

Website
https://cedgemin.com

Primary Contact Person *
Wendell Smith – Executive Director or Lindsey Bennett – Operations Manager

Email *
cedgemin@gmail.com

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
Provide 501(c) designation (e.g., 501(c)(3)) and EIN – **651066365**

Proof of Status *
List attached documents: IRS determination letter, Sunbiz registration, etc.

Service Area *
Zolfo Center at 3059 Elm Street Zolfo and Wauchula Center at 810 Tennessee Street Wauchula

County Residents Served *
We have served around 20,000 individuals with food since January 1,2025.

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *
Reaching People with a Helping Hand throughout our community and with food and basic need products, as well as be prepared to assist in disaster relief efforts.

Programs/Services Overview *
Provide food for families twice a week serving around 400 a week with food. We also provide disaster services for food, tarps, and give out what comes in from other ministries like Send Me Missions. We also partner with Hardee Help Center to provide food for when they need it for pantry. We have a delivery service that serves 70 residents with around 50 pounds of food each week. When we have an abundance of fresh produce, we give to Hardee County Public Works Employees and City Employees.

Partners & Support *
Feeding America, Feeding Tampa Bay, Publix, Wal-mart, Convoy of Hope, Operation Blessing International, Mosaic, Hardee Help Center, Send Me Missions

Section 4 – Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$50,000.00

Use of Funds *
We will use the funds to provide additional food that is needed as well as use it for operations to help pay staff. We have grown to the point that we need faithful volunteers to turn into employees.

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
Describe any requested in-kind support; note County may calculate internal costs N/A

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *
We have the same responsibility that the BOCC has to the residents to serve them with the food bank, delivery service, and disaster services. We have tailored our food bank to help all who come. We do not turn them away and we give everything we have out. By us doing this for Hardee County, it takes some pressure off BOCC knowing that we are taking care of the residents with food and supplies.

Measurable Outcomes *
Residents Served in 2025 – 20,000 Individuals and gave out 950,000 pounds of food **Delivery Service – 3,380 individuals with 169,000 pounds of food** **Total of Meals served – 791,000**

Public Support & Risk Mitigation
With public support, we are able to keep our doors open and faithfully serve Hardee County Residents every week with around 100 pounds of food each. By us doing this, it lowers the cost of food for the family to where they can pay other bills that are more pressing for them. It also provides snacks during the summer for the kids while they are out of school. Our delivery service serves around 70 residents. We deliver around 50 pounds of food to the elderly, shut-ins, singles moms, and residents without a vehicle or way to get to the center.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *
Type full name and official title Pastor Wendell Smith - Executive Director

Signature *
(Sign digitally or print and sign)

Date * 12-23-2025
MM/DD/YYYY

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

CUTTING EDGE MINISTRIES

"REACHING A COMMUNITY WITH A HELPING HAND"

Budget Overview

Expenses

Accounting	2875.00
Advertising	450.00
Benevolence	1786.00
Disaster Relief	
Fuel- generator	2500.00
Depreciation	6,030.00
Dues, Subscriptions, & Fees	1500.00
Food Truck Purchases	11,394.00
Forklift – Propane/Repairs	1300.00
Insurance- Property/Vehicle	10,250.00
Loan Cost	
Tennessee Street Mission	2989.00
Lease Cost	
Joseph Warehouse	22,980.00
Ministry Center	
Repairs & Supplies	5,000.00
Tennessee Mission Center	2353.00
Misc.	2,000.00
Salaries & Wages	25,000.00
Payroll Taxes	3,000.00
Telephone/Internet Services	3,922.00
Utilities	21,323.00
Vehicle Expense	
Repairs, Fuel, Other	27,540.00
Total Expense	**$ 154,192.00**

February 19, 2025

To whom it may concern:

Cutting Edge Ministries, a religious organization, officially affiliated (i.e. subordinate) with the Logos Global Network of Jacksonville, Florida, USA is hereby granted all rights, privileges, and authority to exist as a non-profit religious organization under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and is a ***tax-exempt*** organization.

This ministry is covered under the parent group status number 3769.

Employer ID Number:	**65-1066365**
Valid Thru:	**February 28, 2026**
Subordinate Mailing Address:	**PO Box 1640** **Wauchula, FL 33873-1640**

The authority to exist is verifiable by a valid official charter certificate, which every religious organization (i.e. subordinate) must possess from the central organization (i.e. Logos Global Network). ***Tax - exempt*** status is valid as long as the subordinate continues to meet requirements set forth by Logos Global Network. The status can be revoked without notice to the above-mentioned subordinate if they fail to meet one or more of the requirements as agreed.

In His Service,

Dr. Charles Travis
Presiding Presbyter

Contact us with your questions.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351087 Jacksonville FL 32235
Tel: 1.888.985.6467
Local: 904. 613-8469
www.lgnfamily.org

LOGOS GLOBAL NETWORK, INC.

CUTTING EDGE MINISTRIES

is a member in good standing and is affiliated with this ministry as a
Subordinate Member

Valid Through February 28, 2026

Logos Global Network
P. O. Box 351087
Jacksonville, FL 32235-1087
904-613-8469

INVOICE

BILL TO
Cutting Edge Ministries
Wendell G. Smith
P.O. Box 1640
Wauchula, FL 33873

INVOICE # LGN 16720
DATE 01/04/2025
DUE DATE 02/03/2025

ACTIVITY	RATE	AMOUNT
Network:Network Network Affiliation - Annual Membership Dues - Required to maintain IRS status 501 (c) (3) as a subordinate ministry of LGN	300.00	300.00
Network:Discount:Scholarship Fees discounted per Dr. Travis	-30.00	-30.00

PAID

CLERGY RENEWAL LINK:
https://form.jotform.com/82116692684161
501c3 RENEWAL LINK:
https://form.jotform.com/82282557684165

PAYMENT 270.00
BALANCE DUE **$0.00**

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: SEP 07 2001

LOGOS GLOBAL NETWORK INC
C/O CHARLES T TRAVIS
900 UNIVERSITY BLVD NORTH STE 107
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32211

Employer Identification Number:
59-3628171
DLN:
201043081
Contact Person:
GARY MUTHERT ID# 31518
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Form 990 Required:
No
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

Based on information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exemption, we have determined you are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3).

We have further determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code, because you are an organization described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(i).

If your sources of support, or your purposes, character, or method of operation change, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on your exempt status and foundation status. In the case of an amendment to your organizational document or bylaws, please send us a copy of the amended document or bylaws. Also, you should inform us of all changes in your name or address.

As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of $100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. This does not apply, however, if you make or have made a timely election under section 3121(w) of the Code to be exempt from such tax. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Since you are not a private foundation, you are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, if you are involved in an excess benefit transaction, that transaction might be subject to the excise taxes of section 4958. Additionally, you are not automatically exempt from other federal excise taxes. If you have any questions about excise, employment, or other federal taxes, please contact your key district office.

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(1) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely

on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(1) organization.

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of Code sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

Contribution deductions are allowable to donors only to the extent that their contributions are gifts, with no consideration received. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may not necessarily qualify as deductible contributions, depending on the circumstances. See Revenue Ruling 67-246, published in Cumulative Bulletin 1967-2, on page 104, which sets forth guidelines regarding the deductibility, as charitable contributions, of payments made by taxpayers for admission to or other participation in fundraising activities for charity.

In the heading of this letter we have indicated whether you must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax. If Yes is indicated, you are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than $25,000. However, if you receive a Form 990 package in the mail, please file the return even if you do not exceed the gross receipts test. If you are not required to file, simply attach the label provided, check the box in the heading to indicate that your annual gross receipts are normally $25,000 or less, and sign the return.

If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. A penalty of $20 a day is charged when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. However, the maximum penalty charged cannot exceed $10,000 or 5 percent of your gross receipts for the year, whichever is less. For organizations with gross receipts exceeding $1,000,000 in any year, the penalty is $100 per day per return, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. The maximum penalty for an organization with gross receipts exceeding $1,000,000 shall not exceed $50,000. This penalty may also be charged if a return is not complete, so be sure your return is complete before you file it.

You are required to make your annual information return, Form 990 or Form 990-EZ, available for public inspection for three years after the later of the due date of the return or the date the return is filed. You are also required to make available for public inspection your exemption application, any supporting documents, and your exemption letter. Copies of these documents are also required to be provided to any individual upon written or in person request without charge other than reasonable fees for copying and postage. You may fulfill this requirement by placing these documents on the Internet. Penalties may be imposed for failure to comply with these requirements. Additional information is available in Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, or you may call our toll free

number shown above.

You are not required to file federal income tax returns unless you are subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If you are subject to this tax, you must file an income tax return on Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return. In this letter we are not determining whether any of your present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

You need an employer identification number even if you have no employees. If an employer identification number was not entered on your application, a number will be assigned to you and you will be advised of it. Please use that number on all returns you file and in all correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your exempt status and foundation status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

We have sent a copy of this letter to your representative as indicated in your power of attorney.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Steven T. Miller
Director, Exempt Organizations

Enclosure(s):

2025 FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

FILED
May 14, 2025
Secretary of State
2425095338CC

DOCUMENT# N01000000225

Entity Name: CUTTING EDGE MINISTRIES, INC.

Current Principal Place of Business:

713 N 7TH AVE
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

Current Mailing Address:

P. O. BOX 1640
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

FEI Number: 65-1066365

Certificate of Status Desired: No

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

SMITH, WENDELL G
713 N 7TH AVE
WAUCHULA, FL 33873 US

The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE:

Electronic Signature of Registered Agent — Date

Officer/Director Detail :

Title	PD
Name	SMITH, WENDELL G
Address	P. O. BOX 1640
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873

Title	VD
Name	SMITH, TYINA
Address	P. O. BOX 1640
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873

Title	D
Name	ZIMMER, RONALD
Address	PO BOX 716
City-State-Zip:	AVON PARK FL 33826

Title	D
Name	ROYAL, DAVID
Address	PO BOX 1800
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873

Title	DIRECTOR
Name	HALL, GARY C
Address	1051 DOWNING CIRCLE APT 102
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873

I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am an officer or director of the corporation or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 617, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.

