



Branches
Grow Deeper, Climb Higher

BRIDGE BUILDER

WHAT'S INSIDE

Summer 2020

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Mission Statement:

To serve, educate and inspire people through student, family and financial stability services in partnership with our communities.

Get Involved:

If you would like to know more about how to donate and/or volunteer, please contact us at:
305-442-8306
info@branchesfl.org

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Branches
Grow Deeper, Climb Higher

From the Desk of the Director

Keeping the Main Thing, the Main Thing



Thirty years ago this summer and fresh out of seminary, I started work as the Assistant to the Executive Director of a homeless mission in Peoria, IL. During my three year tenure, my boss frequently said memorable things. Once when we were facing a challenge, he said that we needed to 'keep the main thing, the main thing!'.

I thought about that statement when the COVID-19 pandemic descended on our community. To determine what we would do next, our team focused on what has become our 'main thing' at Branches. The main thing is without a doubt our children, families and their communities. Each and every person is incredibly valuable and we knew that any changes we made would necessarily prioritize our students and participants.

Over these past 4 months, Branches has provided over 24,000 grab-and-go meals for children and families so that no one in our neighborhoods would go hungry. We also found creative ways to stay connected with our students to not only support them through distance learning but to ensure no one suffered from social isolation.

When similar services shut down, our financial wellness services were the first in our community to reconfigure so that we could provide financial coaching, free tax prep, small business technical assistance and emergency relief for families. Our Achieve team has provided 3,400+ virtual meetings with participants and over 900 business coaching sessions to small businesses, completing dozens of loan applications.

All of us at Branches are incredibly proud to serve this community when people need us the most yet we could not have done so without the generous support of our many funders, partners and donors. Thank you to our top COVID-19 Relief funders: Trish & Dan Bell, The Children's Trust, United Way of Miami-Dade, Citi, Regions Foundation, Metro1, Capital One, Peacock Foundation, Inc., Wells Fargo Foundation, the National Christian Foundation of South Florida, and Feeding South Florida, FarmShare and Sushi Maki. THANK YOU!! Together we have kept the main thing, the main thing!

With Hope & Gratitude,

Brent McLaughlin

Brent McLaughlin
Executive Director

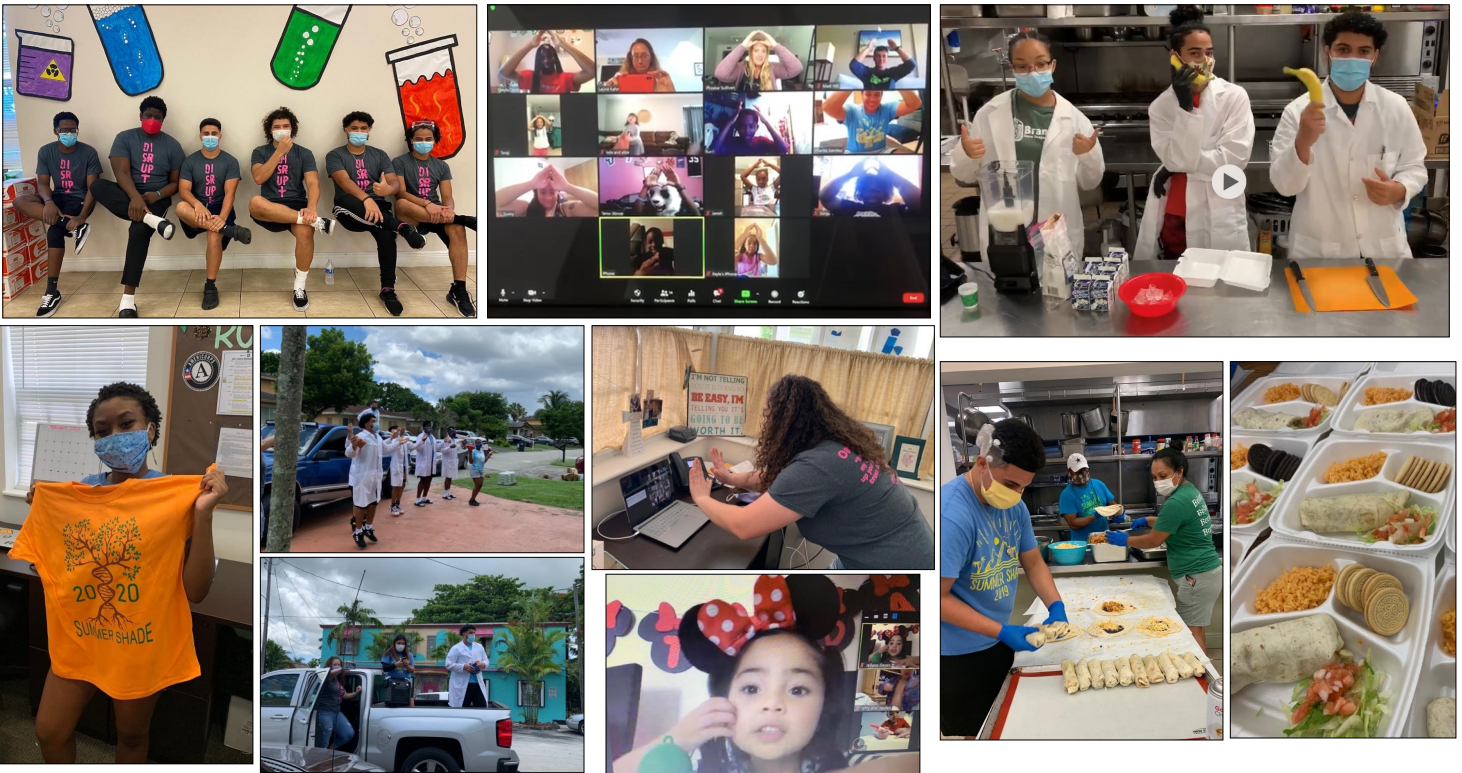


Branches Happenings

Summer Shade Camp = Virtual but still AWESOME!

