# Volunteer!

Flagler Volunteer Services

2024 Volunteer

Appreciation Event

Thursday

April 18, 2024

Flagler County Emergency Operations Center
Bunnell, FL

Thank you to Emergency Management for the use of training rooms for our event.

# 2024 Flagler Volunteer Services

#### Board of Directors and Staff:

Ed Barth—President

Denise Gallo—Vice President

Bob Reese—Secretary

Beth Taylor—Treasurer

Caryn Prather—Member

Gail Lampert—Member

Bob Snyder- Member

Suzy Gamblain—Executive Director

Judy Bucek—RSVP Project Director/Volunteer Coordinator

Mary Calkins—Office Assistant

#### A note from the Board President:

It has been a privilege and a true honor to serve as President of Flagler Volunteer Services. During my tenure I have witnessed the many selfless acts of our volunteers. I have been to the rummage sale and the giving store and countless other activities. I have seen first hand the hard work and dedication of each and every volunteer. It is this hard work and dedication that has made our organization successful. This is truly your organization and without your effort, desire, and skill none of what we do would be accomplished.

Today we gather to honor the volunteers of Flagler County. Your hard work and selfless dedication are very much appreciated. Not only by me and the board but also all the people you help. Your contribution to your community is very much appreciated by the county and the various cities that you volunteer in.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Flagler Volunteer Services, I congratulate todays award winners. The organization and community thank you for your service.

From the bottom of my heart thank you for all you do. Without you none of this is possible with you everything is possible.

# ~A note from the staff at Flagler Volunteer Services ~

A note from the Executive Director: I have been lucky enough to spend the last 30 years of my life as a Volunteer Manager and have had the pleasure of working every day with people who give the very best of themselves to help make a positive impact on our community. I have been blessed to be able to see the difference that you all make whether you are doing something little or something big. We cannot say THANK YOU enough.

A note from the Volunteer Coordinator: I am so thankful that I am beginning my 10th year of being able to work with the fabulous volunteers of our community. Your selflessness is remarkable. Working with the volunteers is such an honor and a privilege. Thank you for all you do all year.

A note from our Office Assistant: Our volunteers in Flagler County rock! I am amazed at your selfless dedication and willingness to serve whenever and wherever needed. Every single one of you make a huge difference in someone's life. We don't say it enough but you are SO appreciated...THANK YOU!!



# Schedule of Events

#### **MORNING**

9:00am Welcome

9:15 am Award Presentations

#### **AFTERNOON**

12:00pm Welcome

12:15 pm Award Presentations

# Awards will be presented in the following Categories:

Volunteer of the Year

Volunteer Team of the Year

Bryan Cooper Excellence in Volunteer Leadership

# Flagler Volunteer Services Program Awards

**Blanketeers** 

Disaster Volunteer

Giving Store/Rummage Sale

ReadingPals

AmeriCorps Seniors—RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)

# **Flagler Volunteer Services Program Awards**

#### PATRICIA LUMADUE—Blanketeer of the Year

Patsy has been a Blanketeer volunteer since 2006 and has volunteered over 20,000 hours. Patsy has made countless items for children and adults who need something special. Even though Patsy can no longer attend the meetings, she continues to make items every month.

## JIM GROVE—Disaster Volunteer of the Year

Before there is a need for public service, whether it is a storm, public safety or a special event, Jim is part of that process. His extensive military experience and knowledge has helped him be a better leader. Jim volunteers weekly with Flalger County Emergency Management. Some of his tasks include radio checks, inventory checks and special projects. Jim has taken on the leadership role for many special events and storms. He is quick to put a plan together and be there to help execute the plan. Jim is also extremely active with FCA, Flagler County Assist. Within that group he works with various radios, testing and training, organizes volunteer activities by partnering with local agencies.

#### JOYCE CHARNEY—Giving Store Volunteer of the Year

The Giving Store and Rummage Sale are a year long process. There is a lot of shopping involved in preparation for the Giving Store. Since we give out almost 2,000 gifts, there needs to be a great selection for every age level. Joyce shops online and in person all year long to make sure that the students have fantastic gifts to select. In addition to that, Joyce helps with the rummage sale. She works to make sure that the donated items look great and are ready for sale.

## BILLIE LYNCH—ReadingPals Volunteer of The Year

It takes a special person to be a ReadingPal mentor for 8 years. Billie has spent at least an hour a week for 8 school years helping students with their reading. Billie developed a great relationship with the teacher and they work so well together. During mentor trainings Billie is quick to offer advise and suggestions to other mentors. Old Kings elementary is lucky to had Billie as a ReadingPal for the last 8 years.