SIGNATURE: WENDELL G SMITH — CUTTING EDGE MINISTRIES INC — 05/14/2025

Electronic Signature of Signing Officer/Director Detail — Date

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.D

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Brandy Crawford, Grants Management Department

ITEM TYPE: Presentation

AGENDA SECTION: **NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**

SUBJECT: **Mark Parker, EPCA Inc. dba. Caring People Recovery Center**

SUGGESTED ACTION:

ATTACHMENTS:
Caring People.pdf

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2026
BY: B 2:07pm

Instructions

Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *EPCA Inc dba Caring People Recovery Center
Type the legal name of your organization

Mailing Address *5207 Doyle Parker Ave
Bowling Green FL 33834

Primary Phone *
(863) 375-3377

Website
https:// www.caringpeoplerecovery.com

Primary Contact Person *
Mark Parker

Email *
caringpeoplerecovery@gmail.com

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
, 501(c)(3)) and 650689295

Proof of Status *
List attached documents: IRS determination letter, Sunbiz registration, etc.

Service Area *
We provide several services to the Hardee community. Weekly open support group meetings to residents and nonresidents of Hardee County. We provide Access to Hardee County residents for

County Residents Served *
Hardee, Highlands and Polk

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *
Empower those we encounter by promoting a process of healing through growth, support food and basic needs for community support and create a opportunity for a restored way of life for those struggling in life.

Programs/Services Overview *

ACCESS Florida for Hardee County residents Food Assistance, TCA and Medicaid, Feeding Tampa Bay we distribute over 250 boxes of food to Hardee County residents biweekly, plus provide homeless and community services to those in need of housing, clothing, job assistance and food. Work w local probation offices for community service hrs. for Hardee County residents.

Partners & Support *
Joe L Davis, Crews Bank & Trust, Feeding America, Feeding Tampa Bay

Section 4 – Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$3500.00

Use of Funds *
These funds will allow us to provide more community outreach through delivery of goods and services to residents within Hardee County that are homebound. It will allow us to create more storage of food and provide goods and services such a sock, jeans, underwear, backpacks, school supplies for struggling families

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
N/A

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *
We assist those within our county to provide food, employment and services for those that struggle in life and need a little assistance

Measurable Outcomes *
We serve over 200 families with 35-40Lbs of food bi- weekly along with residents of Hardee County assistance in supportive living services such as food, clothing, housing, job placement

Public Support & Risk Mitigation
Hardee County has zero risk or liability.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *

Jonathan M Parker Director

Signature *
Jonathan M Parker

Date *
12/30/2025

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: APR 26 2001

EPCA INC
5211 MASON DIXON AVE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Employer Identification Number:
65-0689295
DLN:
201097002
Contact Person:
JEFFREY D SPROUL ID# 31182
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Our Letter Dated:
April 21, 1997
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

This modifies our letter of the above date in which we stated that you would be treated as an organization that is not a private foundation until the expiration of your advance ruling period.

Your exempt status under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) is still in effect. Based on the information you submitted, we have determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are an organization of the type described in section 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(1) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(1) organization.

You are required to make your annual information return, Form 990 or Form 990-EZ, available for public inspection for three years after the later of the due date of the return or the date the return is filed. You are also required to make available for public inspection your exemption application, any supporting documents, and your exemption letter. Copies of these documents are also required to be provided to any individual upon written or in person request without charge other than reasonable fees for copying and postage. You may fulfill this requirement by placing these documents on the Internet. Penalties may be imposed for failure to comply with these requirements. Additional information is available in Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, or you may call our toll free number shown above.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the addendum enclosed is an integral part of this letter.

Letter 1050 (DO/CG)

JEFF J. MCKIBBEN
Attorney at Law

804 West Palmetto Street
Wauchula, Florida 33873
(863) 781-0992
JJMCKIBBEN@GMAIL.COM

Licensing Authorities

Re: Mark Parker
Caring People Recovery

We moved to Wauchula in 1981, thus I have known Mark Parker and the Parker family for over 40 years. The family has a reputation for hard work, honesty and fair dealing. While practicing law and representing both local community banks I never encountered a situation where the family had acted improperly.

I served 12 years as the Hardee County Judge and five years as a Senior Judge for six counties retiring in December 2023. During the Hardee County posting I supervised county probation and the substance abuse, mental health, and injunction for protection cases were also assigned to me. These assignments brought many people with substance abuse problems before me. Consequently, I became very familiar with Mark Parker and Caring People Recovery in Bowling Green. I routinely released people from jail into his custody. If participation in a drug treatment program was a condition of probation I allowed compliance with Mr. Parker's program to fulfill that requirement. I have visited their campus several times and and comfortable with the operation.

Based on my experience, I am confident that Mark Parker has the experience and attitude to provide counseling services to anyone with substance abuse problems and the skills necessary to administer such programs.

Please contact me directly at any of the addresses sown above if I may provide further information or verification.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff J. McKibben

CITY OF BOWLING GREEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

To protect ....
And serve.

107 Main Street
Post Office Box 608
Bowling Green, Fl 33834
Phone: (863) 375-3549
Fax: (863) 375-3362

July 29, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is to affirm the Bowling Green Police Department's support of the mission of the Caring People's Ministry in Bowling Green, Florida. The ministry is a residential treatment facility for women and men who have addiction issues. The ministry has been successful in this endeavor and we have noted a very low rate of recidivism with the clients that complete their program.

Not only has the ministry been instrumental in helping many of our local residents become productive members of society, it has also provided service to others in the community who are in need. The ministry has been a partner of the Bowling Green Police Department since it's opening and has assisted us on many occasions in furthering our message and presence to the public. We place great faith in the integrity of this organization and would highly recommend its services and staff to anyone in need of their expertise. Should you require information or references for this facility, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

John Q. Scheel

John Q. Scheel
Chief of Police
Bowling Green Police Department

PARKER, JOHNNY
128 LEMON RD NE
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

Title President

PARKER, STEPHANIE
5207 DOYLE PARKER AVE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Title Officer

ROSE, DANIELLE
9611 58TH ST EAST
PARRISH, FL 34219

Title Secretary

ISRAEL, BETTY
2664 GRIFFIN RD
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

Title Officer

SHAW, JESSE
5516 TREVESTA PLACE
PALMETTO, FL 34221

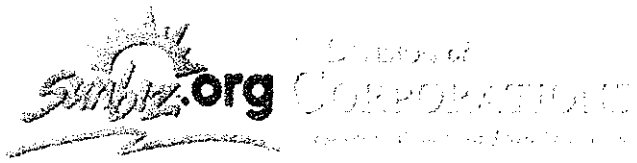
Annual Reports

Report Year	Filed Date
2023	01/16/2023
2024	03/15/2024
2025	04/14/2025

Document Images

04/14/2025 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
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04/29/2013 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
05/05/2012 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format

Division of Corporations



Detail by Entity Name

Florida Not For Profit Corporation
EPCA, INC.

Filing Information

Document Number	N96000002913
FEI/EIN Number	65-0689295
Date Filed	05/28/1996
State	FL
Status	ACTIVE

Principal Address

5207 DOYLE PARKER AVENUE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Changed: 02/10/2014

Mailing Address

5207 DOYLE PARKER AVENUE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Changed: 02/10/2014

Registered Agent Name & Address

PARKER, STEPHANIE
5207 DOYLE PARKER AVE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Name Changed: 04/14/2025

Address Changed: 04/14/2025

Officer/Director Detail

Name & Address

Title CEO

PARKER, STEPHANIE
5207 DOYLE PARKER AVE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Title VP

2025 FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

DOCUMENT# N96000002913

Entity Name: EPCA, INC.

Current Principal Place of Business:

5207 DOYLE PARKER AVENUE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Current Mailing Address:

5207 DOYLE PARKER AVENUE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834 US

FEI Number: 65-0689295

FILED
Apr 14, 2025
Secretary of State
6402580389CC

Certificate of Status Desired: Yes

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

PARKER, STEPHANIE
5207 DOYLE PARKER AVE
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834 US

The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE: STEPHANIE PARKER 04/14/2025
Electronic Signature of Registered Agent — Date

Officer/Director Detail :

Title	CEO	Title	VP
Name	PARKER, STEPHANIE	Name	PARKER, JOHNNY
Address	5207 DOYLE PARKER AVE	Address	128 LEMON RD NE
City-State-Zip:	BOWLING GREEN FL 33834	City-State-Zip:	LAKE PLACID FL 33852
Title	PRESIDENT	Title	OFFICER
Name	PARKER, STEPHANIE	Name	ROSE, DANIELLE
Address	5207 DOYLE PARKER AVE	Address	9611 58TH ST EAST
City-State-Zip:	BOWLING GREEN FL 33834	City-State-Zip:	PARRISH FL 34219
Title	SECRETARY	Title	OFFICER
Name	ISRAEL, BETTY	Name	SHAW, JESSE
Address	2664 GRIFFIN RD	Address	5516 TREVESTA PLACE
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873	City-State-Zip:	PALMETTO FL 34221

I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am an officer or director of the corporation or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 617, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.

SIGNATURE: STEPHANIE PARKER CEO 04/14/2025
Electronic Signature of Signing Officer/Director Detail — Date

2025 Projected Budget

INCOME	MONTH	YEARLY
Expected Contribution for 2025	$3333.00	$40000.00
Participant Fees	$27300.00.	$327600.00
Food Stamps	$4400.00	$52800.00
Total		$420400.00
Expenses		
Badcock Furniture	$335.00	$4020.00
Drug Testing	$350.00	$4200.00
Accounting		$1100.00
Advertising		$1000.00
Bank Charges		$2400.00
Training Material		$1300.00
Contract Labor		$68000.00
Electric		$33600.00
Payroll Taxes		$20009.00
Food		$25200.00
Gas & Oil		$30000.00
LP Gas		$5736.00
Auto Insurance		$13296.00
Liability Insurance		$908.00
Office Supplies		$1800.00
Salaries		$70000.00
Postage		$660.00

Repairs & Maintenance	$66000.00
Taxes & License	$1140.00
Telephone	$7260.00
Water & Sewage.	$3180.00
Cleaning Supplies	$6000.00
Credit Card Fees	$4200.00
Equipment Leases	$2400.00
Healthcare	$6000.00
Pest Control	$3600.00
Vehicle Payment	$16200.00
TOTAL	$399209.00
2024 PROJECTED PROFIT/LOSS	$21191.00

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.E

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE:	January 29, 2026
SUBMITTED BY:	Brandy Crawford, Grants Management Department
ITEM TYPE:	Presentation
AGENDA SECTION:	**NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**
SUBJECT:	**Jessica Lawson, Peace River Center for Personal Development, Inc.**
SUGGESTED ACTION:	

ATTACHMENTS:
Peace River Center.pdf

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2026
BY: B 2:11 pm

Instructions

Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *
Peace River Center for Personal Development, Inc.