Welcome to Summer Shade EXPLOSION 2020! As heartbreaking as it was to make the decision to hold our summer camp virtually this year, we believe it is the right decision in order to keep our students and staff safe during the current COVID-19 Pandemic. Our typical 7 week-long day camp which takes place at each Branches site is now being held virtually and our team is doing everything we can to make it fun and educational. Branches is proud to be employing 10 of our College students who are currently serving as Summer Shade Guides (camp counselors) to help lead the activities. Branches is hosting daily virtual activities and our entire team and Summer Shade Guides have made dozens of incredibly hilarious and engaging YouTube videos, a.k.a. Summer Shade Shorts, meant to entertain and educate as we try to prevent summer learning loss.

The team distributed needed supplies for our Zoom clubs to all our students; topics included Music Production, Fashion, African Dance, Fixing a Tire, Cartooning, Books Clubs and more. A favorite activity is the weekly "Would You Rather Challenge" via Instagram for all of the students and staff which has been a huge hit. We are also still providing virtual tutoring for many of our kids plus reading one-on-one with them to practice oral fluency. Thanks to several funders, Branches is also sending home groceries with our kids for them and their families. In addition, since we cannot celebrate the kick-off and end of our camp days with our beloved dances and songs, our Summer Guides are visiting every one of our students' homes this summer and dancing in their driveways and throwing candy and other silly fun ways to keep our kids motivated. Thank you again to all the dedicated funders who have made our Camp and our regular student programming a reality, especially during these very challenging times when our children and youth need us the most. Here's to a fantastic Fall and to staying healthy and safe!



THANK YOU to all our generous donors for supporting Branches' programs!

All donors from September 24, 2019 - July 4, 2020 are listed online on pages 4-9.

Trish & Dan Bell * United Way of Miami-Dade * The Children's Trust * Volunteer Florida
 The Batchelor Foundation, Inc. * Citi Community Development * Helen's Hope Foundation * Miami-Dade
 County PHCD Miami-Dade County OMB Grants Coordination * Capital One Services, LLC * Internal
 Revenue Service * Metro1 Commercial * Ocean Reef Community Foundation * Regions Foundation
 The Kirk Foundation * Compass 82, Inc. * Florida Conference UMC * The Miami Foundation
 Comcast NBCUniversal * Truist * Agape * North Dade Medical Foundation * National Christian
 Foundation of South Florida * Peacock Foundation, Inc. * Wells Fargo * Emergency Food & Shelter
 Program * The Templeton Family Foundation * Carnival Foundation * TD Charitable Foundation

Branches Happenings

Investing in our Students' Financial Futures



Every crisis presents an incredible opportunity for innovation. From the start of the Coronavirus Pandemic, the need for change quickly became apparent to Branches, and our Financial Wellness team replaced our one-on-one Financial Coaching, Micro-Business Support, and Free Tax Prep Services with a virtual coaching model that uses technology to communicate with our participants and families. We had developed and piloted a virtual model of service over the past two years as a way to accommodate the schedules of working individuals who could not attend meetings during our regular business hours or at our sites. While the transition process was relatively seamless for the adults and college students that we serve, it was logistically more complicated for the K—12 students since all our previous financial education with them had been in-person engagement.

Using our Human-Centered Design program development process, we learned that Branches' students really do want to learn about money and how to manage their finances as they become financially independent. Branches surveyed the Climb students, Grades 6-12, asking what topics they would like to learn about and Finances was a top choice! This showed us that our youth desire to understand finances but they expressed stress about finances too. Since Branches' Financial Coaches are trained in brain-science informed mobility mentoring techniques, we understand that children develop in an environment of relationships, which can make virtual and remote learning more challenging. We knew we would need to shift our delivery method to a virtual classroom that would still

be engaging for children and young adults, so we researched different tools and resources that would allow this. Using a variety of innovative tools, we have developed a model that will meet all of our needs for the summer, and going forward, as we continue to work with our students virtually.

Branches has invested in a library of effective and entertaining financial education content designed to engage and teach our students by presenting the material through storytelling and fun lessons for all ages. We have videos, presentations, articles, worksheets, infographics, and social media templates that will cover topics about money, budgeting, savings, owning a home and writing a business plan. While the financial concepts presented are sophisticated, using animation allows us to explain complex topics simply and in a memorable way while leaving a smile on their face. The content is grounded in extensive research based on the needs and learning processes of children and young adults. We will soon integrate the content into our Branches' website and create a "Student Portal" full of resources to enhance our interactive approach.