# NANCY WILSON—Americorp Seniors Volunteer of the Year (RSVP)

The behind the scenes work is just as important as what you see. Nancy was able to use her talent and spend a lot of her time on helping the Giving Store Registration. We were faced with having to use our own registration process. Nancy was able to create that process along with the proper documentation needed to make the transition seamless. As a result of her work, we were able to register over 400 students for the Giving Store. The student shopping forms are complicated but necessary to allow for the process to happen. Creating and merging data was invaluable to the success of the Giving Store. We would not have been able to have a successful shopping experience for the students without her expertise, dedication, and knowledge.

# Volunteers who served more than 1,000 hours in 2023

Roberson Brown—2,871 hours

Robert Millett- 1,499 hours

Carol Abbott—1,220 hours

Barbara Sharf- 1,100 hours

Maureen Caulfield—1,504 hours

Monique Ianni- 1,241 hours

Patricia Lumadue- 1,183 hours

Peter Sami- 1,038 hours



# Volunteers who served more than 500 hours in 2023

Kevin Blair Deana Gault

Donna Wright Joan Ballard

Alice Asbill Roxanne Thomeczek

Karen Rodrigues Nancy Perry

Brenda Hagedorn June Steiert

Margaret Haynes Yvonne Saltares

Angie Troike Manny Confusione

Denise Millett Jan Sutton

Nicole Elliot Thomas Buckel

# Volunteers who served more than 500 hours in 2023

Joe Camit Jill Dempsey

Margaret Haynes Mary Mollico

Deborah Morman Jose Nunez

Terry Potter James Zimmerman

Dennis Shiverdecker Thomas Semon

William Schuyler Kevin Riebsam

Gilbert Proudfoot Mark Price

# Volunteers who served more than 250 hours in 2023

thank you!

Dawn Abbott	Nancy Zaknewski	Darrell Prather	Kathleen Allibone
Brian Rosen	Anna Marie Mount	Kimberly Helms	Michelle Puccio
Joel Atwood	Estela Linder	Norma Lewis	Wynelle Gwynes
John Canfield	Lee Sebring	Vicky LeTellier	Doris Mendez
Lucy Polania	Diane Postemski	Debbie Faris	Tom Duncan
Sue Doidge	Jeanne Munsinger	George Byrne	Deborah Gleichmann
Timothy Postemski	Sue LaRoe	Laurey Dubrule	Tim Kimball
George Dahl	Kathy Reichard-Ellavski	Paul Matarazzo	Vicki Hentschel
Evelyn Izzo	Ellen Bell	Richard Bellebuono	Richard Boswell
Joel Despres	Andrew Dodzik	Anthony Carcich	Marc Friedman
Bill Goodhue	Darryl Lambert	Tim McMullen	Lisa Mitchell
Vernell Williams	Edward Walsh	Linda Sordoni	Lee Sebring
Ronald Ragsdale	David Praisler	Jack Ogden Jr	George Navarro

#### **Bryan Cooper Excellence in Volunteer Leadership Nominees**

#### Nominee—Sarah Ulis

Sarah is the Vice Commodore of Palm Coast Yacht Club and coordinator for the Palm Coast Holiday Boat Parade. Starting with a small parade of 15 to 20 boats, she has worked tirelessly for many years to make the parade an event that all of Palm Coast can enjoy. It is now the largest lighted boat parade in Florida, and one of the largest in the country. 108 boats registered for the 40th anniversary parade in 2023, and more decorated and lit boats joined in to total over 150 boats. Sarah has worked with Flagler County, Palm Coast, the Sheriff's Department, FIND, Palm Coast Observer and KOOL FM to make the parade something special for the entire community. In 2023 the parade extended its route for a mile and shuttle busses were provided to bring viewers safely from Palm Coast Community Center and Daytona State College. In order to make the parade available to all Flagler County residents, there is no charge to participate in or view the parade. Costs are covered by Palm Coast Yacht Club and the parade sponsors. Sarah spends the year of each parade arranging the logistics of the parade, finding sponsors, encouraging participants, and informing viewers. The 2024 parade will have observers from the Guiness Book of World Records!