Mailing Address *
P.O. Box 1559, Bartow, FL 33831

Primary Phone *
(863) 519-0575

Website
www.PeaceRiverCenter.org

Primary Contact Person *
Mali Moxley, Resource Development Manager

Email *
Mali.Moxley@PeaceRiverCenter.org

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
501(c) (3) EIN: 59-0818924

Proof of Status *
IRS determination letter attached.

Service Area *

Peace River Center is a non-profit provider of behavioral health and victim services in Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties.

Peace River Center has an office located at **213 E. Orange St, Wauchula, FL 33873**. Services provided in Hardee County include crisis services, outpatient services, victim services, and children's behavioral health services.

County Residents Served *

In **FY2025** Peace River Center provided services to **846** individuals residing in Hardee County. The value of these services totaled **$1,851,541** and does not include the cost of services provided by Domestic Violence or Rape Recovery Staff.

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *

Mission: Peace River Center's mission is to engage, restore, and empower individuals in our community to reach their highest potential.

Vision: The vision of Peace River Center is to be a center of excellence for behavioral health and emotional wellness.

Values: Our core values are Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect and Excellence. Peace River Center strives to treat our members and the individuals we serve with integrity and compassion. We are accountable to our members and the clients we serve, treating them with the respect they deserve. Peace River Center is committed to being a center of excellence in our community.

Programs/Services Overview *

Peace River Center's array of services includes inpatient, outpatient, home-, school- and community-based, and mobile and telehealth-based behavioral health programs for individuals and their families, 24/7 emergency psychiatric treatment, crisis response, and hotline services. Peace River Center also offers a range of Victim Services through two domestic violence shelters, a Rape Recovery Resource program, injunction for protection attorney services, court advocacy and outreach, counseling and support groups, a domestic violence hotline, a rape crisis hotline, and on-site sexual assault exams. Through vital healthcare partnerships, thousands of people consistently receive unbiased services tailored to meet their needs in the most appropriate environment, with the utmost respect.

Partners & Support *
The Peace River Center relies on a diverse range of fundraising strategies, including annual appeals, grant requests, and special events. These strategies are essential to sustaining critical programs that provide safety, recovery, and hope for individuals and families affected by mental illness, domestic violence, and sexual assault. Among our key events is the Coffee Benefit, which convenes women leaders and philanthropists in support of Peace River Center's Lakeland domestic violence shelter. This event generates essential funding to ensure survivors and their children have access to safe shelter and supportive services. Our premier fundraiser, Full Moon Howl, generates significant unrestricted revenue that strengthens our organizational capacity and enables us to respond flexibly to emerging community needs. In addition to financial support, these events serve to increase awareness, foster community engagement, and build lasting partnerships that advance our mission. Community partners include Advent Health, Central Florida Health Care, Drug Free Hardee, GiveWell Community Foundation, Hardee County, Hardee County School Board, Highlands County, Lakeland Electric, Mosaic, Polk County, Publix Super Markets Charities, Sheriff's offices of Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties, United Way of Central Florida, and more. Together, these efforts ensure that Peace River Center can continue to deliver compassionate, high-quality services to thousands of individuals each year, regardless of their ability to pay.

Section 4 - Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$8,000.00

Use of Funds *
The funding will be used to provide mental health services, including mobile crisis response and outpatient therapy sessions to Hardee County residents who are underinsured, uninsured, or indigent.

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
Not applicable.

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *
Peace River Center maintains a local office at 213 E. Orange St, Wauchula, FL 33873, ensuring that Hardee County residents have direct access to essential support. Local services include crisis intervention, outpatient treatment, victim advocacy, and children's behavioral health services. Through strong healthcare partnerships and a commitment to unbiased, person-centered services, Peace River Center helps individuals improve their lives, supports families and neighborhoods, and contributes to the overall strength and resilience of the Hardee County community, fulfilling the mission of Hardee County Grants Management program in measurable, meaningful ways.

Measurable Outcomes *
For **FY2025** Peace River Center provided the following services to Hardee County residents: • **136** individuals received care at our crisis stabilization unit • **15** individuals in Hardee County utilized our Mobile Crisis Response Team • **200** individuals were served by outpatient therapy in Hardee County • **194** Hardee County clients received medication management services • **205** individuals received community-based safety planning, court accompaniment, counseling and other victim services • **143** community outreach events were held in Hardee County to promote sexual violence awareness and prevention • **23** sexual violence survivors received help with **170** services • **73** children and adolescents received outpatient behavioral health services • **$1.8 million** in services to residents of Hardee County.

Public Support & Risk Mitigation
Community support is strengthened through coordinated partnerships with local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and service providers, ensuring residents have timely access to crisis intervention and restorative services. These collaborations promote consistent communication, streamlined referrals, and shared resources, which enhance service reach and reduce duplication of efforts. Risks to the County are minimized by providing early intervention, stabilizing individuals in crisis before situations escalate, and ensuring uninsured residents can access necessary

outpatient therapy. This proactive approach reduces strain on law enforcement, emergency departments, and other county systems while promoting safer, healthier community outcomes.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

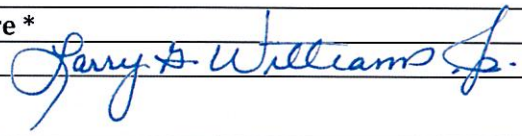
By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *
Larry G. Williams, Jr. Chief Executive Officer

Signature *


Date *
01/05/2026

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

Internal Revenue Service
P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Department of the Treasury

Date: December 1, 2009

Person to Contact:
Ms. Fox
ID# 0195938
Toll Free Telephone Number:
877-829-5500

PEACE RIVER CENTER FOR PERSONAL
DEVELOPMENT INC
% DAVID TOURNADE
1239 EAST MAIN ST
BARTOW FL 33830

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your letter of September 30, 2009, requesting a copy of the determination letter for Peace River Center for Personal Development, Inc.

While we were unable to locate these documents, our records indicate a determination letter was issued in August 1950 granting the organization exemption from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records also indicate this organization is not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) because it is classified under section(s) 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors may deduct contributions to this organization as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to the organization or for its use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Westcott

Cindy Westcott
Manager, Exempt Organizations
Determinations



Detail by Entity Name

Florida Not For Profit Corporation
PEACE RIVER CENTER FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Filing Information

Document Number	712968
FEI/EIN Number	59-0818924
Date Filed	06/21/1967
State	FL
Status	ACTIVE
Last Event	CORPORATE MERGER
Event Date Filed	05/28/1996
Event Effective Date	NONE

Principal Address

1239 EAST MAIN STREET
BARTOW, FL 33830

Changed: 05/02/2005

Mailing Address

PO BOX 1559
BARTOW, FL 33831

Changed: 05/02/2005

Registered Agent Name & Address

Williams, Jr., Larry G.
1239 EAST MAIN STREET
BARTOW, FL 33830

Name Changed: 05/09/2022

Address Changed: 02/24/2016

Officer/Director Detail

Name & Address

Title Secretary

BAGGETT, PAUL, MAJOR
2278 LONGLEAF CIRCLE
LAKELAND, FL 33809

Title Chairman

Golotko, Peter C.
205 East Orange Street
Third Floor
Lakeland, FL 33801

Title VC

Dorsett, Al
262 Wood Hall Drive
Mulberry, FL 33860

Title Director

Dee, Cheryl, Ph.D.
2215 Jonila Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803

Title Director

Reed, Stanley B.
Post Office Box 1645
Lakeland, FL 33802

Title 2nd Vice Chair

Bodolay, Robert S.
91 Lake Morton Drive
Lakeland, FL 33801

Title Director

Walsh, Lori
745 Crescent Hills Dr
Lakeland, FL 33813

Title Director

Floyd, Ian
6233 Riverlake Ln
Bartow, FL 33830

Title Treasurer

Baker, Cindy
427 Lake Ned Rd
Winter Haven, FL 33884

Title Director

Cannon, Cara, Dr.
1414 Spruce Rd S
Lakeland, FL 33809

Title Director

Robare, Brian
6512 Emerald Woods Ln
Lakeland, FL 33813

Title Director

Villarreal, Laura
1950 N Lake Eloise Dr
Winter Haven, FL 33884

Title CFO

Tournade, David
PO BOX 1559
BARTOW, FL 33831-1559

Title COO

Barnes, Candace
PO BOX 1559
BARTOW, FL 33831-1559

Annual Reports

Report Year	Filed Date
2023	01/11/2023
2024	01/03/2024
2025	01/06/2025

Document Images

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01/15/1997 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
05/28/1996 -- Merger	View image in PDF format
04/09/1996 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
05/01/1995 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format

PEACE RIVER CENTER
BUDGET FY26

	Budget FY26
Revenue	
Grant Revenue	
State SAMH Funding	$ 16,004,212
State Non-SAMH Funding	2,432,933
Other Government Funding	7,048,099
Private Funding	1,853,736
Client Fees, Net of Bad Debt Expense	11,257,288
Contributions	1,009,568
Non-monetary Contributions	1,810,802
Other Revenue	214,463
Special Projects	294,710
Total Revenues	**$ 41,925,812**
Expenses	
Salaries	$ 22,364,120
Benefits	5,838,009
Professional Services	831,156
Building Occupancy	1,344,954
Equipment	431,018
Food	592,098
Insurance	975,737
Medical and Pharmacy	258,351
Travel	192,699
Operating Expense	
Contract Labor	66,487
Client Assistance	1,012,911
Other	1,873,512
Other	12,393
Non-monetary Expenditures	1,810,802
Total Operating Expenses	**$ 37,604,247**
Income (Loss) before Depreciation, Amortization and Interest	**$ 4,321,565**
Interest	142,078
Depreciation & Amortization	914,160
Net Income (Loss)	**$ 3,265,327**
Less:	-
Capital Related Contracts & Donations	3,500,000
	-
Net Income (Loss) - from Operations	**$ (234,673)**

Dear Hardee County,

My name is Miranda Adame, and I am the Community Health Liaison at the Florida Department of Health in Hardee County. I am writing this to express my greatest support for Peace River Center to receive a donation.

