



2025

20 Years  
NonprofitsFirst.  
Setting the Standard.

ANNUAL  
REPORT



# Dear Friends and Supporters,

For more than two decades, Nonprofits First has stood as a cornerstone of support for the nonprofit sector. Twenty years ago, local leaders came together to create a resource that would elevate community causes, ensuring that every mission, no matter its size, could thrive. Today, that foresight continues to guide us as we serve every cause with impactful leadership, high standards, and a commitment to community.



Jennifer Sullivan, Trudy Crowetz, & Katia Saint-Preux

This year, we celebrate a transition that reflects those values. For four years, Jennifer Sullivan has led the organization as our Board Chair. Under Jennifer's guidance, we faced challenges head-on, championed innovation, and built bridges that strengthened nonprofits across our region. Jennifer's legacy is a testament to **Bold Leadership** that is both collaborative and compassionate. Now, we welcome Katia Saint-Preux, who steps into this role with energy and determination, ready to elevate our work and ensure that excellence remains our benchmark.

Throughout the year, we didn't just ask nonprofits to aim high, we held ourselves to the same level of quality. In addition to being accredited through the BBB Wise Giving Alliance, we reaffirmed our own commitment by achieving Excellence in Nonprofit Management from Nonprofits First. These achievements reflect our dedication to transparency, accountability, and trust. When we say we are **Setting the Standard**, we mean it, because the organizations we serve deserve nothing less.

The **Community Circle** is more than a value; it's a movement. It's about creating spaces where leadership grows and collaboration thrives. Our Launching Leaders program brought this vision to life in 2025. Through mentorship, training, and shared experiences, we connected emerging nonprofit leaders from local colleges and universities with seasoned experts, building a circle of support that strengthens the entire nonprofit sector. These leaders aren't just stepping into roles they're stepping into a community that believes in their potential and invests in their success.

As we look ahead, we invite you to continue this journey with us. Let's keep sharing stories of impact, guided by the values that define us and the mantra that drives us: *We serve every cause!*

With gratitude,  
Trudy Crowetz  
President & CEO

# WHO WE ARE

## MISSION

We empower nonprofit causes to achieve their missions with exceptional performance and results.

## VISION

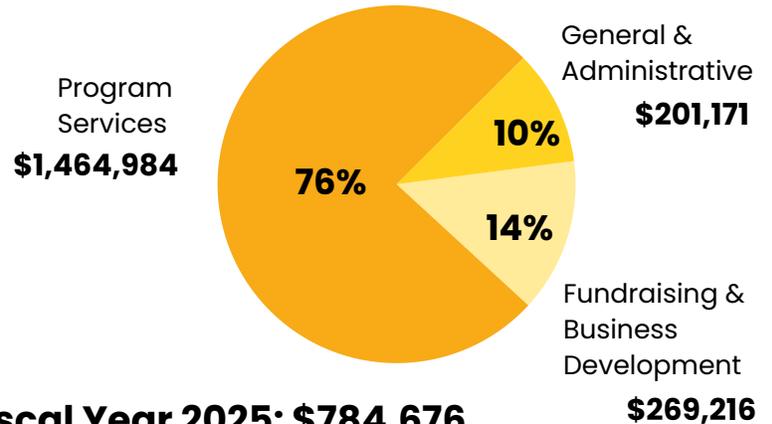
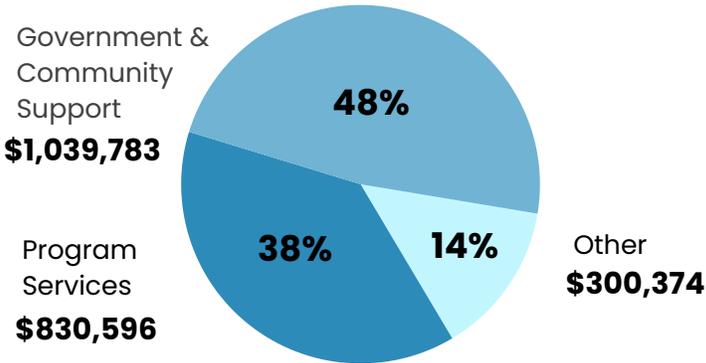
A community where nonprofits achieve their highest level of desired impact.

