



"Women are stronger together!"

January 2026 Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!

We wish you a new year filled with good health, love, joy, peace and hope!

IMPACT 100 ST. LUCIE'S YEAR IN REVIEW!

You did it this past year, ladies!! For the first time since 2020, Impact 100 St. Lucie reached its membership goal. As of the end of the membership drive in June, we had 101 members and were able to award a \$100,000 grant. This year's grant went to Tykes and Teens, the recipient of our first award in 2019, to open a same-day walk-in clinic for children and teens in crisis in St. Lucie County. The mental health crisis among our youth is only getting worse, and this center will allow families to seek immediate help rather than have to wait weeks for an appointment. Impact 100 St. Lucie also gave a \$2500 check to our runners-up, The Source and The ARC of the Treasure Coast.

Our volunteers continue to support our Give Back Saturdays every month as we cycle through Graceway Village, Mustard Seed, Treasure Coast Food Bank and the UP Center. We are also thrilled when we are asked to work at special events, such as Heathcote's Night of Illumination in December and the Tim Tebow Foundation's A Night to Shine in February. Volunteering is a great way to support our non-profits and get to know what they do for our community while getting to know each other as well.

We had several interesting socials this year. In January and again in September, we were invited to a "Sip and Shop" event at I'll Have What She's Wearing" in St. Lucie West. In March we attended a PSL River Nights concert and enjoyed wonderful music on a beautiful evening.

April found us at breakfast at Berry Fresh where we heard from Brittany Day of Better Together about how our grant has helped them make progress in St. Lucie County and in June we enjoyed a potluck dinner at Heathcote. July's membership drive kickoff took place at Dave and Buster's where the participants enjoyed a night of Bingo and a silent auction.

The year was topped off by the Annual Celebration in October and the holiday luncheon in December, attended by about seventy of our members. Diane Stark-Kennedy is planning some wonderful events for 2026 so please plan to come to see what you've been missing!

Impact 100 St. Lucie continues to grow. As of December 31st, we have 49 members signed up for our 2026 award, twelve of whom are new members! That's a great start to this year's membership drive. Let's keep up the good work! If you are a returning member, please consider renewing sooner rather than later. If you are one of Impact's "friends" and are thinking about joining us, please come to our socials or volunteer events and get to know some of the awesome women who are part of Impact 100 St. Lucie! If financial constraints are keeping you from signing up, please remember that we have \$550 partial scholarships available to eligible applicants. Contact Janet Maffucci at mrsjfooch@gmail.com for information.

Impact 100 St. Lucie 2026-The Year in Preview!

Diane Stark-Kennedy has been hard at work planning 2026's socials. Please put the following dates on your calendar. Invitations and specifics will be available as we get closer to each date.

- February 4, 2026-Private wine tasting event at the Wine Vault in Fort Pierce
- April 29, 2026-Potluck Picnic in the Park at Heathcote
- October 24, 2026-Award Celebration and Annual Meeting at the ARC of the Treasure Coast TIP Center
- December 4, 2026-Holiday Luncheon at Casa Pasta

Other socials will be noted in the monthly newsletter as plans are finalized.

PATCHES UPDATE!

As you may recall, the members of Impact 100 St. Lucie's Grant Review Committee were so inspired by the work that the staff of PATCHES was doing for and with their children that we selected them as the non-profit that we would support during the holidays this year. We went a step further than usual however. Besides just collecting toys for the children, we asked you, our members, for additional donations to provide PATCHES with a much-needed refrigerator and washer and dryer combo and you, with your incredible generosity, stepped up to answer the call. Not only did we collect the \$1400 needed for the appliances but you donated an additional \$1050 plus \$205 in gift cards for a grand total of \$2655 that will help PATCHES purchase some of the medical equipment that was on their wish list. In addition to the cash, Latesha Weems-Ingram, the head nurse at PATCHES, left our luncheon in a car stacked to the brim with toys for the children. We were also able to secure a \$1000 donation to PATCHES from American Legion Post 318 in Port St. Lucie with a request that PATCHES feel free to contact them in the future if they have additional needs. The staff was extremely grateful and sent a lovely thank you card telling us how much the children are enjoying their new toys. Thank you so much to all of you who donated to this wonderful, life-saving organization.

GIVE BACK SATURDAYS!

December's Give Back Saturday event took place on Monday, December 22nd, at Heathcote Botanical Gardens in Fort Pierce. For the third year in a row, Impact 100 St. Lucie was asked to provide volunteers to help with their special Garden of Lights event, a Night of Illumination for children and adults with special needs and their families. Seventeen women and one husband, Dan Osking, signed up on a beautiful evening to help in whatever way needed. It was an inspiring night!



Our sincere thanks to Kathy Osking (and Dan), Anne Kern, Nancy Bredemeyer, Cris Adams, Judy Wright, Cheri Johnson, Judy Salmon, Rene Smith, Janet Maffucci, Diane Leary, Veronica Montoya, Diane Stark-Kennedy, Lana McClain, Laurene McEneny, MaryAnn Ketcham, Ruth Stromak and Gwen Cunningham for joining us that night.

Our next Give Back Saturday will take place at Graceway Village on Saturday, January 10th, from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. If you would like to help and haven't yet signed up, please contact Ruth Stromak at rstromak48@gmail.com.

Member Highlights

Instead of highlighting just one member this month, Impact 100 St. Lucie would like to recognize all of the women who have joined us since July 2024. These are women who became members during the 24-25 membership drive and during the first six months of the 2025-2026 membership drive. We are grateful for their support of our mission.

Jane Bachelor-Ladefian	Alice Hughes Blanco	Roxy Brown
Paula Campaiola	Linda Chastain	Maggie Cook
Nancy Dallaire	Phyllis D'Amore	Lisa Derryberry
Karen Giaquinto	Barbara Gilbert	Wendy Gordon
Val Hellriegel	Anne Kator	Anne Kern
Kayla Kesler	Maryann Ketcham	Betty Monin
Heather Parker	Paulina Reddy	Susan Roberto-Lausen
Mary Saks	Christine Sell	Elizabeth Sellman

Carolyn Smith
Janie Tighe

Susie Smith
Doretha Hair Truesdell

Marsha Thompson
Rebecca Ventrella

Be sure to visit our website (www.impact100SL.org) and our Facebook page.

Impact 100 St. Lucie Executive Committee Members

Cris Adams, Secretary
Gwen Cunningham, Treasurer
Canieria Gardner, Vice President
Marsha Jones
Janet Maffucci, President ♦ mrsjfooch@gmail.com ♦ 914-424-6728
Veronica Montoya
Kavitha Rao
Judy Salmon
Diane Stark-Kennedy
Ruth Stromak
Dr. Lillian Torres-Martinez

Executive Committee Members Emeriti

Debbie Butler Linda Chastain Lisa Floyd Bunny Webb Melanie Wiles

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