I have worked alongside Peace River Center with many community projects that have benefited members of the Hardee County Community. I have planned many events and have attended many community events and Peace River Center is always out in the community sharing the services that are offered to meet the needs for Hardee County residents.

Peace River Center has also played an active role in our Healthy Hardee meetings.

The Healthy Hardee meetings follow a seven-year workplan that meets the needs of underserved members of the Hardee County. There are different focus areas and Peace River Center has always helped complete objectives from the workplan in every way that they can. At one of our most recent events, Peace River Center came to a Human Trafficking Training that was hosted at the Florida Department of Health in Hardee County. Many community partners attended the training as well to gain more information on the subject matter. Peace River Center Victim Services were also able to attend the event and promoted their services.

Peace River Center has been such an amazing partner to have over the years that I have been employed at the Florida Department of Health and as the Community Health Liaison. The services that Peace River Center provide to the community are very beneficial and important. Not only are they a great partner to have for the Florida Department of Health but for other organization in the community as well.

I strongly recommend Peace River Center to receive the charitable donation that the organization is applying for. So, that they may continue the great work that is done and continue to spread awareness and information of their services to members of the Haree County Community.

Miranda Adame
Community Health Liaison
Community Health Services

Florida Department of Health in Hardee County
115 K.D. Revell Road Wauchula, Florida 33873
Office: (863) 473-6051

Cell: (863) 368-2253
hardee.floridahealth.gov

HHC
Hardee Help Center

Empowering Hardee County with Christ-centered support, we serve our neighbors facing difficult seasons in life with dignity and hope.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Peace River Center and their request for county grant funding. Through our work at Hardee Help Center, we have had the opportunity to partner with Peace River Center and see firsthand the impact they have on individuals and families throughout Hardee County.

Peace River Center provides accessible, low-cost mental health services to those who might otherwise go without care. Many of the people we serve face financial barriers that make mental health support feel out of reach, and Peace River Center consistently helps bridge that gap with professionalism, compassion, and respect. Their willingness to meet people where they are makes a meaningful difference in lives that are often filled with stress, uncertainty, and hardship.

Their services support overall stability and well-being, helping individuals improve their mental health so they can better care for themselves, their families, and remain engaged in Hardee County.

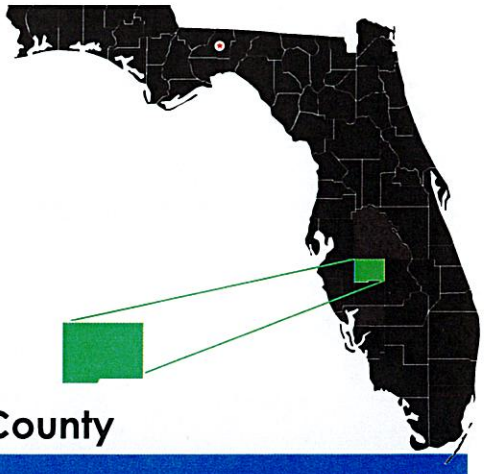
Peace River Center is a trusted and valued partner, and its work strengthens the health of Hardee County as a whole.

Sincerely,
Lori Friers

Executive Director
Hardee Help Center

Peace River Center®
COMPASSIONATE PEOPLE • POSITIVE IMPACT

HARDEE COUNTY FY25 IMPACT



Peace River Center's mission is to engage, restore, and empower individuals in our community to reach their fullest potential.

Value of Services for Hardee County

$1,851,541*

*Value of treatment does not include clients seen by Domestic Violence or Rape Recovery Staff



CRISIS SERVICES

24-Hour Emotional Support and Crisis Line, Mobile Crisis Response Team
Call: 863.519.3744 | Toll-free: 800.627.5906 | Text: 863.204.3443

- **136** Individuals Received Care at our Crisis Stabilization Unit
- **15** Individuals in Hardee County Utilized our Mobile Crisis Response Team



OUTPATIENT SERVICES

213 E Orange St, Wauchula, FL 33873

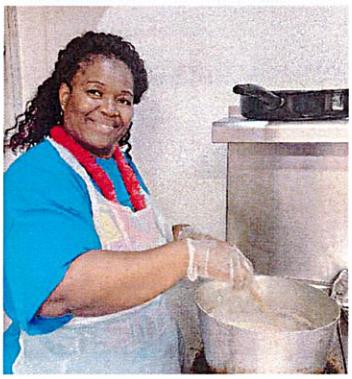
- **200** Individuals Served by Outpatient Therapy in Hardee County
- **194** Hardee County Clients Received Medication Management Services



VICTIM SERVICES

213 E Orange St, Wauchula, FL 33873
24-Hour Domestic Violence Crisis Line: 863.386.1167
24-Hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line: 863.413.2707 | Toll-free: 877.688.5077

- **205** Individuals Received Community-Based Safety Planning, Court Accompaniment, Counseling and Other Victim Services
- SV Awareness and Prevention Efforts Included **143** Community Outreach Events
- **23** SV Survivors Received Help With **170** Services



CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Behavioral Health Services

- **73** Children and Adolescents Received Outpatient Behavioral Health Services

Peace River Center's Wauchula Office
213 E. Orange St, Wauchula, FL 33873

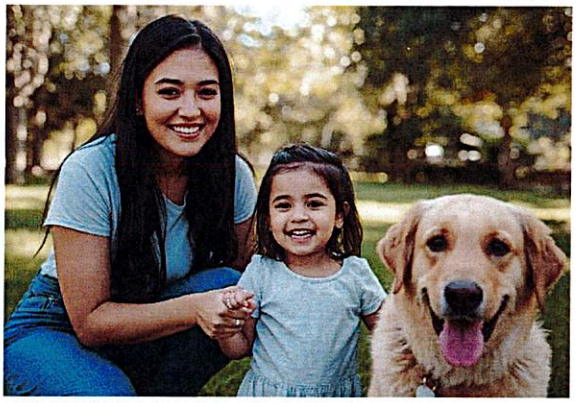






Client Success Story

"Our dog is family. Having him by our side gave my children hope and helped us all start over together."



When Trisha* called our 24-hour domestic violence hotline, she was fleeing a dangerous and escalating situation. For years, her abuser had subjected her to verbal and physical violence. Even after she left, he tracked her down and threatened her life. Fearing for her children's safety, Trisha made the courageous decision to seek refuge at Peace River Center's domestic violence shelter.

One of her deepest worries, though, was her beloved dog. She knew abusers often use pets as a weapon of control or harm, and she couldn't bear to leave him behind. Thanks to your generosity, we reassured her with confidence: *"You and your entire family, including your four-legged family members, are welcome here."*

From the moment they arrived, our staff met the family's most urgent needs, including food, clothing, and a safe place to rest. We also made sure their dog was cared for with food, bedding, and veterinary support. When we discovered he hadn't been vaccinated recently, we worked with our trusted Polk County veterinary partner, SPCA Florida, to provide his medical care. For Trisha, knowing her entire family was safe and healthy brought deep peace of mind.

With those immediate worries lifted, Trisha focused on rebuilding her new violence-free life. Over the next few weeks, she secured employment and eventually moved into permanent housing. **When she left the shelter, she did so with her children and her dog by her side, together, safe, and ready for a new beginning.**

Trisha's journey shows the power of your support. **Because of your commitment to survivors with pets, families like hers don't have to choose between safety and staying with the animals they love.** Your generosity gave Trisha and her entire family, including their four-legged member, the chance to move forward with strength, dignity, and hope.

**Names have been changed and stock photo used for confidentiality*

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.F

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE:	January 29, 2026
SUBMITTED BY:	Brandy Crawford, Grants Management Department
ITEM TYPE:	Presentation
AGENDA SECTION:	**NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**
SUBJECT:	**Lori Friers, Hardee County Ministerial Association, Inc. dba. Hardee Help Center**
SUGGESTED ACTION:	

ATTACHMENTS:
Hardee Help Center.pdf

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

RECEIVED
JAN 06 2026
BY: B 10:45am

Instructions

Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *
Hardee County Ministerial Association Inc. dba Hardee Help Center

Mailing Address *
PO Box 422, Wauchula Fl. 33873

Primary Phone *
863-773-0034

Website
https://...hardeehelpcenter.com

Primary Contact Person *
Lori Friers

Email *
lori@hardeehelpcenter.com

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
Non profit EIN number 59-2993242

Proof of Status *

IRS determination letter and Florida tax exempt Certificate

Service Area *
Hardee County Fl

County Residents Served *
100%

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *
"Empowering Hardee County with Christ-centered support, we serve our neighbors facing difficult seasons in life with dignity and hope." Hardee Help Center provides Christ-centered support to Hardee County neighbors experiencing short-term crises, offering practical help delivered with dignity, respect, and hope. We aim to lift burdens—not add to them—ensuring every person feels valued, welcomed, and never "less than" during their difficult season of life.

Programs/Services Overview *
The Hardee Help Center provides short-term crisis assistance to individuals and families in Hardee County who are facing financial hardship. Our services include limited rental or mortgage assistance and utility assistance to help stabilize households during difficult seasons. We also operate a *Shop with Dignity* food pantry, allowing individuals and families at risk of hunger to choose food items that best meet their needs in a respectful and empowering environment. In addition, we provide support to the homeless population in Hardee County, offer disaster assistance during severe weather events, and distribute food and essential items to vulnerable senior citizens.