#### Nominee—Karen Rodriquez

I believe Karen Rodriguez should be nominated for all that she puts into the care cupboard. We rely on donations and she manages it wonderfully. She has a small space to work out of and yet she manages to help us feed approximately 350 families every week. She is strong, decisive sees what needs to be done and does it. She is great with her communication skills and asking people to step up where it is needed. She sells products online to help generate revenue for the Care Cupboard I am a volunteer at the Sheltering Tree out of the same church, and when I get new items that could be sold, I give them to her and she puts her own time, energy and gas to make sure that these items make it to the people that are ordering them. She has a wonderful personality she talks to people and is always encouraging. She also donates to other organizations items that cannot be used by us or sold so other nonprofits are also getting the benefit. She is selfless with her time she listens she understands and she's a problem solver. I look forward to being there and helping where I can and stepping up which I believe everyone there does she is constantly fine-tuning certain things that we do to make the flow go easier and to help the people that we are trying to help.

#### Nominee—Karen Rodriquez

I am nominating Karen Rodriques of the Care Cupboard Food Pantry because she is the most dedicated, hard working and compassionate leader I've ever had the pleasure to work with.

A truly good leader leads by example, and Karen does it all. She is able to rally the volunteers and creates an environment where we all want to do more. Karen is the first to jump in and just start helping with any task, be it to carry heavy boxes of food, find the box of gloves, retrieve a cart full of frozen meat from the freezer, or restock toilet paper in our bathroom. She always encourages us, and is able to recognize each volunteer's skill set in order to utilize them where they are able to do the most good.

Karen often will coordinate a need of the organization to a volunteer whom she knows has interest or experience in that area. Computer "phobic" persons will never be asked to work the online registrations for clients, and the most outgoing personalities are outside greeting and engaging guests. She always take the opportunity to notice where each person appears most comfortable, and every time will ask, "Do you want to be in charge of this?", giving us ownership of the task at hand.

The Care Cupboard Food Pantry serves over 350 families per week, and has grown very quickly in the one year I've been helping there. Karen takes it all in stride, always fine tuning the processes in place to keep it running smoothly. If the way we do it doesn't work, she seems to "simply" have an alternate solution ready to go. CON'T...

#### CON'T...

Karen can often be heard saying, "Let's get people fed." THAT is the ultimate goal of Care Cupboard, and she works tirelessly on distribution day, as well as pretty much every other day of the week, to be sure that goal is first and foremost.

Karen is honest and truthful in her interactions with the volunteers, as well as with guests and drivers (who drop off pallets). She always does the right thing even when confronted with an easier choice that is not fair or just. She inspires us all to make good choices in our decisions.

The number of volunteers who help at the pantry is a direct (I believe) result of Karen's leadership. She encourages all of us to bring a friend to help, be it for one day or many days. If a person wants to become a regular volunteer, she has them register through the Flagler County Volunteer office so that they are properly enrolled. Each volunteer at the pantry logs their hours carefully in order to provide accurate data to the Volunteer office.

I am blessed to know Karen, and truly believe she deserves this award. I hope to have a long time relationship with the Care Cupboard Food Pantry because of how smoothly it runs under her direction.

#### Nominee—Karen Rodriquez

We would like to nominate Karen Rodriquez for the Bryan Cooper Excellence Leadership Award. Karen Rodriquez is our Product Distribution Manager at the Care Cupboard Food Pantry, which is a ministry of the United Methodist Church of Bunnell. We have worked with Karen for 3 years. We are part of the committee that is responsible for overseeing the running of the pantry. Karen is also part of that committee and is very dedicated to the pantry and the volunteers that serve with her .Our pantry serves over 350 families a week, Karen supervises the day of distribution after spending hours preparing for the day.



#### **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES**

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Rachel Kelly

Rachel Kelly is being nominated for her responsibilities/duties as one of our top volunteers, she has been asset with Car riders morning and afternoon, Field trips, Front office, Clinic and classrooms, In school and out of school activities. She goes above and beyond. Is very dependable, flexible and greets everyone with a positive smile. She jumps right in when no one asks. She is one to make our school shine, with that being said the school, staff, parents and students all love her! She is out top VOLUNTEER!!

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Rick Belhumeur

Rick has a pure and sincere heart to help the community. I met him at Eagles Nest years ago when he was considering running for office because he wanted to make a difference. Since then Rick has proven how much he loves not only Flagler Beach but A1A. He spends his own money to improve the community, whether it's the Flagler Beach entrance sign on SR100 or going around literally documenting signs on A1A that need replacement or repair. When we have roadside cleanups, even if it's just the two of us, he shows up. He champions projects, actually reads agendas and board packets, and comes up with solutions to problems instead of kicking the can down the road. He cares about safety, people and this community more than just about anyone I know, but he never brags on himself. He's the first to give credit away and the first to help before eve n being asked. Please let Rick know how much he's appreciated and valued, by recognizing him with this award!