Through innovation, we continue to creatively engage our students and support them as they continue on their path to achieve life-long Financial Wellness! To learn more, contact us at FinancialWellness@branchesfl.org.



Thank You, Branches Sponsors & Stakeholders!

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\$20,000 and above

Bell, Trish & Dan
Agape
Capital One Services, LLC
Carnival Foundation
Citi Community Development
Comcast NBCUniversal
Compass 82, Inc.
Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP)
Florida Conference UMC
Helen's Hope Foundation
Internal Revenue Service
Metro1 Commercial
Miami - Dade County PHCD
Miami-Dade County OMB Grants Coordination
National Christian Foundation of South Florida
North Dade Medical Foundation
Ocean Reef Community Foundation
Peacock Foundation, Inc.
Regions Foundation
TD Charitable Foundation
The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.
The Children's Trust
The Kirk Foundation
The Miami Foundation
The Templeton Family Foundation
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United Way of Miami-Dade
Volunteer Florida
Wells Fargo

Between \$10,000 and \$19,999

Amerant Bank
 Aramark
 Bank of America Charitable Foundation
 BankUnited
 BBVA Compass Bank
 Bell, Sandy & Rodney
 Corey, Linda
 Gonzalez, Denise & Charles
 Himan Brown Charitable Trust
 Howard, Kathy & Scott
 Huizenga, H. Scott
 IBERIABANK
 ITS3
 Kowalski, Kathleen & Robert
 National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
 Property Markets Group
 Regions Financial Corporation
 The Ortega Family Foundation
 The Protestant Congregation of Ocean Reef, Inc.
 The UPS Foundation
 Tonkinson, Margarita & Richard

Van Gundy, Kim & Stan
 Villa Family Foundation
 Watkins, Jocelyn
 Windle, Darrell & Samber, Dave

Between \$5,000 and \$9,999

Aetna Better Health of Florida
 Bilzin Sumberg
 CenterState Bank
 City National Bank of Florida
 Crowe, LLP
 JP Morgan Chase Bank
 Law Offices of Alan Goldfarb, PA
 Morgan, Missy & James Elmore III
 Neighbors 4 Neighbors
 Publix Super Markets Charities
 Shorten, Victoria & Randolph, Jason
 The Tradex Foundation
 Umbaugh, Glicer & Greg
 United Healthcare

Between \$1,000 and \$4,999

AHA! Labs, Inc.
 Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
 Anonymous
 Anthem, Inc.
 Armstrong, Daniel
 Ault, Cindy & Greg
 Aungst, Emily & Kristopher
 Baptist Health S FL - South Miami Hospital
 Barzyk, Janine
 Baumberger, Molly & Charles
 Benditte, Gabriele & Reinhard
 Charity Services Centers PA
 Citrin, Andrea & Mark
 Crowe Foundation
 Cummins, Kary
 DeCarlo, Marc
 Edwards, Tomasa & John
 Fairless, Joseph
 FedEx
 Fernandez, Kathleen
 First UMC Miami
 Furniss-Roe, Tina & Robert
 Goya Foods of Florida
 Haas, Martha Rogers
 Hector, Nancy T.
 Houlberg, Steve & Robin
 Huseby, Laurie
 Inman, Kate & Haines, Daniel
 Iszler, Elizabeth & Timothy
 Ladner, Sharyn & Robert
 Macy's
 Marathon Community UMC
 McLaughlin, Karen & Brent
 Memorial UMC
 Milledge, Sandy
 Molina Healthcare of Florida, Inc.

Moore, Julian
 Morgan, Patricia & Richard
 Morrison Brown Argiz & Farra, LLC
 Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
 Munz, Charles P.
 National Association of United Methodist Foundations
 New World Symphony
 Oportun, Inc.
 PDC Technologies
 Perez, Barbara & Deppman, Ed
 Pike, Isabelle & Russell
 Poulos, Pamela
 Prosperity Now
 Prothro, Rebecca & Carleton
 Seaside National Bank & Trust - Las Olas
 Smith, David John
 Templeton, Tara
 Torres, Kim & Raymundo
 Touching Miami With Love Ministries
 United Healthcare Insurance Company
 US Century Bank
 Villamil, Marielena A.
 VITAS Healthcare

Between \$500 and \$999

Baird, Julie A
 Baker, Elizabeth & Edward
 BB Americas Bank
 Burdette, William R.
 Chapman Partnership
 Cobra Complete
 Cross, Margaret
 Dunham, Deirdre B. & Christian S.
 Edwards, Yvonne
 Gordon, Lynda
 Gutstein, Jacqueline
 International Interior Design Association of South Florida
 Lefcourt, Mark
 Mandarin UMC
 McDougale, Patricia & Denise
 Mekler, Gabriela & Schamer, Ilan Marcos
 Montalvo, Yasnay
 Morton, Helena & James
 Olszack, Walter Reed
 Onsgard, Debbie & Robert
 Pesquera, Beatriz
 Rodriguez, Jessica
 Siegel, Jackie & Richard
 Smith, Elena & Michael
 Soliday, Barbara
 Soto, Ed
 Taylor, Molly & David
 Valencia, Yolanda

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Between \$500 and \$499, continued from Page 4

Weems, Cynthia
Witherby, Paul
Zankl, Linda & McEnany, Patrick
Zapletal, Laurie A.