Partners & Support *
Alan Jay Ford (Vehicle Care) *Alpha & Omega Freedom Ministries (Shelter, Low Income Apartments, & Counseling)* *CareerSource (Job Development Facilitation)* *Choices Family Resource Center (Pre and Postnatal Care)* *City of Wauchula (HHC Utilities & Donated Lawn Maintenance)*

City of Wauchula Police Department (Community Partner - Background checks & transportation)
Cutting Edge Ministries (Food Donations)
Department of Children and Families (ACCESS Training and Support)
Drug Free Hardee (Community Partner)
Duke Energy (Service Provider Partnership)
Early Learning Coalition (Community Partner- HHC approved application site)
East Coast Migrant Head Start (Community Partner)
First United Methodist Church of Wauchula (Food Donations, Homeless Outreach)
Florida Association of Non-Profits (Training and Leadership Support)
Florida Baptist Children's Homes- One More Child (Community Partner, Vendor, Food Rescue))
Florida Institute for Neurologic Rehabilitation (FINR) (FINR Client Job Training)
Ground Level (Donated Lawn Maintenance)
Hardee County Board of County Commissioners (Community Partner - IT Support)
Hardee County Emergency Management (Community Partner-Local Mitigation Strategy Group)
Hardee County Extension Services (Provider, Family Nutrition Program classes)
Hardee County Ministerial Association Inc. (Financial Contributor, In-Kind Donations, Volunteers, and Leadership
Support)
Hardee County Sheriff's Office - (Community Partner - Background checks & transportation)
Heart of Florida Legal Aid Society (Legal Services)
Heartland Coalition for the Homeless (Housing Assistance, Grant Seeking Assistance)
Heartland Food Bank (Community Partner, Vendor, Food Rescue)
Heartland Rural Health Network (Referrals for health assessments.)
Main St Wauchula (Community Events)
Mulberry Community Service Center (Provider, Money Smart for Families)
MOSAIC Fertilizer Inc. (Financial Contributor & Volunteer Support)
Nicholas Family Restaurant (Food Donations/Food Rescue)
Non-Profit Leadership Center (Training and Leadership Development)
Nu-Hope Elder Care Services, Inc. (Senior Support Services)
Peace River Electric Cooperative (Financial Contributor & Operation Round Up)
RCMA of Hardee County (Community Partner)
Red Cross (Disaster Services)
Salvation Army (Financial Contributor)
SendMeMissions (Community Partner)
Senior Connection Center Inc. - SHINE (Senior Support Services)
Sherry White Ministries (Community Partner - Clothing & Bike donations)
St. Vincent de Paul Society (Transitional Housing Assistance for Veterans)
Step Up Suncoast (LIHEAP & Parents as Teachers Program)
Town of Bowling Green (Service Provider Partnership - Utility Assistance)
Town of Zolfo Springs (Service Provider Partnership - Utility Assistance)
United States Postal Service, Wauchula (Community Partner - National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out
Hunger donations)
United Way of Central Florida Inc. (Financial Contributor, Clearinghouse, Training and Leadership Support)

We are funded through a combination of grants and community support. As a ministry of the local churches, we receive monthly support from many Hardee County congregations. Additional funding comes from partners such as Mosaic, Give Well, United Way, SHINE, the Salvation Army, individual donors, and other grants we actively pursue.

Section 4 – Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$7,200.00

Use of Funds *
We are requesting $7,200 to help cover the cost of our social media firm. Social media is one of our most effective and reliable tools for communicating with the public in a timely manner. It allows us to quickly share accurate information with a wide audience, including individuals and families who rely on our services. Timely communication is especially critical when announcing upcoming services, food distributions, disaster response efforts, or changes to operating hours. Many of the people we serve depend on social media as their primary source of information, making it essential to our daily operations. Our social media firm ensures that information is shared clearly, consistently, and promptly, helping us reach those in need while also keeping donors, partners, and the broader Hardee County community informed.

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
Describe any requested in-kind support; note County may calculate internal costs

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *
The Hardee County Board of County Commissioners has a strong commitment to serving the people of Hardee County. For the past 25 years, the Hardee Help Center

has shared that same commitment. We deeply love Hardee County and the individuals and families who call it home.

As we look to the future, we want to continue informing our community of vital and timely information about available services, resources, and support. Clear communication helps ensure that those who need assistance are aware of it and can access help when it matters most.

Measurable Outcomes *

We will track social media reach and engagement and compare this data to attendance at services and distributions. We will also ask clients how they heard about our services to directly measure the impact of social media communication across Hardee County.

Public Support & Risk Mitigation

The Hardee Help Center has strong support from local churches, businesses, volunteers, and residents who rely on our services. With 25 years of serving Hardee County, we have built trust and credibility in the community.

We minimize risk by keeping transparent financial records, following clear policies, and using all funds responsibly. This ensures the County can have confidence that support reaches those who need it most.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *

Lori Friers, Executive Director

Signature *
Lori A. Friers

Date *
01/05/2026

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: SEP 25 2000

HARDEE COUNTY MINISTERIAL
ASSOCIATION INC
PO BOX 422
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

Employer Identification Number:
59-2993242
DLN:
17053236015010
Contact Person:
ROBERTA VAN METER ID# 52624
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Form 990 Required:
No
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

Based on information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exemption, we have determined you are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3).

We have further determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code, because you are an organization described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(i).

If your sources of support, or your purposes, character, or method of operation change, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on your exempt status and foundation status. In the case of an amendment to your organizational document or bylaws, please send us a copy of the amended document or bylaws. Also, you should inform us of all changes in your name or address.

As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of $100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. This does not apply, however, if you make or have made a timely election under section 3121(w) of the Code to be exempt from such tax. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Since you are not a private foundation, you are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, if you are involved in an excess benefit transaction, that transaction might be subject to the excise taxes of section 4958. Additionally, you are not automatically exempt from other federal excise taxes. If you have any questions about excise, employment, or other federal taxes, please contact your key district office.

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(1) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely

on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(1) organization.

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of Code sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

Contribution deductions are allowable to donors only to the extent that their contributions are gifts, with no consideration received. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may not necessarily qualify as deductible contributions, depending on the circumstances. See Revenue Ruling 67-246, published in Cumulative Bulletin 1967-2, on page 104, which sets forth guidelines regarding the deductibility, as charitable contributions, of payments made by taxpayers for admission to or other participation in fundraising activities for charity.

In the heading of this letter we have indicated whether you must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax. If Yes is indicated, you are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than $25,000. However, if you receive a Form 990 package in the mail, please file the return even if you do not exceed the gross receipts test. If you are not required to file, simply attach the label provided, check the box in the heading to indicate that your annual gross receipts are normally $25,000 or less, and sign the return.

If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. A penalty of $20 a day is charged when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. However, the maximum penalty charged cannot exceed $10,000 or 5 percent of your gross receipts for the year, whichever is less. For organizations with gross receipts exceeding $1,000,000 in any year, the penalty is $100 per day per return, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. The maximum penalty for an organization with gross receipts exceeding $1,000,000 shall not exceed $50,000. This penalty may also be charged if a return is not complete, so be sure your return is complete before you file it.

You are required to make your annual information return, Form 990 or Form 990-EZ, available for public inspection for three years after the later of the due date of the return or the date the return is filed. You are also required to make available for public inspection your exemption application, any supporting documents, and your exemption letter. Copies of these documents are also required to be provided to any individual upon written or in person request without charge other than reasonable fees for copying and postage. You may fulfill this requirement by placing these documents on the Internet. Penalties may be imposed for failure to comply with these requirements. Additional information is available in Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, or you may call our toll free

DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES
(850) 410-3800



THE RHODES BUILDING
2005 APALACHEE PARKWAY
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-6500

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

March 17, 2025 **Refer To: CH34559**

HARDEE COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
PO BOX 422
WAUCHULA, FL 33873-0422

RE: HARDEE COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
REGISTRATION#: CH34559
EXPIRATION DATE: March 13, 2026

Dear Sir or Madam:

The above-named organization/sponsor has complied with the registration requirements of Chapter 496, Florida Statutes, the Solicitation of Contributions Act. A COPY OF THIS LETTER SHOULD BE RETAINED FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Every charitable organization or sponsor which is required to register under s. 496.405 must conspicuously display the registration number issued by the Department and in capital letters the following statement on every printed solicitation, written confirmation, receipt, or reminder of a contribution:

"A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE."

The Solicitation of Contributions Act requires an annual renewal statement to be filed on or before the date of expiration of the previous registration. The Department will send a renewal package approximately 30 days prior to the date of expiration as shown above.

Thank you for your cooperation. If we may be of further assistance, please contact the Solicitation of Contributions section.

Sincerely,

Deleah Sims
Regulatory Consultant
850-410-3719
Fax: 850-410-3804
E-mail: deleah.sims@fdacs.gov

0000109 03/27/21

FLORIDA

Consumer's Certificate of Exemption

Issued Pursuant to Chapter 212, Florida Statutes

DR-14
R. 01/18

Certificate Number	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Exemption Category
85-8012530963C-2	04/30/2021	04/30/2026	501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION

This certifies that

HARDEE COUNTY MINISTERIAL
ASSOCIATION INC
713 E BAY ST
WAUCHULA FL 33873-3214

is exempt from the payment of Florida sales and use tax on real property rented, transient rental property rented, tangible personal property purchased or rented, or services purchased.

FLORIDA

Important Information for Exempt Organizations

DR-14
R. 01/18

1. You must provide all vendors and suppliers with an exemption certificate before making tax-exempt purchases. See Rule 12A-1.038, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

2. Your *Consumer's Certificate of Exemption* is to be used solely by your organization for your organization's customary nonprofit activities.

3. Purchases made by an individual on behalf of the organization are taxable, even if the individual will be reimbursed by the organization.

4. This exemption applies only to purchases your organization makes. The sale or lease to others of tangible personal property, sleeping accommodations, or other real property is taxable. Your organization must register, and collect and remit sales and use tax on such taxable transactions. Note: Churches are exempt from this requirement except when they are the lessor of real property (Rule 12A-1.070, F.A.C.).

5. It is a criminal offense to fraudulently present this certificate to evade the payment of sales tax. Under no circumstances should this certificate be used for the personal benefit of any individual. Violators will be liable for payment of the sales tax plus a penalty of 200% of the tax, and may be subject to conviction of a third-degree felony. Any violation will require the revocation of this certificate.

6. If you have questions about your exemption certificate, please call Taxpayer Services at 850-488-6800. The mailing address is PO Box 6480, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6480.

