

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.WILDBLUECHARITABLENEIGHBORS.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

See details in the **CALENDAR** on our website.

Volunteer Opportunities

➤ Interfaith Charities of South Lee

Grab a friend (or two!) and join us for a fun, fulfilling morning serving at our local food pantry!

9:00 am– 12:30 pm

August 6 (3 slots available)

August 27 (3 slots available)

➤ Community Cooperative – Sam's Community Cafe

Prepare & package meals for the National School Lunch program & Meals on Wheels. Carpool leaves at 8:15 am.

9:00 am–12:00 pm

August 18 (3 slots available)

September 16 (3 slots available)

DID YOU KNOW

In the first six months of 2026, **Interfaith Charities** has seen increases in requests of...

↑ 14% for pantry services

↑ 20% for help accessing MyAccess/Medicaid

↑ 67% for emergency financial assistance

A message from our founders

Together we can do more

As we reach the midpoint of another exciting year, we want to take a moment to thank everyone who continues to support WildBlue Charitable Neighbors. Whether you responded to our recent community survey, attended a fundraising event, made a donation, or volunteered your time, you are helping make a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors throughout Lee County.

A special thank you to everyone who completed our **2026**

Community Survey. Your thoughtful feedback is invaluable. It helps shape our priorities, guides our grant-making, and inspires new ways to strengthen community engagement. We carefully review every response, and you'll see **highlights of the survey results on page 2**, along with some ideas we'll explore in the months ahead. Stay tuned for more news.

We're also pleased to share our **interim grant distributions**. These grants are only possible because of your generosity and enthusiastic participation in our events and fundraising efforts. Every ticket purchased, sponsorship secured, volunteer hour given, and donation received helps us provide timely support to our nonprofit partners as they serve those most in need.

Finally, we're delighted to spotlight **WildBlue couples** who volunteer together. Their stories remind us that volunteering is not only about giving back—it's also about building friendships, strengthening our community, and creating lasting memories. We hope their example encourages others to get involved, whether with a spouse, children, neighbors, or friends. There is a place for everyone, and every helping hand makes a difference.

Thank you for being part of WildBlue Charitable Neighbors. Together, we are building a stronger, more caring community—and together, we truly can do more.

With gratitude,

Melissa and Debbie

Didn't have a chance to fill out the survey? We always welcome your input! Go to our website at wildbluecharitableneighbors.org and click Contact Us.

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!

You Spoke. We Listened.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Community Survey. Your thoughtful feedback is helping shape the future of WildBlue Charitable Neighbors. The strong response confirmed what we've always believed: our residents are passionate about giving back and making a meaningful difference in Lee County.

What We Heard

- 96% of respondents are familiar with WildBlue Charitable Neighbors.
- Residents expressed overwhelming support for our mission and community impact.
- Many want more opportunities to volunteer through committees, events, and special projects.
- Better communication ranked as a top priority, with requests for more news, grant updates, volunteer opportunities, and stories highlighting the impact of your generosity.

Thank You

WildBlue Charitable Neighbors is successful because of the generosity and commitment of our residents. Thank you for sharing your ideas and helping us build an even stronger community. Survey results will help guide future fundraising, communications, volunteer initiatives, and grant-making decisions.

If you included your contact information on your survey, we'll reach out soon.

Turning Feedback Into Action

Fundraising

You want to be sure you have an opportunity to join the fun. We're developing an **annual fundraising calendar** with more opportunities for residents to participate. It will be shared on our website so you can plan your calendar.

Communications

You asked to hear more about the impact of your support. We'll be **expanding communications** through more frequent news, enhanced emails, website updates, and stories showcasing the nonprofits and individuals whose lives are being changed.

Grants

You have great ideas for how we support our Lee County neighbors! Your feedback will help guide our Grants Committee as it evaluates nonprofit partners and recommends future grant awards that align with our mission and community priorities.

To see more survey results, visit our website at wildbluecharitableneighbors.org.

Survey comments from our neighbors

We are inspired by the great ideas and kind comments shared in your survey responses. When asked, "What makes you most proud of our organization so far?", here are just some of the thoughts you shared...