Between \$200 and \$499

Agostino, Christopher
AmazonSmile Foundation
Anazco, Beatriz
Anderson, Rose
Ariss, Jim
Ault, Stephanie Kane
Bachmann, Karla & Peter
Ball Mehta, Eileen
Coronado, Christine
Cox, Margaret
DiCosimo, Michael
Ebbertt, Marlin
Fernandez, Desiree Erin
Ferrer, Stacey & Mark
First UMC Coral Gables
First UMC Homestead Women
Gaab, Marylen
Garman, Melanie
Greist, Douglas John
Hardin, Rhonda Ballard
Heggen, Betty & Arthur
Herriott, Paula & Arthur
Ho, Linda & William
Jimenez, Juana & Juan
Jockel, Helmut G.
Kendall UMC Women
King, Charles & Diane
Koco, Tracy
Lee, Diane & Terry
Migeot, Connie
Miller, Kimberly
Milton, Ana Veiga
Mims, Ruth
Molina, Maria
Moreira, Janet
Navatkoski, Jan
Network for Good
Paredes-Robinson, Sandra C.
Parker, Lisa & Jeffrey
Providence UMC
Rios, Ivet & Armando
Robinson, Carolyn Ruth
Ruiz, Nidia
Schapiro, Jenna
Sibila, Estrellita Sofia
Sylvestre, Stephanie
Thomas, Aislynn & McDonald,
William Scott
Van Gundy, Cynthia & William
Zanghi, Lucille & Dow, James
Zankl, Sandra Lee

Up to \$199

Acosta, David Saul
Allen, Carol & Kendall
Allen, James
Alvarez, Jesse
Alvarez, Nydia
Amaya, Melvin
Arlene & Ulises Garcia
Atelus, Leslie & Mikey
Athis, Denise & Joslin
Ayala, Citlali
Balfour, Ian
Ballard, Kathleen
Batey, Betty
Baurichter, Dalia & Anthony
Beddow, Megan
Bellamy, Vicshonda
Bellany, Keithler
Benevity Causes
Benitez, Charles
Berg, Shelton
Bertan, Ivon & Abe
Berti, Franca
Bi-Lo Winn-Dixie HQ
Brooks, Teresa Gayle
Burton, Jeanne & Leland
Cetta, Susana
Chael, Mari
Charles, James
Chavarria, Stacy
Chavez, Imelda
City of South Miami
Claude, Vanessa
Collins, Shirley L.
Coria, Karen
Cornerstone UMC
Cowie, Winona
Cox, Norma
Dammann, Holly
D'Andrilli, Lena
Davis, Melissa
Davis, Nancy & George
Dekker, Corina
Dobbs, Beverly
Dominguez, Eduardo
Dossett, Elena
Durand, Sachelle
Durand, Samantha
Dyches, Anita & Jim
Elizalde, Damaris
Evans, Joan
Evans, Lynn & Chester
Feldman, Katherine & Bennett G.
Ferguson Enterprises
Fieffe, Mariane
Fink, Debbie L.
Flecha Viera, Alexandra
Ford, Sally Ann & Edward H.
Franceschi, Michelle
Galvin, Opal J.

Garcia, Estrella
Garcia, Roberto
Giostra, Elizabeth
Gonzalez, Lindsey
Grillo, Claudia A.
Hardin, Rhonda
Hardley, Pratt
Harris, Stuart
Hegler, Karen & Jonathan
Hill, Matthew
Hoffman-Guzman, Carol
Hopps, Debby & Bob B
Horman, Janet
Howell, Sarah
Hughes, Ann N. & Herbert T.
Hunt, Paul
Hunter, Aubrie
Irizarry-Lopez, Carmen Victoria
J. C. Gonzalez Nursery Inc
Jameson, Denise & Dimitri
Jardine, Etta & David
Jean, Nathalie
Jiron, Gerardo Antonio
Johnson, Renee
Joseph, Bervely
Kahn, Laurie & Fabian
Karen Raben
Kearns, Shannon
Kircher, Marianne L. & Peter H.
Lapidus, Wendy Gayle
Lightbourne, Juana
Lima, Marjorie
Lopez, Teri
Lucreta & Rev. Dr. Bryan Fink
Marcel, Cathyana
Masters, Benjamin
Matos Flecha, Adriana N.
McCarthy, Kaylin
McClary, Geraldine E. & Thomas
S., Jr.
Meyer, Susan
Morales, Nelida & Felix
Morelli, Douglas Reid
Murray, Margo
Neil, Judith Pauline
Nerenberg, Debra & Harry
NextEra Energy Foundation, Inc
Nicholas, Wenza
Nuñez, Ray Gonzalez
Padron, Lourdes & Orlando
Pagan, Luis
Pajotte, John
Parker, Robin E
Patrascanu, Adina
Perez, Elizabeth
Person, Eboni
Philips, Sally B.
Phillips, Simone E

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Up to \$199, continued from Page

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Pike, Bonnie & Walter
Plantation UMC Women
Poshard, Karen
Prentice, Lillian & Robert
Price, Nicole
Printz, Daniel
Providence UMC Women
Ramirez, Isabelle Geffrard
Ramirez, Margaret A
Ramos, Joely
Reisner, Susan
Rincon-Cedeno, Yaneyry
Rockets Publishing LLC
Rogers, Debbie A
Ruiz, Rosy
Sanchez, Michael