Hardee Help Center

Projected Organizational Budget – Calendar Year 2026
Budget Period: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Projected Revenue

Income Source	Amount
Beginning Balance	$42,000
Church Contributions	$50,000
Individual Donations	$50,000
Corporate Contributions	$9,000
Government Grants	$6,000
United Way	$67,105
Salvation Army	$35,000
Mosaic	$40,000
PRECO	$2,000
Gift-In-Kind Donations	$55,000
Total Projected Income	**$356,105**

Projected Expenses

Expense Category	Amount
Staff Payroll & Benefits	$161,016
Staff Training & Development	$2,500
Rent & Utilities	$6,000
Telephone / Internet / Website Maintenance	$3,500
Insurance	$16,000
Professional Support (Accounting, Social Media Firm etc..)	$12,700
Marketing & Advertising	$2,000
Print & Postage	$1,500
Office & Program Supplies	$1,500
Building Maintenance	$4,000
Van Upkeep & Fuel	$500
Special Events	$2,000
Miscellaneous Expenses	$7,500
Client Direct Assistance	**$110,000**
Total Projected Expenses	**$330,716.36**

Budget Summary

- **Total Projected Income:** $356,105
- **Total Projected Expenses:** $330,716.36
- **Projected Operating Margin:** $25,388.64

Program Budget: Social Media & Communications Support

Budget Period: 12 months

Budget Item	Cost per Quarter	Number of Quarters	Total Annual Cost
Social Media Management Services	$1,800	4	$7,200

Total Program Budget: $7,200

Budget Narrative / Justification

Funds requested will support contracted social media and digital communications services for a 12-month period. The social media firm provides strategic content creation, scheduling, and online engagement to increase community awareness of services, outreach efforts, and emergency resources available through the Hardeee Help Center. We realized how vital having a strong social media presence was during Hurricane Season. Services are billed quarterly at $1,800 per quarter, for a total annual cost of $7,200.

Hardee County Ministerial Association, Inc.

January 1, 2026

RE: Hardee County Ministerial Association dba Hardee Help Center

Dear Hardee County Board of County Commissioners,

I am writing this letter of support of the Hardee Help Center and their grant application for county funding. The Hardee Help Center provides vital services both to residents and the homeless population in Hardee County. The funds they are applying for will continue their ministry to our community with assistance for families with short-term crises and with food and respite care for our homeless friends.

I am in full support of their funding application to the Board of County Commissioners of Hardee County.

Hardee County is limited with resources and in great need of these services. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration of the Hardee Help Center.

Sincerely,

Rev. G. David Harper, President
Hardee County Ministerial Association
PO Box 422, Wauchula, FL 33873
Email: daveharper53@yahoo.com
Cell: 239-210-8198

HARDEE COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

January 5, 2026

Hardee County Board of County Commissioners
412 West Orange Street
Wauchula, FL 33873

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the Hardee County Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to offer our full support for the Hardee Help Center and their grant application currently under consideration. The Hardee Help Center has been a vital partner in strengthening the wellbeing of our residents and supporting the overall stability of our community. Their services play a critical role in assisting families and individuals facing food insecurity, financial hardship, and other emergency needs.

The Chamber recognizes that a thriving local economy depends on the stability of its workforce and families. The Hardee Help Center directly contributes to this by providing compassionate, consistent support that helps residents overcome challenges, remain employed, and stay connected to the resources they need. Their commitment to dignity, personalized care, and long-term solutions aligns with our shared vision of a stronger and more resilient Hardee County.

We greatly value our partnership with the Hardee Help Center and appreciate the positive impact they make each day. Funding through this grant will allow them to continue meeting essential community needs and expand their ability to serve those who depend on them.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request and for your continued commitment to the wellbeing of Hardee County.

Sincerely,
Kaylee Webb
Executive Director
Hardee County Chamber of Commerce

Outlook

Missing Items For Grant Funding

From Brandy Crawford <brandy.crawford@hardeecountyfl.gov>
Date Wed 1/7/2026 2:33 PM
To Lori HardeeHelp <lori@hardeehelpcenter.com>

Good afternoon, Lori.

Upon reviewing your charitable donation application, it appears we are missing a copy of your current Florida Registration from Sunbiz. Please provide this information to me by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 9, 2026, in order for your application to move forward.

Thank you!

Brandy Crawford
Executive Assistant

Office: (863) 773-9430 / Cell: (863) 513-8945
Email: Brandy.Crawford@HardeeCountyFL.gov
412 W. Orange Street, Suite 103 Wauchula, FL 33873

"TEAM HARDEE"

Hardee County
FLORIDA

2025 FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

FILED
Apr 28, 2025
Secretary of State
2015879435CC

DOCUMENT# N20625

Entity Name: HARDEE COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Current Principal Place of Business:

1330 S US HWY 17
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

Current Mailing Address:

POST OFFICE BOX 422
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

FEI Number: 59-2993242

Certificate of Status Desired: No

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

HARPER, GEORGE DAVID
1330 S US HWY 17
WAUCHULA, FL 33873 US

The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE: GEORGE DAVID HARPER 04/28/2025

Electronic Signature of Registered Agent — Date

Officer/Director Detail :

Title	SECRETARY, TREASURER	Title	PRESIDENT
Name	THOMPSON, CHARLES	Name	HARPER, GEORGE DAVID
Address	POST OFFICE BOX 422	Address	PO BPX 422
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873	City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873

Title	VP
Name	HARPER, AMY
Address	PO BOX 422
City-State-Zip:	WAUCHULA FL 33873

I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am an officer or director of the corporation or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 617, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.

SIGNATURE: GEORGE DAVID HARPER PRESIDENT 04/28/2025

Electronic Signature of Signing Officer/Director Detail — Date

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.G

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE:	January 29, 2026
SUBMITTED BY:	Brandy Crawford, Grants Management Department
ITEM TYPE:	Presentation
AGENDA SECTION:	**NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**
SUBJECT:	**Debbie Slade, Nu-Hope Elder Care Services, Inc.**
SUGGESTED ACTION:	

ATTACHMENTS:
Nu-Hope.pdf

Hardee County
FLORIDA

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO)

FY 2025-2026

RECEIVED
JAN 06 2026
BY: 11:49am

Issued by: Hardee County Board of County Commissioners

Issue Date: December 5, 2025

Application Deadline: January 6, 2026, no later than 5pm.

Purpose: Hardee County seeks applications from eligible nonprofit organizations for funding opportunities that serve a valid public purpose benefiting County residents.

Funding Amount: Total funding amount budgeted $20,000.

Eligibility: Must be a 501(c) nonprofit registered in Florida, serving primarily Hardee County residents.

Submission Instructions: Complete the application form and submit all required documents by the deadline. Applications must be submitted in person to 412 W. Orange Street, Rm103, Wauchula, FL. No late submissions will be considered.

A presentation to the Board of County Commissioners is required. You will be given 15 minutes to present your request to the Board. Presentations will be scheduled for January 29, 2026.

RANKING CRITERIA

Criteria	Description	Score (1-10)
Alignment	Measurable outcomes align with County priorities	
Capacity	Organizational capacity and financial stability	
Community Support	Level of partnerships and public support	
Impact	Impact on County resources and risk	
Overall Benefit	Public purpose and measurable outcomes	

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

Instructions
Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *
NU-HOPE Elder Care Services, Inc.

Mailing Address *
3530 Office Park Rd., Sebring, FL 33870

Primary Phone *
(863) 382-2134

Website
https://www.nuhopeeldercare.org

Primary Contact Person *
Debbie Slade, Executive Director

Email *
SladeD@nuhope.org

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
501(c)(3); EIN: 59-1649814

Proof of Status *
IRS determination letter- **See attached***

Service Area *

Confirm operations within Hardee County and describe service locations Hardee County:

NU-HOPE Elder Care Services maintains a local office in Hardee County, The Cathryn McDonald Senior Center, and will continue to coordinate, facilitate and provide all services for Hardee County out of this facility:

Address:
NU-HOPE Elder Care Services
310 N. 8th Ave.,
Wauchula, FL 33873

In-home and support services are (and will continue to be) provided directly in the homes of residents living throughout the entire county, including remote, very rural locations. This includes services such as assistance with bathing, dressing, homemaking, and shopping; respite for caregivers; telephone-based safety monitoring; case management support; and incidental personal, home and environmental services. In addition, qualified caregivers living in Hardee County and providing full time care to seniors receive monthly stipends to offset expenses.

Nutrition services are both provided directly at the homes of seniors requiring home delivery of meals and at the Cathryn McDonald Senior Center where additional activities and socialization opportunities are offered.

All clients served through this grant will be Hardee County residents.

County Residents Served *

State percentage of participants who are Hardee County residents (must be ≥ 80% if applicable)

100 % of clients served through this grant funding will be Hardee County residents.

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *

NU-HOPE Elder Care Services' mission is to enhance the physical, emotional and financial wellbeing of seniors and caregivers through advocacy, education, leadership and the provision of services.

Our specific goal is to promote independence and quality of life and prevent/delay nursing home placement.

Programs/Services Overview *

Briefly describe primary programs/services

NU-HOPE Elder Care Services assists seniors in Hardee County to safely remain in their own homes by providing a comprehensive array of in-home support and nutrition services that directly address functional limitations commonly leading to nursing home placement. Services are designed to stabilize daily living, protect health and safety, and support independence for older adults with limited mobility, chronic health conditions, or reduced capacity to manage essential household tasks or obtain essential foods or medicines. These services are provided, primarily, through grants received under the Federal Older Americans Act and the Florida State General Revenue Funding.

Specific services provided include (but are not limited to):

- Assistance with bathing and essential homemaking tasks
- Respite and companion services,
- Shopping for groceries and household food items
- Picking up prescribed medications and ensuring they are available in the home
- Assistance in maintaining a hygienic and safe home environment that supports health and well-being
- Emergency alert response safety monitoring
- Case management
- Caregiver stipends
- Home-delivered meals
- Congregate meals and socialization activities designed to enhance physical, emotional, and cognitive health
- Crisis energy assistance payments (as needed to maintain safe housing)

These services focus on the health-related and practical daily activities that determine whether a senior can remain safely housed and function independently in the community.

Partners & Support *

List community partners and other funding sources

Primary Financial Support includes grants from the following:

- Older Americans Act
- Florida State General Revenue: Community Care for the Elderly, Alzheimer's Disease Initiative, Home Care for the Elderly programs
- Senior Connection Center
- United Way of Central Florida
- Mosaic
- PRECO
- Duke Energy

In-kind major support: City of Wauchula (Facility use: Cathryn McDonald Senior Center)

Additional support of the Senior Meal and Activity Center, our Holiday Dinner, and addressing individual client needs is received from diverse members of the Hardee County Community, including: Christine Wells/Art for the Heart, City of Wauchula Police Department, Cracker Trail 4H, Drug Free Hardee, First Baptist Church-Hannah Class, Florida First Assembly of God Church, Hardee Help Center, Hardee Sheriff's Department, Key Club, Moose Lodge, Send me Missions, and Woody's restaurant.