### Total Revenue & Support

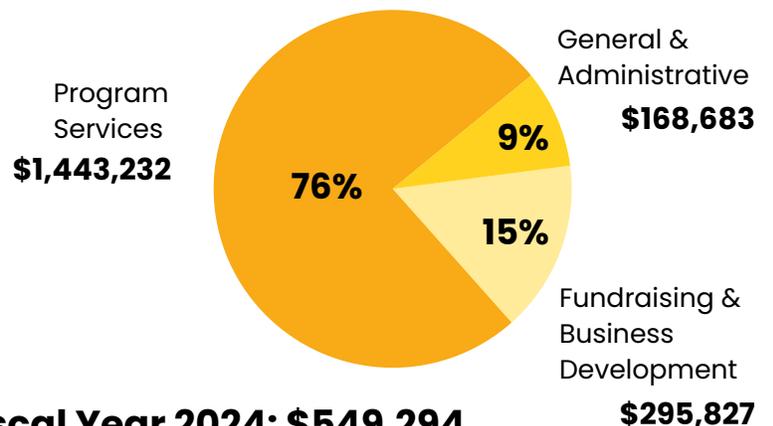
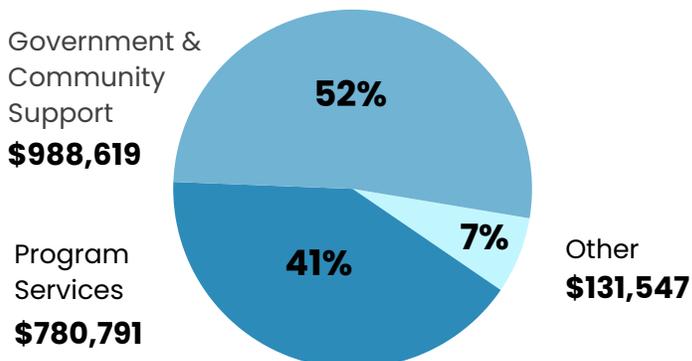
2025 **vs.** 2024  
**\$2,170,753** **\$1,900,957**

### Total Expenses

2025 **vs.** 2024  
**\$1,935,371** **\$1,907,742**



**Total Net Assets End of Fiscal Year 2025: \$784,676**



**Total Net Assets End of Fiscal Year 2024: \$549,294**

# SUCCESS IN OUTCOMES

Success at Nonprofits First is about creating lasting change. Every milestone we celebrate reflects the growth, strength, and triumphs of our members and accredited organizations as they uplift the communities we serve.



75

**Accredited Agencies  
in 2025**



55

**Advancing Leaders  
Graduates since 2021**



365

**Nonprofit & Affiliate  
Members in 2025**



496

**Rising Leaders  
Graduates since 2005**



1300

**Workshop  
Participants in 2025**



610

**Guests at the 9<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Hats Off  
Nonprofit Awards**



99

**Professional  
Workshops in 2025**



160

**Nominees for the 9<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Hats Off  
Nonprofit Awards**

# OUR MISSION IN ACTION



## 20 Years in Palm Beach County

Nonprofits First is celebrating two decades of driving positive change in Palm Beach County. Our mission, vision, and core values form the foundation for setting the standard in community impact. We hold ourselves to the highest levels of accountability and performance, ensuring nonprofits can fulfill their missions and deliver measurable growth and change locally and beyond. As part of this commitment, Nonprofits First is proud to announce its **Accreditation for Excellence in Nonprofit Management**, reflecting our dedication to trusted, high-quality support for members, partners, and funders.