Santiago, Esther & Isolina
Sawallis, Thomas R R.
Schmidt, Donald
Sealey, David
Sharp, Andrea
Shoaf, Diane & David
Shourds, Lisa
Silver Palm UMC
Soto, Julimar
Soto, Michelle
Sullivan, Phoebe
Sutton, Karen & Wayne
Swyter, Nicholas
Tabares, Rudy
Tannehill, Annie
Terry, Gina
Thom, Lillie
Thompson, Betsy

Tyler, Katherine Frasdilla
Uhle, Karen & Thomas
Van Gundy, Alison
Velasquez, Jazmin
Vellmet, Fritssohn
Victoria, Robert
Vilato, Jeannie P
Vineyard Vines Retail, LLC
Von Cannon, Linda
Walker, Jonathan
Watts, Nancy & Dean
Wert, Georgia & Robert
Wiggins, ShaDe K.
Williams, Dortha
Williams, Jill & James
Williams, Patricia I.
Zheng, Jiajin

In Memory Of :

- ♦ Benjamin Siegel from Susan Reisner
- ♦ Beverly Mooers from Patricia Brodie
- ♦ Chuck Burton from Linda Burton
- ♦ Elizabeth Hogan from Rhonda Hardin
- ♦ George Floyd from David Saul Acosta
- ♦ George W. Allen Jr from Teri Lopez
- ♦ George W. Allen, Jr. from Ed Deppman
- ♦ Jerry Sue Parrish from Rhonda Hardin
- ♦ Kathryn Becker from Robert Onsgard
- ♦ Mom & Poppi Deppman from Barbara Ann Perez-Deppman
- ♦ Nancy C. Sawallis from Thomas Sawallis
- ♦ Nelva A. Soto from Michelle Soto
- ♦ Phil Bostrom from Rhonda Hardin
- ♦ Victoria Greist from Douglas John Greist and Karen Raben

In Honor Of:

- ♦ Alison Van Gundy from Kim & Stan Van Gundy and Cynthia & William Van Gundy
- ♦ Angie & Michael Berman from Debbie L. Fink,
- ♦ Brotherhood of Beth David from Marl Lefcourt
- ♦ Deborah Scholl from Shelton Berg
- ♦ Esther Santiago from Rosario Santiago
- ♦ Heidi Aspinwall and the FLUMC YAMM Program from Sarah Howell
- ♦ Isabelle Pike from Mark Trowbridge
- ♦ Jeff Scola from Paul Witherby
- ♦ Karen & Jon Hegler from Carol & Kendall Allen and Jeannie Vilato
- ♦ Kim & Raymundo Torres from Robin E. Parker, Diane & Charles King, Jessica Rodriguez, Susi Cetta, and Leslie Atelus
- ♦ Lyle's and Steven's engagement from Missy Morgan
- ♦ Moya Bailey from Lillie Thom
- ♦ Nonie Cowie from Jeannie Vilato
- ♦ Patti Morgan from Debra & Harry Nerenberg
- ♦ Rose Van Gundy from Kim & Stan Van Gundy

Happy Birthday To:

- ♦ Daniel Ades from Beatriz Pesquera
- ♦ Jason Randolph from Jim Morgan III
- ♦ Livie Rose Evans from Lynn Evans
- ♦ Selen Turner from LiLin Gaab

Gifts Through The Miami Foundation Give Day 2019:

- ♦ Alex True
- ♦ Alexandra Flecha Viera
- ♦ Alina Roy
- ♦ Anonymous (6)
- ♦ Aquarius Press
- ♦ Audrey Warren
- ♦ Barbara Ann Perez-Deppman
- ♦ Barbara Romani
- ♦ Brent McLaughlin
- ♦ Carol Hoffman
- ♦ Christina Hudson
- ♦ Christopher Moreno
- ♦ Dalia Tobar Baurichter
- ♦ Daniel Armstrong
- ♦ Darrell Windle
- ♦ Deborah Koch
- ♦ Deborah M Horwitz
- ♦ Denise Athis
- ♦ Diane Barrett
- ♦ Diane Shoaf
- ♦ Donald Gregory Ault
- ♦ Douglas John Greist
- ♦ Dreema, Stokes

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Gifts Through The Miami Foundation Give Day 2019, continued from Page 6

- ◆ Ed Deppman
- ◆ Ellis Darren Liddell
- ◆ Eric E. Santa Maria
- ◆ Holly Dammann
- ◆ Isabelle Pike
- ◆ Jack Edwards
- ◆ Janine Barzyk
- ◆ Jason Randolph
- ◆ Jodie Knofsky
- ◆ Jose TJ Villamil
- ◆ Karla Bachmann
- ◆ Kathleen G Howard
- ◆ Kim Torres

- ◆ Kipp Nelson
- ◆ Kristopher Budi
- ◆ Laurie A. Zapletal
- ◆ Laurie Kahn
- ◆ Leslie Decius
- ◆ Linda Burton
- ◆ Lucy Nunez
- ◆ Mark Trowbridge
- ◆ Martine Marcelin
- ◆ Mary Morgan
- ◆ Marylen Gaab
- ◆ Milagros Munoz
- ◆ Missy Morgan
- ◆ Nidia Ruiz
- ◆ Patricia Brodie
- ◆ Rhonda Hardin