The **MORE**
you **REFLECT**
the **MORE**
you **LEARN**

- WBCN shows the big heart of our community!
- Level of energy and commitment among volunteers
- I think WB Charitable Neighbors is positively impacting the lives of those less fortunate.
- Generosity of our community
- Great causes being served
- Uniting neighbors in a positive way to give back
- The tremendous success that we have had and the impact that we have made in such a short time!
- The community coming together to help others in need.
- All of us in WildBlue have been very blessed and am proud to be able to give back to those less fortunate
- The passion, commitment, communication, professionalism, organization and compassion

Together we...GIVE

Thanks to the generosity of this community and the tireless dedication of our volunteers, WildBlue Charitable Neighbors was able to meet about half of our annual commitment to our grantees in a mid-year distribution. This money makes it possible for our grantees to help hundreds of our Lee County neighbors in need. We want to share their thanks with you - the people who made this possible.

Well done, WildBlue!

Mid-year grants distributed

• Interfaith Charities	\$12,500
• PACE Center for Girls	7,500
• Dubin Center	12,500
• Community Cooperative	7,500
• Valerie's House	5,000
• Golden Retriever Rescue	5,000
• Dr. Piper Center	4,000
• Guardians of Florida Animal Rescue (GOFAR)	7,500


Thank you

Lisa Swanson
Interfaith Charities

That's such great news!! WildBlue is an amazing community. We're so grateful and look forward to continuing to do what we can to support those in our area who need a helping hand.

Angela Melvin Churchill
Valerie's House

Thank you so much for continuing to support our mission with this generous donation and for coming to serve dinner and lend a hug and a smile to our families. You have truly become part of our family, and we couldn't be more grateful!

Stefani Ink
Community Cooperative

Thank YOU all very much for your support! Many thanks again to everyone at WildBlue Charitable Neighbors for your treasure and your time when you all come to volunteer. We appreciate it! ❤️

Christine LoConte
Dubin Center

Thank you so much for your email and for sharing this wonderful news. On behalf of everyone at The Dubin Center, please extend our sincere gratitude to the WildBlue Charitable Neighbors Board of Directors and the generous residents of WildBlue. We are deeply honored to receive this mid-year distribution toward our 2026 grant and are grateful for your continued confidence in our mission. We truly appreciate the support of WildBlue Charitable Neighbors. This funding will help us continue providing free education, support, and resources to families in Lee County who are navigating Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Thank you again for your leadership and for all that you do to strengthen our community.

Denny Guyitt
Golden Retriever Rescue

We can't thank you and your wonderful community enough for your continued and generous support of our rescue. It is only through the support of amazing folks like you all that we are able to care for the many goldens and golden mixes who come our way. On their behalf thank you so very much.

Jennifer Cellitti
Pace Center for Girls

Thank you so much for the support and contribution to our Spirited Girls program. Also, thank you so much for the thoughtful volunteers that assist us in so many ways. We appreciate you.

Zabrina Black
Dr. Piper Center

Thank you for your message and for WildBlue Charitable Neighbors' continued generosity and partnership. We are deeply grateful for the mid-year distribution and the support toward our 2026 grant—it truly helps advance our mission and services for the Lee County community. Please extend my appreciation to the Board for their ongoing commitment and collaboration. We are proud to partner with such a dedicated group of community champions.

Dana Bursch
Guardians of Florida Animal Rescue (GOFAR)

Many thanks to all of you, the WildBlue community and all you do for our rescue and other local non-profits!

Together we...VOLUNTEER

Better Together: Couples Who Make a Difference

Volunteering is even more rewarding when you share the experience with someone you love. In this issue, we're proud to recognize three WildBlue couples whose generosity and commitment inspire us all.



Rick and Lynn Rosenfelt have supported WildBlue Charitable Neighbors from the very beginning. As founding donors, Rick's service as a founding board member and their willingness to answer the call—often at a moment's notice—to serve hungry families, seniors, and veterans, they have made a lasting impact.



Jeff and Deb Miller generously hosted our 2025 Circle of Friends event, volunteered at a nonprofit Casino Night, and supported many of our charitable events. Deb even donated a memorable culinary experience for our golf tournament live auction. (The Uyenos were the lucky bidders!)

Joanne and Don Uyeno, two of our founding donors, are also enthusiastic volunteers and supporters, giving their time to our nonprofit partners, participating in our Tee It Up for Charity golf tournament, and serving as some of our best ambassadors.



These couples, along with many others in our community, remind us that volunteering is more meaningful—and more fun—when shared. Invite your spouse, a friend, or a neighbor to join you.

Together, we really can do more!

WBCN thanks our generous Community Business Sponsors



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