Section 4 – Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$20,000.00

Use of Funds *

Describe exactly how funds will be used and why it serves a valid public purpose for Hardee County residents

Funds awarded through this grant will be used for two purposes: to offset the required local cash match that NU-HOPE Elder Care Services, Inc. must provide as the state-designated Lead Agency for aging services, and to provide additional direct services for high-risk seniors currently on a waitlist or with needs that exceed available funding.

NU-HOPE Elder Care Services is the state-designated Lead Agency for aging services in Hardee County. Under section 430.205(2), Florida Statutes, each *Community Care for the Elderly* service system "must be under the direction of a lead agency" responsible for coordinating services that allow functionally impaired older adults to remain in their homes and avoid institutional care. The Florida Department of Elder Affairs, through the Area Agency on Aging, selected NU-HOPE to serve in this Lead Agency role.

Unlike most nonprofit organizations, NU-HOPE Elder Care Services falls under the ongoing fiscal, programmatic, and performance oversight of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs. As a condition of serving as the Lead Agency, NU-HOPE is also required to provide a minimum 10% local cash match to draw down available state and federal funding for core aging services.

A portion of the requested funds ($5,852) will be used to meet the required 10% local cash match for the Community Care for the Elderly program. Leveraging this funding as the local match will actually allow for an additional $55,810.00 to be drawn down. This larger pool of funding supports core services such as personal care, homemaker assistance, respite, emergency alert response, case management, and nutrition assistance for Hardee County seniors, but are accessible only through this local match.

The remaining funds will be used to provide an additional 443 units of in-home services to 1) seniors on our waitlist or 2) seniors who have a critical need for additional services but for which current funding cannot cover. Services provided will include food shopping, medication pickup, maintaining hygienic home environments, ensuring access to clean clothing, assisting overwhelmed caregivers, preventing critical health and safety hazards and reducing the risk of falls — all critical for health, safety, and independence.

These services are also the ones Adult Protective Services requests most from NU-HOPE Elder Care Services when they reach out to NU-HOPE for assistance with a crisis. Once in the home, NU-HOPE staff is able to further assess the situation and needs and assist seniors in accessing additional, yet also critically needed, forms of support. However, if left on the waiting list, these seniors face serious and often costly decline.

In summary, funds provided through this grant will support a statutorily required system of care, draw additional funds into the county, prevent higher-cost institutional placement, and enhance Hardee County's ability to address the needs and quality of life of residents of all ages and abilities.

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
Describe any requested in-kind support; note County may calculate internal costs- NA

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *

Explain how outcomes align with County mission/BOCC goals

Commissioners are charged with ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of Hardee County residents in a comprehensive and fiscally responsible manner. The primary outcome of this project—maintaining independence and preventing nursing home placement—directly advances that mandate by protecting vulnerable residents while avoiding significantly higher public costs associated with institutional care. By stabilizing seniors in their homes through essential in-home supports, the County promotes health and independent functioning at a fraction of the cost of nursing home care.

These outcomes balance fiscal stewardship with quality-of-life, supporting both older adults and the families who assist in their care. They preserve seniors' dignity, connection, and place within the Hardee County community, while strengthening overall community well-being and its capacity to address the needs of its residents.

Measurable Outcomes *

List outcome metrics (e.g., # residents served, % achieving targets)

Outcome:

1) At least 90% of seniors served will remain living independently and avoid permanent nursing home placement while receiving NU-HOPE services. Measurement will be based on individualized data input for all programs and tracked in the State of Florida Enterprise Client Information and Registration Tracking System, the Department of Elder Affairs database used to manage client data, track services, and ensure compliance for programs serving older adults.
2) 443 units of additional direct services will be provided to seniors (age 60+) residing in Hardee County over a period of 12 months.

Outputs: Data inputs used to determine and report outcomes include:
Outcome #1: Number of Hardee County residents receiving NU-HOPE Services, including: in-home personal care and homemaker assistance, respite and companion services, emergency alert response monitoring, caregiver stipends, case management, and nutrition services (see below).

Outcome #2): Number of clients/ units of additional direct services purchased through this grant, with data for each client and service tracked individually.

Estimated outputs for both outcomes based on prior year usage data:

Service Provided	Estimated # of Clients/Units
Homemaker/Shopping	18 seniors received 955.75 hours of assistance
Personal Care	6 seniors received 395 hours of assistance
Respite (In-Home)	5 seniors received 419.50 hours of assistance
Companion sitting	4 seniors received 431.75 hours of assistance
Monthly stipend for caregivers	6 caregivers received a total of $9,920 monthly stipends
Specialized/Supplemental Services	8 seniors received $7011.81 in assistance
Emergency Alert Response	8 seniors; 1971 days of personal safety monitoring
Case Management Support	22 seniors received 137 hours of assistance
Nutrition Education	61 seniors received monthly health/ nutrition
Home Delivered Meals (HDM)	65 seniors received 48951 meals
Congregate Meals (CNML)	139 seniors received 8,426 meals in a group setting (Ongoing breakfast, lunch and Holiday dinners)
Art/Exercise Recreational	23 seniors participated in a total of 68 events

Public Support & Risk Mitigation

Summarize community support and how risks to the County will be minimized

NU-HOPE Elder Care Services benefits from broad and diverse community support across Hardee County, reflecting strong local trust in both the agency and the essential services it provides.

Community partners include service organizations, faith-based groups, youth organizations, local businesses, individuals, and public safety agencies. More specifically, ongoing supporters include: the Hardee Help Center, Florida First Assembly of God Church, Drug Free Hardee, Christine Wells/Art for the Heart, Woody's, Moose Lodge, First Baptist Church–Hannah Class, Send Me Missions, Mosaic, the Hardee County Sheriff's Department, the City of Wauchula Police Department, Cracker Trail 4-H Club, and the Key Club.

This wide range of partnerships demonstrates a deep level of sustained community engagement, as well as a sense of shared responsibility for protecting the older adults and caregivers who reside in Hardee County. They understand that, since the State of Florida and the federal government mandate the provision of services but only provide partial funding, the only way that NU-HOPE is able to successfully provide this assistance is with strong local support.

Risk to the County is minimized first and foremost by NU-HOPE's role as the state-designated Lead Agency for aging services, a designation awarded only after extensive competitive evaluation by the State of Florida and the Area Agency on Aging. NU-HOPE operates under ongoing and pervasive oversight by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, including fiscal monitoring, performance reporting, and compliance review, ensuring organizational stability, accountability, and service reliability. Risk is further reduced through required fiscal controls and outcome tracking.

Most importantly, by helping ensure the required local cash match needed to draw down substantially larger state and federal grants, this funding reduces the risk to the County of losing access to available external funds and experiencing a disruption or loss of essential services for Hardee County seniors.

Supporting the match and funding direct services protects public investment, maintains continuity of care, and reduces the risk to the County of higher downstream costs associated with institutional care.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *
Debbie Slade ***Executive Director, NU-HOPE Elder Care Services, Inc.***

Signature *


Date *
01/05/2026

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury
P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Date: October 14, 2005

NU-HOPE ELDER CARE SERVICES INC
6414 US HWY 27 S
SEBRING, FL 33876-5711

Person to Contact:
Roger Meyer
ID# 31-07707
Toll Free Telephone Number:
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET
877-829-5500
Federal Identification Number:
59-1649814

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to the amendment to your organization's Articles of Incorporation filed with the state on August 15, 2005. We have updated our records to reflect the name change as indicated above.

In October 1980 we issued a determination letter that recognized you as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that you are currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that you are also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,

Cindy M. Westcott

Cindy Westcott
Manager, EO Determinations

State of Florida
Department of State

I certify from the records of this office that NU-HOPE ELDER CARE SERVICES, INC. is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Florida, filed on July 10, 1975.

The document number of this corporation is 733274.

I further certify that said corporation has paid all fees due this office through December 31, 2025, that its most recent annual report/uniform business report was filed on January 21, 2025, and that its status is active.

I further certify that said corporation has not filed Articles of Dissolution.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Florida at Tallahassee, the Capital, this the Twenty-first day of January, 2025



Secretary of State

Tracking Number: 8715784822CC

To authenticate this certificate,visit the following site,enter this number, and then follow the instructions displayed.

https://services.sunbiz.org/Filings/CertificateOfStatus/CertificateAuthentication

NU-HOPE Elder Care Services, Inc.
2026 Operating Budget Summary

	2026 Operating Budget Summary
Revenues	
Grants - Federal	764,784.00
Grants - State	1,085,622.00
Grant - Other	144,358.00
Program Income	33,600.00
Highlands County BOCC	50,000.00
Hardee County BOCC	20,000.00
Thrift Stores	860,400.00
Golf Tournament	39,300.00
Fundraising - Other	0.00
Contributions	34,475.00
Other	1,800.00
Total Revenues	3,034,339.00
Expenses	
Salaries	1,553,256.00
Salary Related Expense	242,147.00
Travel	21,488.00
Education/Training	1,420.00
Communications/Postage	38,736.00
Utilities	60,225.00
Printing/Supplies	21,044.00
Advertising	1,500.00
Insurance	71,415.00
Office Equip Lease/Maint/Repair	6,696.00
Space Costs	125,232.00
Equipment	0.00
Professional Fees/Legal/Audit/Software	80,264.00
Service Subcontractors	633,016.00
EHEAP Benefits Paid	60,480.00
Client Assistance Paid	18,500.00
Other Expenses	14,920.00
Est. Depreciation Expense	84,000.00
Total Expenses	3,034,339.00
Net	0.00