- ◆ Richard A. Morgan
- ◆ Robert I Hatfield
- ◆ Robert Landon III
- ◆ Robert Onsgard
- ◆ Rodney Bell
- ◆ Rosario Santiago
- ◆ Sandra C. Amezcuita
- ◆ Sandy Milledge
- ◆ Scott Howard
- ◆ Sue Nichols
- ◆ TeamFootWorks
- ◆ Thomas Tannehill
- ◆ Timothy J. Iszler
- ◆ Tina Furniss-Roe
- ◆ Tova Kreps

In-Kind Donations

Back to School

- ◆ Brodie, Patricia & Marshall - Twelve backpacks
- ◆ Shinnars, Brian - Three Binders

Under The Tree Toyshops

- ◆ Break the Cup Coffee - Fifty-three cases of Break the Cup Coffee
- ◆ Cornerstone UMC - Fifty toys
- ◆ Doctor's Charter School Key Club - Sixteen Toys
- ◆ Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce - A dozen toys
- ◆ Greist, Douglas John - Three large bags of toys
- ◆ ITS3 - Fifteen toys
- ◆ JP Morgan Chase Bank - One Hundred and Forty-Six toys
- ◆ Kendall UMC - Twenty toys and two bikes
- ◆ Maxwell, Leslie - Thirty-five toys
- ◆ McLaughlin, Karen & Brent - Fifteen toys
- ◆ Patricia Kelly Palmer - Six toys
- ◆ Ross, Larry - Nineteen toys
- ◆ State Farm South Florida - One Hundred and twenty-two toys
- ◆ The Growing Place of FUMCC - Fifteen toys
- ◆ Westminster Christian School - Over Two Hundred and Fifty toys, sixty Amazon \$10 gift cards, a Visa \$20 gift card and twenty Target \$10 gift cards

Thanksgiving 2019

- ◆ Aerospace Technologies Group - Twenty-two pounds of food
- ◆ Cao Chocolates - Sixteen pounds of food
- ◆ CISV International - One hundred and ninety-six pounds of food

- ◆ Cornerstone UMC - Twelve pounds of food
- ◆ Kendall UMC - Sixty-eight pounds of food
- ◆ Maxwell, Leslie - Sixty-nine pounds of food
- ◆ Palmer Trinity Private School, Inc. - One thousand four hundred and forty-one pounds of food
- ◆ Plaza Construction - Five hundred and forty-eight pounds of food
- ◆ Poinciana UMC - Sixty-five Pumpkin Pies
- ◆ Thermo Fisher - Twenty pounds of food
- ◆ Unity on the Bay - Three hundred and eighty-four pounds of food

COVID-19 Response:

- ◆ Anderson, Nancy - A mixture Forty eight sandwiches and oranges to Branches FL City
- ◆ Bivens, Billie - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ Blanco, Cristina - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ Brewer, Sheila - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ Brewer, Sheila - 24 sandwiches and 48 brownies to Branches Florida City
- ◆ Corporate Caterers - 40 Boxed Lunches for students in Branches Florida City
- ◆ Dunkin' Brands, Inc. - 250 Dunkin Donuts \$5 gift cards
- ◆ Dyches, Anita - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ The Education Fund - 40 backpacks filled with school supplies + 2 boxes of toilet paper, 4 boxes of t-shirts, 8 boxes of paper towels, 200 small t-shirts and 200 medium t-shirts

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In-Kind Donations

COVID-19 Response:

- ◆ Furnari, Doreen - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ Gordon Food Service - Groceries for Branches Florida City to prepare meals for our families
- ◆ Goya Foods of Florida - 24 cases of grocery
- ◆ Health in the Hood – 16 Publix \$100 gift cards to Branches Lakeview families
- ◆ Kendall UMC – 50 bags of personal hygiene items and 5 boxes of groceries for Branches Florida City
- ◆ Koning Restaurants International - 50 Pizzas
- ◆ Memorial UMC – 6 boxes of groceries and cleaning supplies
- ◆ Molina Healthcare of Florida, Inc. - 500 Molina paper bags for grocery distribution to our families
- ◆ ZTA Miami Alumni Chapter (thru Morgan, Patricia - snacks
- ◆ Morgan, Patricia - 104 sandwiches, 20 granola bars, 433 desserts, 12 d'animals, 62 snacks and 6 pounds of oranges
- ◆ Friends of Morgan, Patricia – 250 desserts for Branches Florida City's Grab-and-Go meals.
- ◆ Paredes-Robinson, Sandra C. – 500 masks to Branches Florida City
- ◆ Power Pizzeria – 100 hundred pizzas to Branches South Miami families
- ◆ Re, Estefania - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ Reef Tropical Pool & Landscape - Various groceries for Branches Florida City families
- ◆ Robinson, Sandra & Roland - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc.—Donated fifty K-N95 masks to Branches FL City
- ◆ Suda, Brenda - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners, 12 sandwiches and 75 rice krispie treats to Branches Florida City
- ◆ Szczepanec, Sabina - Food for Branches Florida City grab and go dinners
- ◆ Tech Girl Power - Donated 75 children's masks to Branches Lakeview
- ◆ United Healthcare – 250 masks
- ◆ United Way of Miami-Dade – 500 Sedanos \$50 gift cards
- ◆ Viventa LLC – 600 sandwiches to Branches Florida City and 200 sandwiches for our families
- ◆ Zimmerman, Loretta - 100 bags of rice, 200 cans of beans, 100 mix of instant oatmeal and cereal bars to Branches Florida City