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Muriel McGhee

Mrs. McGhee is a dependable and extremely flexible volunteer that goes above and beyond weekly to serve the needs of the Foundation in and outside of the office. She helps to increase the capacity of all we do in Flagler Schools for all our teachers, students, and families. Mrs. McGhee chaired an event that helped to move the needle for the African American Mentoring Program for Girls and personally raised over 1400.00. We are thrilled to have her as one of the team as she makes it happen and shares the Foundation mission with those she meets every day.

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Jan Sutton

Jan is involved in organizing every FVS event such as the rummage sales and her ongoing office work!

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Sharon Fulton

Ms.Sharon is the sweetest woman. She's been reading to my class for 2 years now. We all looped from 2nd grade to 3rd grade together and Ms. Fulton came with us:). She carefully selects books that my children always enjoy. She brings them treats around different holidays or as a way to celebrate school breaks. One time she chose a book that lent itself to the children creating drawings of a bear. The book's characters were all colors. Brown was sad because he was selected the least until children were tasked with doing bear drawings. It became Brown's time to shine. Our class discussed the story's theme and then created our own 'brown' drawings with colored pencils that Ms. Sharon brought for each of them. She and her husband also dutifully run our school's Buster Buck Store. The students earn Buster Bucks for good behavior or improved grades that they use to "buy" things in the store. Mr. and Mrs. Fulton are the only volunteers who man this store. Without them, the program would not exist anymore.

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Deanna Arthur

Deanna Arthur is truly an asset to The Fitzgerald Performing Arts Center. She demonstrates excellent initiative and dependability in all assignments and is courteous and extremely informative when dealing with the public. She goes above and beyond to make sure they are completely satisfied with their purchases.

Deanna is the kind of volunteer you call upon when additional assistance is required. With little or no guidance she can access the situation, deem what is needed and proceed with efficiency.

Deanna also manages a non profit that she has started called Papa's Pride. All profits go to The Alzheimer's Association.

Deanna Arthur epitomizes what a volunteer should be and will be a worthy recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award.

#### **Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Carol Weiss**

Carol Weiss is a dedicated volunteer at Bunnell Elementary School (BES) in Flagler County. She has selflessly served in various roles at BES, specifically in second and third-grade classrooms, making a significant impact on students' education. Carol's passion for math, reading, and writing has not only improved academic outcomes but has also fostered a love for learning in her students.

Contributions and Impact:

Carol has built strong relationships within an underserved area, mentoring several children at BES with her deep love for both the children and the community.

Her volunteer work at BES has helped many students experience success in reading, leading to improved literacy skills and confidence. Beyond Bunnell Elementary, Carol also volunteers at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Palm Coast. She is involved in Feeding Hands, a hunger initiative that provides free home-cooked meals to over 300 people twice a month, demonstrating her commitment to serving those in need.

#### Conclusion:

Carol Weiss exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism and community service. Her dedication to Bunnell Elementary and her involvement in initiatives like Feeding Hands showcase her unwavering commitment to making a positive impact in Flagler County. Carol's passion for education, mentorship, and community outreach make her a deserving candidate for the Volunteer of the Year Award.

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Karen Rodriquez

Karen is a real leader. She sets a very good example for all volunteers. Care cupboard food pantry serves more than 300 people a week. Karen keeps everything running smoothly and leads by example. She dedicates so much of her time each week

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Roxanne Thomeczek

Roxanne is a veritable "Energizer Bunny" who keeps going and going! Whether supervising the care of adoptable cats at the Petco/Palm Coast store branch and its volunteers, covering multiple shelter laundry shifts whenever vacant as well as her three regular shifts, or working several of the fundraiser events we have each year, you can count on Roxanne! Cheerful, easy-going and always ready to laugh, Roxanne always goes above and beyond her official duties in any role maintaining the orderliness and cleanliness of any area and is a staff & volunteer favorite wherever she is. She's my go-to volunteer to train any new volunteers as she is welcoming, encouraging and thorough when training others. Everybody should have a "Roxanne" on their roster of volunteers!

#### Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Kristina Turner

Mrs. Turner started collaborating in our ASD classes when they needed for little activities in special days. Eventually, she started volunteering at the Front Desk when I was working in that position. Mrs. Turner is been a great asset to our school. She is very diligent with her work assigned .She always complete everything I asked from her and do her best to do it promptly .When we gives her an additional job she makes sure she completed and most of the time she complete the next steps without asking for it. She is very comprehensive with our parents and always willing to help with a smile. She always go out and beyond with everything she do and make sure everything have implacable results. She always participates with our events in special in school hours when we need help. Mrs. Turner is always available to help and if you call her on last minute she will respond with a Yes without hesitation. She is a natural leader and she always will go out and beyond to find the solution to any problem. Her communication skills are excellent. She is an amazing volunteer!

#### **Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Erica Flores**

I am nominating Erica Flores for volunteer of the year because of her continued dedication and support in creating acceptance of autism in Flagler County. Not only does she have a full-time family and child with autism or self to manage which we all know is not an easy task, she also works full-time and is furthering her education in autism services. I had the pleasure of meeting Erica at an autism support group. My son had just been recently diagnosed with autism and I was feeling at a loss and unsure of where to turn. The first meeting my son stood at the window and cried the whole time because he wanted to go access the pool, but I didn't feel judged, just understood. I'll never forget the compassion she demonstrated as a seasoned autism mom and I've held that with me on this lifelong journey. Since then, my family and I have continued to receive positive support from Erica and her family throughout the years by attending the many events she organizes. Some examples of the free autism services are:

- -Summer camp
- -Parent support group
- -Women support group
- -Education series connecting parents and school
- -Easter egg hunt
- -Autism Fair for resources

I'm incredibly thankful for Erica's commitment to the autistic community in Flagler County.

#### **VOLUNTEER TEAM OF THE YEAR NOMINEES**

#### Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: Lions Club of Palm Coast

Going above and beyond to make a positive impact on the agency they serve or the community at large. The Lions Club just celebrated 50 years of service in Palm Coast. Membership strives to make a difference locally and globally by working events that involve road clean-up, mentorship in youth leadership and volunteerism, and assisting the blind. Lions have the opportunity to advocate blind initiatives from collecting and sorting glasses to getting training to do vision and diabetes screenings to take corrective and preventative action.

#### Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: WES PTO

These ladies have a positive impact on a daily basis. They don't only organize big events but small too. Fall festivals and dances to Leap Day frogs with positive messages, popcorn at lunch. They also help teachers and staff with day to day tasks.

It's also they way they conduct themselves. Reliable, caring and energetic.

#### **Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: Flagler Touchdown Club**

We raise \$180,000-\$200,000 annually to support our student athletes on and off the field. We serve meals through summer, 15,000 sandwiches after school/practice, Wednesday night dinner and community speaker on a wide range of topics, Thrusday and Friday night game dinners and snacks, provide after school tutoring and mentorship programs, camp scholarships, college tours and organized team community volunteer (soup kitchens, highway/beach clean ups, habitat for humanity, church causes etc.

#### **Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: The Rescuers**

I have been working here for 3 years and been the manager for about a year and a half, and since I have been here these 3 have been amazing as far as what they have done for not only the company but for everyone here. They are always here the same days every week and they stay all day, helping out everyday they can. I've seen them go above and beyond when it comes to helping customers and staff and they are always willing to lend a helping hand when I need them to. They are more then just a vital part to the company, I would consider them an essential part to what we do here because this place would not be the same without them. I have about 15 volunteers that are here and I honestly couldn't think of 3 better ones then these 3 for the simple fact of all they have done for myself, the employees, the other volunteers, the customers, & the company.

#### **Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: Flagler County Emergency Mangement**

I am honored to nominate the Flagler County Emergency Management Volunteer Team for the prestigious Flagler County Volunteer Services - Volunteer Team of the Year Award. Comprised of 22 dedicated individuals committed to making a difference in our community, Flagler County Emergency Management Volunteers have demonstrated outstanding service, passion, and leadership throughout the year.

Flagler County Emergency Management Volunteers stand out not only for the 4,075 hours volunteered in 2023 but also for the profound impact they have had on our EMAP Accredited Emergency Management Program. Throughout the year, Flagler County Emergency Management Program has been actively involved in a wide range of initiatives. Their tireless efforts have assisted with the following:

- Front Desk Operations
- Emergency Management Logistics and Planning Support
- Exercise Support
- Fire Rescue Station Deliveries
- · Special Needs Program
- Emergency Support Program
- Supplemental Communication Program

Beyond their tangible contributions, Flagler County Emergency Management Volunteers serve as an inspiring example of selflessness, dedication, and altruism. Their passion for service is contagious, inspiring others to get involved and make a meaningful difference in Flagler County.