NU-HOPE Elder Care Services, Inc.
Program Budget - Hardee County

	LINE ITEM REVENUES	Hardee 2026 Program Budget
	Government Grants:	
	Federal (OAA, NSIP,EHEAP)	121,114.00
	State (CCE, ADI, HCE)	123,924.00
	Non-Government Grants	126,397.00
	Program Income (includes client co-pay used as match)	5,332.00
	Contributions (local community support)	3,700.00
	NUHOPE Board Support (Highlands County Thrift Store rev.)	66,021.00
	CCE cash match gurarantee (Proposed Hardee BOCC funding)	5,852.00
**	Proposed Hardee BOCC funding to provide 443 hours of additional in-home service.	14,148.00
**	Additional Board support for the proposed additional 443 hours of in-home service.	28.00
		466,516.00

	LINE ITEM EXPENSES$	
	Wages	209,196.00
	Fringe	33,680.00
	Travel	7,526.00
	Education/Training	0.00
	Communications & Postage	8,268.00
	Utilities	334.00
	Printing & Supplies	1,757.00
	Advertising	0.00
	Insurance	6,315.00
	Maintenance & Repair	1,000.00
	Space Costs	3,167.00
	Professional Fees/Legal/Audit	13,178.00
	Meal Vendor	101,250.00
	Transportation Vendor	14,500.00
	EAR Vendor	3,100.00
	Meal Site Activities	7,480.00
	Program Supplies	1,344.00
	Depreciation	11,938.00
	EHEAP Utilities Crisis Benefits	12,398.00
	Client Assistance - Durable Med Supplies/Material Aid	13,031.00
	Other	2,878.00
**	Expense for Hardee BOCC to provide 443 hours of additional in-home service $32/hr.	14,176.00
		466,516.00
	Net revenue/expenses	0.00

Letters of Support

Dr. Teresa M. Crawford

Christina Martin

January 5, 2026

Dear Hardee County Commissioners,

I am writing in strong support of **Nu-Hope Elder Care** and its request for **$20,000** in funding to expand essential services for elderly residents in our community. As a board member of Nu-Hope Elder Care, I have firsthand knowledge of the organization's mission, operations, and the growing need for its services within our county.

Nu-Hope Elder Care plays a vital role in supporting seniors by helping them maintain dignity, independence, and quality of life. Currently, the organization provides nutritious meals, socialization opportunities, and recreational and physical activities for seniors at its location in the **Catherine McDonald Building in Wauchula**. These services help reduce isolation, improve health outcomes, and foster a sense of community among older adults.

Due to increasing demand, Nu-Hope Elder Care maintains a substantial waiting list for in-home support services. The requested funding will allow the organization to remove **four clients** from this waiting list. For many seniors, our services are not simply a convenience—they are essential to remaining safely in their homes and avoiding premature institutional care.

The organization is a strong steward of community and grant resources. The **City of Wauchula generously covers utilities and building maintenance**, while existing grants fund the salaries of **two full-time employees** and support critical services such as meal delivery, healthcare services, utility assistance, and the operation of a central meeting place for senior socialization and recreation. This request builds upon an already stable and effective foundation to address an urgent and unmet need.

Funding this request will have an immediate and meaningful impact on the lives of vulnerable seniors in our community. By supporting Nu-Hope Elder Care, you are investing in a proven organization that prioritizes compassion, efficiency, and community partnership.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to improving the lives of older adults. Please feel free to contact me if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Teresa M. Crawford
Board Member, Nu-Hope Elder Care
863-781-1904
teresacrawford863@gmail.com

Dear Grant Review Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Nu-Hope and its application for county grant funding.

Nu-Hope plays a vital role in addressing elderly and disabled care for those vulnerable and in need for assistance. Natalie Daw/Nu-Hope has demonstrated a consistent commitment to serving our community through care and companionship for our elderly population.

The proposed use of grant funds will allow the organization to expand services, directly benefiting our elderly population and contributing to Hardee County's broader goals.

From my personal experience Nu-Hope operates with professionalism, accountability, and a strong collaborative approach.

County investment in this project represents a strategic use of public funds and will generate meaningful, long-term benefits for our residents. I strongly encourage you to give this application your full consideration and support.

Thank you for your time and dedication to improving our community. Please feel free to contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Christina Martin
5353 Rhynn Rd.
Wauchula, Fl 33873

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.H

Item Cover Page

HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Brandy Crawford, Grants Management Department

ITEM TYPE: Presentation

AGENDA SECTION: **NON-PROFIT PRESENTATIONS**

SUBJECT: **Tessa Graham, Rascal's Rescues Inc.**

SUGGESTED ACTION:

ATTACHMENTS:
Rascal's Rescues.pdf

HARDEE COUNTY – CHARITABLE DONATION APPLICATION

Hardee County
FLORIDA

RECEIVED
JAN 06 2026
BY B 3:04 p.m.

Instructions

Complete all sections. Fields marked with * are required. Replace the gray placeholder text with your responses.

Section 1 – Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name *
Type the legal name of your organization Rascal's Rescues Inc

Mailing Address *
Street, City, State, ZIP 120 N 4th Ave, Wauchula, FL 33873

Primary Phone *
(xxx) xxx-xxxx 863 773 2637

Website
https://... rascalsrescues.org

Primary Contact Person *
Full name and title Tessa Graham, Manager

Email *
name@example.org rascalsrescuesinc@gmail.com

Section 2 – Eligibility & Organizational Status

IRS Status *
Provide 501(c) designation (e.g., 501(c)(3)) and EIN 501(c)(3) EIN# 33-5004870

Proof of Status *
List attached documents: IRS determination letter, Sunbiz registration, etc.

IRS 501 (c) 3 Letter

Service Area *
Confirm operations within Hardee County and describe service locations Hardee County

County Residents Served *
State percentage of participants who are Hardee County residents (must be ≥ 80% if applicable) 100%

Section 3 – Organization Purpose & Capacity

Mission Statement *
Summarize the organization's mission To help give chances to stray and abandoned animals.

Programs/Services Overview *
Briefly describe primary programs/services Rescue & adoption. Housing & feeding animals until adoption.

Partners & Support *
List community partners and other funding sources Private donations

Section 4 – Donation Request

Amount Requested (USD) *
$0.00 ~~$20,000~~ $10,000

Use of Funds *
Describe exactly how funds will be used and why it serves a valid public purpose for Hardee County residents Purchase of food & supplies. Pay vet bills to Spay/Neuter. Miss needs of animals until adoption.

Goods/Services/In-kind (if applicable)
Describe any requested in-kind support; note County may calculate internal costs

Section 5 – Alignment & Measurable Outcomes

Alignment with County Priorities *
Explain how outcomes align with County mission/BOCC goals Our rescue helps keep strays off the streets, keeping the County safe and reducing the number of euthanized animals.

Measurable Outcomes *
List outcome metrics (e.g., # residents served, % achieving targets) We hope to acheive 100% of the county serve and greatly reduce % of animals euthanized by the county.

Public Support & Risk Mitigation
Summarize community support and how risks to the County will be minimized My private donors donate to our cause and publically support our mission. This grant should pose no risk to the county.

Section 6 – Non-Discrimination Certification *

By signing below, the organization certifies it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, sexual or gender orientation, marital status, disability or national origin.

Section 7 – Required Attachments

- IRS 501(c) determination letter (or applicable status)
- Current Florida registration (e.g., Sunbiz printout)
- Most recent organizational budget and project budget
- Letters of community support (optional but recommended)

Section 8 – Signature

Authorized Signer Name & Title *
Type full name and official title Tessa L. Graham Secretary.

Signature * Tessa L Graham
(Sign digitally or print and sign)

Date * 1/6/2026
MM/DD/YYYY

Submit this application to the County Manager or designee. Approval is discretionary and subject to BOCC budget and policies.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Tax Exempt and Government Entities
P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Date:
06/26/2025
Employer ID number:
33-5004870
Person to contact:
Name: Miss Johnson
ID number: 0194658
Telephone: 877-829-5500
Accounting period ending:
December 31
Public charity status:
509(a)(2)
Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:
Yes
Effective date of exemption:
April 25, 2025
Contribution deductibility:
Yes
Addendum applies:
No
DLN:
26053529001505

RASCALS RESCUES INC
120 N 4TH AVENUE
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements



Detail by Entity Name

Florida Not For Profit Corporation
RASCAL'S RESCUES INC

Filing Information

Document Number	N25000005305
FEI/EIN Number	NONE
Date Filed	04/25/2025
Effective Date	04/25/2025
State	FL
Status	ACTIVE

Principal Address

120 N 4TH AVENUE
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

Mailing Address

120 N 4TH AVENUE
WAUCHULA, FL 33873

Registered Agent Name & Address

JOHNSON, MARK
5191 DEER RUN DR
ZOLFO SPRINGS, FL FL

Officer/Director Detail

Name & Address

Title DIR

JOHNSON, MARK
5191 DEER RUN DR
ZOLFO SPRINGS, FL 33890

Title DIR

GRAHAM, TESSA
3048 LAWNDALE ST
ZOLFO SPRINGS, FL 33890

Title DIR

TORRES, CANDICE
213 E BANANA ST
BOWLING GREEN, FL 33834

Annual Reports

No Annual Reports Filed

Document Images

04/25/2025 -- Domestic Non-Profit View image in PDF format

Rascals Rescues, Inc.

Budget 01/01/2026-12/31/2026

Bank Fees	$60.00
Cleaning Supplies	$300.00
Food for Animals	$6000.00
Microchips	$200.00
Vet	$5000.00
Office Expense	$300.00
Supplies	$300.00
Telephone	$600.00
Vehicle Expense	$1500.00
Website Expense	$300.00
Total Expected Budget	$14560.00

To whom it may concern, I'm writing this letter in regards to Rascal's Rescues, Inc grant application. As a 25 year resident of Hardee County, I have repeatedly seen first hand the need for such resources. Unfortunately this area has a major issue with backyard breeding and dumped/unwanted or not cared for dogs. There are very few rescues to assist these helpless animals. I have also seen the amount of animals this rescue has saved over the years especially when no else would step up to do so. This is a grant I'd be happy to have my tax dollars supporting!
Sincerely, Mandy Colding

Hardee County: This letter is to show my support to Rascal's Rescues, Inc. They are applying for a grant for their excellent organization. Mark works tirelessly taking in, caring for, and finding homes for unwanted, dumped, and injured animals. He never stops and doesn't turn away any animal in need, even though funds are so hard to come by. Please, please consider this grant for Rascal's Rescues, Inc. It is truly a deserving organization. Thank you, Cindy Roberts