Other In-Kind Donations:

- ◆ ACBOTAX CORP - Twelve and a half hours of accounting services
- ◆ Almodovar-Colon, Milagros - One large bag of Halloween Costumes for our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ Balestra, Cathy - A large Doll House and Cabinet
- ◆ Bay Harbor Island Manor Condo - Three large boxes of assorted plates, coffee cups and glasses
- ◆ Bi-Lo Winn-Dixie HQ - 4 Winn Dixie \$50 cards
- ◆ BNI Business Leaders - Six Halloween Costumes for 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ Brightview Landscape Services, Inc. - Dozens of various plants for Summer Shade Camp
- ◆ Brodie, Patricia & Marshall - One large bag of Baby Food and two large boxes of Body Wash and Lotions
- ◆ Cabral, Marsha - Adopting Matilda Soriano through Neighbors for Neighbors Adopt-A-Family.
- ◆ The Children's Voice Choir - Cookies for our Branches families
- ◆ Cirque Italia - Fifty Children and two Adult tickets to Cirque Italia
- ◆ Citrin, Andrea & Mark - Eight purses, one pair of boots and a large box of belts
- ◆ City Theatre - Three play tickets
- ◆ Fratelli Milano - Provided lunch on September 29th to fifty children and families from Branches Florida City
- ◆ Garden Bros Circus - Thirty tickets to The Garden Bros. Circus
- ◆ Health in the Hood - Seven Publix \$100 gift cards to Branches Lakeview families
- ◆ Howard, Kathy & Scott - Queen sized comforter, pillows, two lamps and a set of dishes
- ◆ IBERIABANK - Use of the IBERIABANK Miami Lakes Conference room on October 8th, 2019
- ◆ International Interior Design Association of South Florida (IIDA) - Four bags of Halloween Costumes for our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ Irizarry-Lopez, Carmen Victoria - Two tickets to "Hamilton"
- ◆ LaMarca, Marty - Two large bags of Halloween Costumes for our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive and one large bag of Chocolates
- ◆ Levrant, Maria Elena - Ten complimentary tickets to Dorrance Dance at the Adrienne Arsht Center

Thank You, Branches Sponsors & Stakeholders!

List includes contributions received by Branches from September 24, 2019 to July 4, 2020. If you sent a contribution during this period and do not see your name on the list, please contact us at (305) 442-8306 x1005.

In-Kind Donations

Other In-Kind Donations:

- ◆ Miami Lakes K-8 Center National Elementary & Junior Honor Society - Six large bags of Halloween Costumes and one large bag filled with Sweaters
- ◆ Neighbors 4 Neighbors - Adopted ten families for Christmas for their Adopt A Family Campaign
- ◆ Page by Page Books - 3,000 books to our Branches Florida City libraries
- ◆ Palmer Trinity Private School, Inc. - Twenty Halloween Costumes for our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ Palmer Trinity Private School, Inc. - Ten dozen boxes of Kristy Kreme donuts, plus the entire remainder of their freezer and fridge supplies and food in mid-March, enough to make over 1,500 meals. Plus four bags of assorted toys, robes, slippers, flip flops and comfy socks
- ◆ Pike, Isabelle - Safety 1st forward-facing toddler car seat, Infant car seat from Britax and two car bases plus two rear view mirrors, A Convertible Bellini Crib/Toddler bed and a Graco Highchair and Six sweaters for boys and girls
- ◆ Read to Learn Books for Free - Forty tickets to the Miami Book Fair
- ◆ Regions Bank- Coral Gables - Twenty-three lobby chairs, eight big black leather chairs, two coffee tables, eleven green chairs on wheels and one small side table
- ◆ Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida - Hosted forty-two Branches Florida City students at their Annual Everglades National Park Outing
- ◆ Ruiz, Rosy - Two desks and one set of drawers
- ◆ Shorten, Victoria & Randolph, Jason - A 2004 Chrysler Sebring Convertible vehicle, plus Christmas gifts for the Edwards Family, two adults and four children including three laptops, game consoles and Beats headphones, board games, three bikes, clothing, footwear and gift cards for Three Hundred dollars.
- ◆ Snowden, Kenya & Team at the University of Miami School of Nursing - adopted three Branches Lakeview families for Thanksgiving, providing them with assorted Thanksgiving food, a Turkey and a fifty dollar Winn-Dixie gift card
- ◆ Somarriba, Ana - A large sectional to a Branches Lakeview Family and several National Geographic Magazines
- ◆ South Florida Regional Transportation Authority - Adopted two Branches families for Christmas through Neighbors for Neighbors Adopt A Family, hosted them at your Winter Wonderland on December 14th, 2019, provided gifts to the families and \$1,500 worth of gift cards to Walmart and to assist with their utilities.
- ◆ South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center - One large box of Halloween Costumes for our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ Stephanie & Bryan Bentancourt - Two Hundred & Fifty free Hamburger Gift Certificates
- ◆ TeamFootWorks - One large box of Halloween Costumes for our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ The Growing Place of FUMCCG - One large box of Halloween Costumes for the 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ Truist Brickell - Eight cases of water
- ◆ Truist Foundation - Donated One large basket of Thanksgiving food and a two hundred dollar Publix gift card to the Edwards Family
- ◆ Uber Technologies, Inc. - Twenty \$10 rides for our Achieve Clients to pick up their Thanksgiving meals at Marlins Park
- ◆ United Way of Miami-Dade - Ten 7965G VOIP phones
- ◆ Vargas, Heidi & Bacardi Team - \$2,000 in Darden Restaurant gift cards for Branches Families- thirty \$50 gift cards and five \$100 gift cards
- ◆ Verdiguel, Elliot - Six Hundred & Fifty Halloween Costumes to our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive
- ◆ Zinn, Curran & Marcelo - Three gently used convertible child car seats
- ◆ Zoo Miami - Four passes to Zoo Miami
- ◆ Zurfluh, Tatiana - Three bags of Halloween Costumes to our 2019 Halloween Costume Drive