In recognition of their outstanding achievements and unwavering commitment to volunteerism, I wholeheartedly nominate Flagler County Emergency Management Volunteer Team for the Volunteer Team of the Year Award. Their collective efforts embody the true spirit of community service.

#### **Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: WES PTO**

I have worked with these volunteers from 1year to 5years. They tirelessly have fundraised and volunteered in school for the children of Wadsworth Elementary School. These volunteers have worked in the book fairs, assisted in school resource events, assisted in afterschool clubs and activities. They are currently handling different tasks to alleviate workload to teachers and staff such as photocopying or delivering item(s), material(s) to classes. This year, our PTO helped with the Dept of Health during their Health Screenings in all schools. Collectively they have applied for different grants. Last year, they applied for a grant with Bass Pro Shop and was awarded a \$500 grant towards Wadsworth's kids4reel program. In doing this, the PTO assisted a new school program in obtaining fishing equipment. The PTO is taking care of all the paperwork and that helps to keep the staff of the school available to handle the every day tasks. This volunteer wheel is turning and always thinking of ways to help the teachers and staff. This is pure volunteerism!

#### **Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: Flagler OARS**

As people in long term recovery, Flagler (OARS) Open Arms Recovery Sevice's staff believes that service is a pathway to wellness. The OARS volunteer team serves at food drives, Holiday events, and will soon assist with Habitat for Humanity. They strive to lead by example and offer continuous volunteer services.

#### **Volunteer Team of the Year Nominee: Flagler County Assist**

The dedicated members of Flagler County Assist (FCA) provide quality, professional services each and every time they've been called upon to assist with a variety of special events hosted by the City of Flagler Beach. During the past year, these events have included, but are not limited to; the annual 4th of July Holiday Parade, the annual Holiday at the Beach (Christmas) Parade, the inaugural New Year's Eve Fireworks Celebration, along with pedestrian crosswalk assistance at our monthly "First Friday" events. As you can see, many of the aforementioned events occur on "Holidays", and the willingness of those from FCA to volunteer their time and efforts on a "Holiday" is a commitment to public safety that is second to none!

The crosswalk assistance is the direct result of the former pedestrian crosswalk on SR100, west of Central Avenue, being closed due to the construction of the new Compass Hotel. "First Friday" events are very popular, and the crosswalk assistance for attendees at SR100 and SRA1A is greatly appreciated. This addition of FCA Volunteers at "First Friday" events has made a positive impact on the community, and it has also afforded us (the Police Department) with the opportunity to keep a Police Officer in service on what are usually busy Friday nights.

The members of FCA are always highly motivated, energetic, well-prepared and more than willing to work long, hard hours, sometimes during the hottest of conditions (like the 4th of July). The aforementioned events (post COVD) have been very well attended, and as our City and County continue to grow at a rapid rate, FCA stands tall; ready and willing to assist whenever needed. The members of FCA are always a pleasure to work alongside, and their passion for public safety, coupled with their outstanding work ethic make them a worthy recipient of this prestigious award. I have had the fortunate opportunity to work alongside this talented group of Volunteers for over a decade, and as the Chief of Police for a small town Police Department, their assistance at each and every event that they're involved in has been a resounding success. Having these wonderful Volunteers on hand to assist with traffic and crowd control at very popular events cannot be understated, nor can they be under appreciated. The Volunteers from FCA are a vital part of one big public safety team in Flagler Beach! When FCA Volunteers work together, side-by-side with our City Staff, they help make the City of Flagler Beach safe for both residents and visitors that attend special events hosted by our City; and they make it fun to work as well!.



# 2024 AWARD WINNERS

Volunteer of the Year— Carol Weiss

Volunteer Team of the Year-

Flagler County Emergency Management

Bryan Cooper Excellence in Volunteer Leadership—

Karen Rodríquez

Special Recognition—The Bomb

Bella Tarsitano

We would like to recognize the numerous hours Bella spent redoing our website for us and teaching our staff how to easily make updates to the site for future changes. Before she stepped up to help us we were having neverending difficulties with a very outdated webpage that was difficult and sometimes seemingly impossible for staff to work with. Bella changed all of that and it has empowered our agency to reach out to more volunteers and potential volunteers to serve in our community. She is the Bomb!!!



EVERYONE WHO GIVES OF THEIR TIME HAS AN IMPACT—WHETHER IT IS A LITTLE OR A LOT—

# THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS











