

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.WILDBLUECHARITABLENEIGHBORS.ORG](http://WWW.WILDBLUECHARITABLENEIGHBORS.ORG)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Details in the **CALENDAR**  
 on our website.

**Interfaith Charities of South Lee County**

**June 18 8:30 am- 1:00 pm**

Support local families through a variety of tasks like assembling food packages, lifting and sorting through boxes, organizing/stocking shelves, maintaining a clean workspace

**Community Cooperative Mobile Food Pantry**

**July 2 8:30 am- 12:00 pm**

Help Lee County neighbors choose groceries from the mobile food pantry, load in their vehicles, and clean up.

**Community Cooperative Sams Community Cafe**

**June 9 8:30 am- 12:30 pm**  
**July 7 8:30 am- 12:30pm**

Lend a hand in the Café as we prepare emergency food while working toward long-term hunger solutions.

**Dubin Center Ft. Myers**

**July 24 1:45-3:00 pm**

**August 19 1:45-3:00 pm**

Assist with hands on crafts, activities and games

**Driving Change Together**

**From our founders**

Just two and a half years ago, we had the good fortune of spending four hours together on the golf course—filled with meaningful conversation and a few great shots to the green. By the end of that round, the idea for WildBlue Charitable Neighbors was born.

With the support of an incredible board, dedicated volunteers, and our founding donors, we are proud to have awarded over \$300,000 in grants and contributed countless volunteer hours to 11 Lee County nonprofits. What a remarkable journey it has been!

More golf course magic followed as we recently concluded our second annual “Tee It Up for Charity” tournament. The day wrapped with a lively awards luncheon and spirited auctions where raised hands did more than bid—they lifted hope for families, seniors, caregivers, and even our furry friends in need.

Thanks to our generous players, sponsors, and volunteers, we raised \$30,000, bringing us to \$72,000 toward our \$125,000 annual goal. Our community truly stepped up, and this success would not have been possible without you.

Finally, April was Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we are especially grateful for those who give their time so generously. Our volunteers are the winds beneath our wings, helping us make a meaningful difference throughout Lee County. Let’s continue to celebrate and appreciate them—not just this month, but all year long.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us.

*Melissa and Debbie*



As summer arrives, many residents travel or spend more time away from WildBlue. While our population may shrink during these months, the needs of the charitable organizations we support remain constant.

In fact, summer can be especially challenging for local nonprofits, as volunteer participation often declines while food banks, animal rescues, youth programs, and other community organizations continue to rely on support.

We encourage all WildBlue Charitable Neighbors members and residents who are in the community this summer to consider volunteering their time and talents. Whether helping at a food bank, preparing meals, visiting seniors, or sharing professional skills, every contribution makes a difference. Some opportunities even welcome parent-child participation, making volunteering a meaningful summer activity for families. If you're already volunteering, thank you for helping make WildBlue such a caring community. If you've been considering getting involved, now is a great time to start. Visit our website calendar for volunteer opportunities and email [wbcharitableneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:wbcharitableneighbors@gmail.com) to join our mailing list. Together, we can ensure the organizations serving our region receive the support they need—because compassion never takes a vacation.

**Thank you for making a difference.**

**OUR MISSION IS TO UNITE OUR NEIGHBORS TO EXTEND A HELPING HAND TO LOCAL CHARITIES AND NON-PROFITS BY RAISING AWARENESS, FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE. TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE!**

**Your Voice Helped Launch Us. Your Voice Will Help Guide Our Future**

Before WildBlue Charitable Neighbors launched in 2024, we asked our community what causes mattered most and how we could make the greatest impact together. Your responses helped shape our mission and priorities.

Now, after two years of grants, volunteer service, and community engagement, we're looking ahead to what's next—and we need your input again.

In the coming days, you'll receive an email invitation to participate in our community survey. Please keep an eye out for it and take a few minutes to share your thoughts. Together, we've accomplished a great deal. Together, we'll determine where to go next. The best chapters of our story are still ahead of us.

**BE SURE TO FOLLOW WILDBLUE CHARITABLE NEIGHBORS ON FACEBOOK FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS!**

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### Tee It Up for Charity, Together!



Our second annual Tee It Up for Charity golf tournament was a tremendous success, thanks first and foremost to our amazing sponsors, players and participants who supported our mission by joining us. Your enthusiasm, generosity, and spirit set the tone for an incredible day and helped turn a fun event into a meaningful impact for those we serve.

We are equally grateful to our incredible volunteers and everyone working behind the scenes to bring the event to life. If enthusiasm were the measure of success, we'd call it a true "hole in one." Even better, we raised a net total of \$30,000 for charity—an amazing increase from last year and an outstanding accomplishment in just our second year.

On behalf of our board and the community that we serve, thank you" for your energy and support of our mission. We hope that you had as much fun as we did, seeing the smiles and hearing the laughter and stories around the table at lunch.

Congratulations to our WildBlue SuperHeroes, **Ryan Brindley, Greg Poss, Craig Morton and Marc Olin** and **Runners Up Bruce Saddle, Rich Bushee, Dennis Palmer and Neil Chessin!**



### COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: JASON FERGUSON



WILDBLUE CHARITABLE NEIGHBORS IS PROUD TO FEATURE JASON FERGUSON, OWNER OF STRAIGHTLINE FINISHING, AS ONE OF OUR SILVER COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPONSORS. JASON HAS BEEN SERVING THE WILDBLUE COMMUNITY SINCE MARCH 2020, AND WE SAT DOWN WITH HIM TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HIS JOURNEY AND HIS HEART FOR GIVING BACK.

**WBCN: Tell us about your company and how you got started.**

I started my painting and general contracting business in Wisconsin back in 2008. My wife, Gerrylynn and I got married in Florida on Bonita Beach, and we'd come down every year for vacation. I wanted to explore some work opportunities so I started with a couple of projects at Cape Coral Elementary and Fort Myers Middle School, rebuilding their classroom cabinets. In March 2020, Hunter from WildBlue called me. He was having trouble with another contractor and said, "You're my guy, I'm going to start referring you to everybody I know." I had no idea what that meant at the time! My phone exploded—20 calls a day. It was overwhelming, but it was make or break. I worked from 5 AM to 2 AM for nearly two years straight, moving from house to house in WildBlue. What a lot of people don't realize is that I'm a licensed general contractor. I can build a house, I've remodeled houses. We custom build cabinetry from scratch, handle painting, and take on full home renovations. We're not just installers; we're craftsmen.

**WBCN: How does becoming a Community Business Sponsor fit into your values?**

Back in Wisconsin, my wife and I are deeply involved in our community. She works with our church in community partnerships, and we support organizations like Exploit No More, which serves victims of human trafficking. We just helped raise \$63,000 at a gala for them. But in Florida, I didn't have those connections. When I'm here, I just work. Finding out about WildBlue Charitable Neighbors was genuinely a blessing — it's right up our alley. It's not just about writing a check. It's about volunteering, giving time, being part of something bigger. Now I have the chance to do that here in Florida too, not just through my services, but through real community involvement.

**WBCN: What does being part of WildBlue Charitable Neighbors mean to you personally?**

WildBlue is my second home. Over five years, I've done maybe 10 jobs outside of this community — that's it. The people here trusted me from day one and referred me to their neighbors. I've never needed to advertise because of that. For a long time, it was hard for me to call Florida "home" — I was always just working, without those deeper connections beyond my customers. But knowing I can now be part of WildBlue Charitable Neighbors, and support the nine charities focused on hunger, housing, women's resources, animal welfare, seniors, veterans, and youth education — that changes everything. My wife and I are also renovating a 6,000 square-foot home in Wisconsin to provide housing for missionaries, pastors, and others in need of short or long-term stays. That's our passion. So knowing I can and volunteer locally alongside this community — it gives everything I do here so much more purpose.

**WBCN: What would you like the WildBlue community to know about you?**

WildBlue is like family to me. You supported my business from the very beginning, and I'm grateful for that every day. My reputation means everything — I turned my vacation spot into my workplace, and I want happy customers and honest relationships. I believe in open communication with my customers and my crew who are in Florida year around. People appreciate that, and it's just how I operate.

Now I'm excited to give back in a deeper way — not just through my work, but through my time and whatever skills I can offer this community. I'm all in.



**WildBlue Charitable Neighbors thanks Jason for his generous support and his genuine commitment to our community**