2020 Gala Recap

Branches' Black Tie & Blue Jeans Gala: Canceled yet Hugely Impactful

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Branches was forced to cancel its 17th Annual Black Tie & Blue Jeans Gala and Auction which was scheduled for May 9th, 2020. However, thanks to an incredible Matching Grant provided by Trish and Dan Bell, all Gala donations and all Gala sponsorships which were converted into donations were matched \$1 for \$1. This was truly an incredible gesture by the Bells as well as all the sponsors and donors who generously supported Branches to help raise much needed resources. Branches also hosted its first ever Online Auction which also helped to raise dollars towards vital programs serving children and families. Thank you again to everyone for making this challenging year's event a success!

Branches would like to thank all who supported Black Tie & Blue Jeans. In particular, we want to recognize the following premiere sponsors:

Trish & Dan Bell
Philanthropic Chairs

Himan Brown Charitable Trust
Platinum Sponsor

Kathy & Scott Howard
The Tonkinson Foundation
Gold Sponsors

Sandy & Rod Bell
Truist

Bilzin Sumberg
Silver Sponsor

Aetna Bank United CenterState Bank City National Bank
Crowe LLP JP Morgan Chase Kathleen & Robert Kowalski
Missy & Jim Morgan Publix Victoria & Jason Randolph
Bronze Sponsors



2020 *Black Tie* & *Blue Jeans*



Thank you for your support!



Branches
Grow Deeper, Climb Higher



2019 Thanksgiving Recap

19th Annual Thanksgiving Meal Delivery Another Success!

A HUGE Thank You to our premiere *Thanksgiving Day Sponsors* for their generous support and making this special day possible:



PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS
CHARITIES



Thanks to the efforts of our amazing donors and volunteers, Branches provided over 5,200 meals to individuals in need this 2019 Thanksgiving Season! Over 1,100 volunteers helped cook, package and deliver meals on Thanksgiving morning at 9 sites throughout Miami-Dade and Broward counties.

Due to the generosity of hundreds of caring individuals, we were able to make a lasting impact in the lives of thousands of people in need. Along with a hot, delicious Thanksgiving meal, clients also received a very important resource pamphlet containing information about Branches programs, and emergency and public benefit services.

A Big Thank You to Amerant Bank, Ashcroft Capital, The Batchelor Foundation, Marc DeCarlo, Molina Healthcare of Florida and VITAS for serving as *Thanksgiving Site Sponsors*. **Thank you also to City National Bank, Laurie Huseby, Charles P. Munz, Seaside National Bank & Trust and US Century Bank for their caring support as Thanksgiving Sponsors!** Appreciation also goes to our *Thanksgiving Supporters*: BB Americas Bank, Yvonne Edwards, Kathy & Scott Howard, Jackie & Richard Siegel, Ed Soto and Kim & Stan Van Gundy. **Many thanks to our in-kind donors as well such as Aquarius Press, Johnson & Wales University, Miami Marlins and United Way of Miami-Dade for their kind support.**



UPS and other volunteers are busy serving up delicious hot meals.



A family who volunteers together, spreads joy together!



Volunteers head out to deliver hot meals to families in need.



A young Branches student enjoying a yummy meal.

A special THANK YOU to our incredible Food Drive Partners!

Palmer Trinity Private School, Inc., Plaza Construction, Unity on the Bay, CISV International, Kendall United Methodist Church (UMC), Poinciana UMC, Leslie Maxwell, Bristol Tower Condominium, Aerospace Technologies Group, Thermo Fisher, Cao Chocolates and Cornerstone UMC.



Branches
Grow Deeper, Climb Higher

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
MIAMI, FL
Permit No. 2893

11500 NW 12th Ave, Miami, Florida 33168

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Support Branches' Back to School Drive!

It may be summer break, but Branches students already need YOUR help preparing for the new school year! Regardless if school is virtual or part-time, our kids need supplies to complete homework and projects.

If you or your organization would like to donate school supplies and backpacks, or organize a supply drive, please contact Renee Johnson at rjohnson@branchesfl.org or (305) 442-8306 x1010.



You may also ship supplies directly to Branches via our NEW School Supplies Amazon Wish List: <https://amzn.to/3dVcLpo>

THANK YOU for making it possible for our students to start the school year off right!