## Building Bonds, Giving Back

At Nonprofits First, we exist to foster growth, accountability, and sustainability for the incredible causes we serve and support. Our commitment goes beyond guidance—we actively give back to the community by volunteering and championing the organizations that make Palm Beach County thrive. It's all about building meaningful connections while making a positive impact. Together, we strengthen relationships, support local causes, and show what collaboration can achieve.



## Empowering Through Information

We listen to the needs of our community and deliver timely education on subjects that matter. In May 2025, we hosted a free Summit exploring the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the nonprofit sector. Attendees learned practical insights on everything from organizational policy to fundraising strategies. This unique event showcased how AI can transform missions and strengthen impact—just one example of how Nonprofits First supports nonprofits with relevant knowledge and resources.



## Leading the Future

Now in its second year, Launching Leaders accelerates the careers of college students while addressing critical social issues in the local community. It offers leadership development with prominent facilitators, guidance from Nonprofits First staff, and hands-on experience solving challenges for local nonprofits. In turn, the community benefits through completed projects for under-resourced organizations, cultivation of future nonprofit leaders, and strengthened collaboration between universities and nonprofits.



# MAKING HEADLINES

**Rising Leaders**  
Nonprofits First celebrates 2025 graduates

**SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY**

Nonprofits First proudly celebrates the graduation of its 2025 Rising Leaders class. Over 75 guests gathered to honor the next generation of nonprofit changemakers.

"These Rising Leaders are not just stepping into roles—they're stepping into purpose. Leadership is not about titles, it's about action, empathy, and vision," says Trudy Gowetz, President and CEO of Nonprofits First. "Their passion, creativity, and commitment to service are the heartbeat of our sector's future. These graduates are proof that when we invest in people, we invest in the future of our communities."

This year's ceremony featured a powerful keynote address by Virginia Savitelli, Palm Beach County School Board Member and Nonprofits First Board Member.

The Rising Leaders program, launched in 2005, in Palm Beach County's premier leadership development initiative for emerging nonprofit professionals. Over the course of eight months, participants gain practical expertise in leadership fundamentals such as emotional intelligence, communication, team motivation, and public speaking.

With a strong emphasis on servant leadership and real-world application, Rising Leaders engage in dynamic sessions, interactive exercises, and a collaborative service-learning project that empowers them to drive meaningful impact in their communities.

Since 2005, Nonprofits First, Inc. has been the leading resource for strengthening the administrative and operational capacity of nonprofit organizations in the community. For more, visit [nonprofitsfirst.org](http://nonprofitsfirst.org).

NONPROFITS FIRST / COURTESY PHOTOS ABOVE: Five graduates of the 2025 Rising Leaders class  
LEFT: Virginia Savitelli and Trudy Gowetz

## Rising Leaders 2025 Graduation

**UAP UNIDENTIFIED ALIEN PODCAST** DECIDE FOR YOURSELF LISTEN NOW

**CULTURALLY SPEAKING: SOUTH FLORIDA SUNDAY**

JUNE 13, 2025

**Nonprofits First - We Serve Every Cause**

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Nonprofits First services make it possible for causes of every kind to fulfill their purpose. With knowledgeable and inspiring leaders guiding the way, your organization is set to succeed — growing strong in health, capacity and sustainability.

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## Sharing the Nonprofits First Mission

**THE TOWN-CRIER**  
Your Community News Source For Wellington, Royal Palm Beach, Loxahatchee, The Acree & Westlake

NEWS LIFE ~ COLUMNS ~ BRIEFS BUSINESS PEOPLE SCHOOLS SPORTS

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Digital Issue for November 14, 2025

### Nonprofits First Celebrates Advancing Leaders Class

By Town-Crier Editor - June 27, 2025

Our next print edition is out Friday, Nov. 28.

**WELLINGTON CELEBRATING**

## Advancing Leaders 2025 Graduation

WEEK OF OCTOBER 20-NOVEMBER 5, 2025 | ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT | A33

**Kravis Center: 9th Annual "Hats Off" Nonprofit Awards**

Florida Weekly welcomes attendees for the feature pages from charity galas and fundraising events. All meetings and other to the second level. We used the photographs of people shown in our pages. Being in contact and contact the list and for more information visit [www.floridaweekly.com](http://www.floridaweekly.com).

1. Don Johnson and Julie Galt-Fisher  
2. Jody Morris, Jani Morris and Charles Hill  
3. Tracy Cooper, Rachel James, Mary Anne Goss and Stephanie Goss  
4. Jacki Brack and Robert Reed  
5. Abby Cole, Brent Spagnoli and Lauren Schmidt  
6. Mike Cantor and Bill Brackley  
7. Stephanie Torres and Charles Rey  
8. Ben Snyder and Steve Stein  
9. Jack and Jill Brackley  
10. Amy Lark, Betty Mae Bess, Olaf Miller and Michael Johnson  
11. David Brackley, Anthony Perrotti and John Steiner  
12. Carter Morris and Shannon Moran  
13. James Coleman, Mike Hill and Jason Perry

Photo Credit: Brady Coleman and Bill Kane

## 9th Annual Hats Off Nonprofit Awards

**Palms West Journal**

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### Nonprofits First hosts inaugural AI Summit at Palm Beach State College

Attendees at the Nonprofits First AI Summit at Palm Beach State College on May 12. (Photo by Nonprofits First)

Nonprofits First marked a milestone in nonprofit innovation with its first AI Summit on May 12 at Palm Beach State College. The event brought together nonprofit leaders, artificial intelligence experts and community stakeholders to explore the transformative use of AI for nonprofits.

The summit involved 73 nonprofit organizations collectively representing more than 120 groups from across the region. Presentations and discussions focused on the responsible and strategic integration of AI into nonprofit operations.

Among the speakers were Philip Di Como, an authority on nonprofit law with Nason, Yeager, Gerson, Harris & Fumero; Javier Sanchez, a technical solutions architect at BillulloNex; Alex Oliveira, a marketing strategist at Prediq; Callen Macias, an AI consultant and founder of BotQueen; and Josh Hirsch, a digital fundraising expert with Fundraise Up. They provided insights into how AI is reshaping fundraising.

## Nonprofits First AI Summit

# OUR BOARD

2025



**Jennifer Sullivan**  
Cultural Council for PBC  
Chair



**Katia Saint-Preux**  
Florida Power & Light  
Vice Chair



**Henry Martin**  
CohnReznick  
Treasurer



**Gina Ardillo**  
Crowe LLP  
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**Janice Brunson**  
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**Checree Bryant**  
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**Stephen Johnson**  
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**Mark Montgomery**  
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**Melissa Morley**  
Gehring Group



**Deana Pizzo**  
IT Solutions



**Kenneth Rehns**  
Lippes Mathias



**Virginia Savietto**  
Palm Beach County/  
School Board Member



**Jessica Cecere**  
Advisory Board  
Member



**Philip DiComo**  
Nason Yeager  
Board Member  
Emeritus

# OUR TEAM



**Trudy Crowetz**  
President & CEO

We  
Serve  
Every  
Cause.



**Tracy Amara**  
Director of Membership  
& Events



**Michele Burka**  
Director of Finance



**Susan Erichsen**  
Director of  
Accreditation



**Claudia Mariaca**  
Director of Development  
& Marketing



**Callie Sharkey**  
Director of Education  
& Training



**Marie Delva**  
Accountant



**Lina Lora Font**  
Accreditation Project  
Leader



**Hannah Hopkins**  
Launching Leaders  
Program Manager



**Nathan Olver**  
Program Administrator



**Riley Remington**  
Office Manager

A SPECIAL  
THANK YOU  
TO OUR  
2025  
PARTNERS IN  
EDUCATION



Allegany  
Franciscan  
Ministries



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**BOCA RATON**



**WELLS  
FARGO**



NonprofitsFirst.

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[www.nonprofitsfirst.org](http://www.nonprofitsfirst.org)