

The official newsletter of the Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation



What's happening at EWPB:

Dear Members of Executive Women of the Palm Beaches,

What a wonderful celebration we shared at this year's Women in Leadership Awards luncheon. It was a powerful reminder of the strength, impact, and connection that define our organization.

For 42 years, Executive Women of the Palm Beaches has proudly recognized women who are making a difference across business, nonprofit, and public sectors. From our founding by Cynthia Allen Gracey and her colleagues—at a time when women were not welcomed into many professional networks—to today, we continue to build on a legacy of leadership and opportunity. This year, we honored 39 outstanding nominees whose dedication, service, and leadership inspire us all. Each of you represents the very best of our community. And congratulations to our remarkable four honorees. You join a long list of women who continue to make their mark on our community.

At the heart of my message at the event was a simple truth: when women support one another, there is no limit to what we can achieve. This past year has been a reflection of that spirit, as we continued to grow, give back, and lift others along the way.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our generous sponsors, whose support makes this event and our mission possible. I am also especially thankful to our Women in Leadership Awards Chair, Christine Raymond, along with the hardworking committee for their creativity, leadership, and dedication in bringing this event to life.

As we look ahead, let's continue to show up for one another and carry forward the momentum we've built together.

With appreciation,

Kae Jonsons
Board President

MAY 2026

WILA Nominee Reception Generously Underwritten by FPL



Hundreds of photos available on the website [HERE](#)





A Message from the Committee Chair, Christine Raymond

This year's Women in Leadership Awards luncheon, held at the Kravis Center on April 16, was truly one of those events that left guests feeling inspired long after it was over. Thanks to the one and only Mr. Wil and the Digital Vibez team, the room was alive and filled with excitement as soon as guests entered. It was an afternoon filled with excitement, celebration, and so much appreciation for the incredible women who are making a difference throughout our community every single day.

What made the luncheon so special wasn't just recognizing the honorees, it was celebrating every nominee and the amazing work being done across Palm Beach County. Each woman represented leadership in her own unique way through service, mentorship, innovation, advocacy, and a genuine commitment to lifting others up. It was a powerful reminder of how fortunate we are to live in a community filled with women who lead with passion, heart, and purpose. It also served as a reminder that none of us achieves success on our own - each of us has had a woman or women who paved the path for us, and in turn, today's leaders are paving the path for tomorrow's shining stars.

One of the most memorable moments of the afternoon was hearing from Dianne Bailey, whose message truly resonated with everyone in the room. She spoke about the difference between success and significance, reminding us that while success is something we achieve for ourselves, significance is about the impact we leave on others. Dianne highlighted some of the trends in philanthropy and, as she said - "the future of philanthropy is female!" Her words were both inspiring and grounding, encouraging all of us to think about how we use our leadership to support, empower, and create opportunities for those around us and those who follow in our footsteps..

The energy throughout the afternoon was joyful, supportive, and uplifting. You could feel the genuine excitement as women celebrated one another's accomplishments and shared in the spirit of encouragement and connection that makes Executive Women of the Palm Beaches so special.

Events like the Women in Leadership Awards remind us why community matters. They give us the opportunity to pause, celebrate excellence, and recognize the extraordinary women who are helping shape a stronger future for all of us.

Congratulations again to all of our nominees and honorees, and thank you to everyone who made the afternoon such a meaningful and memorable celebration.



MAY 2026



EXECUTIVE WOMEN
of the Palm Beaches Foundation
EST. 1982

EWPB and Clothing & Accessory Drive for



Drive for 3 weeks: April 20 – May 8

Sponsored By: Lakehouse Financial



A1 Moving & Storage



ALL CLOTHING MUST BE ON HANGERS

ACCEPTABLE DONATIONS

- New or gently used
- Clean, pressed, and professional
- No stains or damage

CLOTHING (ON HANGERS)

- Suits, blazers, dresses
- Blouses and professional tops
- Slacks and business attire

ACCESSORIES

- Purses and totes
- Professional shoes (no sandals/stilettos)
- Jewelry and scarves
- New makeup and undergarments

NOT ACCEPTED

- Casual or outdated clothing
- Damaged or stained items

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS



Families First of Palm Beach County
3333 Forest Hill Blvd., 2nd Floor
West
Palm Beach, FL 33406



Delray Beach Public Library
100 W. Atlantic Ave.
Delray Beach, FL 33444

**Contact Kae Jonsons for drop-off
(561) 289-7360**



El Sol
Jupiter's Neighborhood Resource
Center
106 Military Trail
Jupiter, FL 33458



First National Bank Coastal
Community
12140 South Shore Blvd.
Wellington, FL 33414

MAY 2026



EXECUTIVE WOMEN
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HAPPY

Hour

RAISE A GLASS, GROW YOUR CIRCLE

JUNE 3RD AT 5:30PM

PREZZO ITALIAN RESTAURANT
4520 PGA BLVD. STE. 100
PALM BEACH GARDENS

\$35
INCLUDES
2 GLASSES OF
WINE & LIGHT
BITES

REGISTER AT
[EWPB.ORG/PROGRAMS-](http://EWPB.ORG/PROGRAMS-EVENTS/S)
[EVENTS/S](http://EWPB.ORG/PROGRAMS-EVENTS/S)



MARCH 2026

EXECUTIVE WOMEN of the Palm Beaches Foundation EST. 1982



42nd Annual Cynthia Allen Gracey Women in Leadership Awards Luncheon



MAY 2026

42nd Annual Cynthia Allen Gracey Women in Leadership Awards Luncheon

Hundreds of photos available on the website [HERE](#)





Member Spotlight:

JENNIFER SULLIVAN

**CULTURAL COUNCIL FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY,
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

What path brought you to your current role or business?

I am a creative strategist, community leader, and arts advocate with more than 25 years of experience advancing nonprofit organizations, public-private partnerships, and cultural initiatives in Palm Beach County.

I began my career at a boutique public relations firm, working with corporate and nonprofit clients across Florida and securing national media coverage in outlets including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, and Town & Country. I later moved into the nonprofit sector at the Community Foundation for Palm Beach & Martin Counties, where I launched the region's first online giving day, raising \$2.2 million in a single day for hundreds of local charities.

I was then recruited to Ideabar to help build a start-up advertising agency within the local newspaper, where I helped secure its first million-dollar client. Ultimately, I returned to the nonprofit sector and found the perfect intersection of my professional experience and personal passion at the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County.

Today, I lead a multidisciplinary team supporting professional artists and cultural organizations through grantmaking, exhibitions and performances, professional development, tourism marketing, and advocacy. During my tenure, I launched MOSAIC (Month of Shows, Art, Ideas, & Culture), an award-winning cultural tourism campaign now in its ninth year. I've also built partnerships that expand opportunities for emerging artists, launched a podcast highlighting local arts and culture, and helped bring arts enrichment programs to families served by Bridges sites in Belle Glade, Pahokee, Riviera Beach, and Lake Worth.

Beyond my professional role, I serve as immediate past chair of Nonprofits First, sit on the Education Advisory Board for the Village of Royal Palm Beach, and serve on the inaugural board of the Multicultural Resource Center in central Palm Beach County.

How has being a member impacted you personally or professionally?

I first became involved when I was invited to participate in a member-only panel discussion about tourism in The Palm Beaches at the Cultural Council building in Lake Worth Beach. Working with the volunteer committee members impressed me immediately – they were thoughtful, professional, and deeply committed to creating a meaningful member experience.

What's one accomplishment you're most proud of?

One accomplishment I'm particularly proud of was being named a 2025 finalist for Leadership Palm Beach County's Leadership Excellence Award for my work in arts advocacy. After \$32 million in state arts funding was vetoed in 2024, I stepped into a leadership role within a statewide coalition advocating for restoration in the 2025–2026 budget. Through coordinated marketing campaigns, legislative meetings, and hosting cultural site visits for the Palm Beach County legislative delegation, we mobilized broad support for the arts across Florida. Our collective efforts helped restore \$21 million in grant funding statewide, including \$1.8 million for organizations in Palm Beach County—protecting jobs, education programs, and essential community services delivered through the arts.

What advice would you give to other women leaders in Palm Beach County?

My mantra is simple: be kind and direct. Palm Beach County is a close-knit community where relationships matter. People respect leaders who communicate clearly, and they remember leaders who lead with kindness. Over time, those small interactions build trust and create opportunities for collaboration. You never know when you'll cross paths again or need to call on someone for advice, support, or partnership. Leading here has taught me that strong relationships – and small, thoughtful actions – can create lasting impact.

What's something fun or surprising about you that most people don't know?

I love Florida for its extraordinary diversity of landscapes, history, and outdoor experiences. Born in Broward County and raised in Palm Beach County, my childhood was spent on the beach or on the water, fishing and diving. As an adult, that connection deepened. Every summer my husband and our two children go scalloping in Homosassa Springs on the west coast of Florida, turning it into a spirited family competition. Fresh Gulf scallops on the grill are the reward—and I love the tradition so much I even have a small scallop tattoo.

MAY 2026

Upcoming Events

Save The Dates:

Dress for Success Pop-Up

May 21st at 5:30pm

Dress for Success of the Palm
Beaches

New Member Orientation

May 26th at 9:00am

Remote via Teams

Happy Hour Networking

June 3rd at 5:30pm

Prezzo Italian Restaurant, PBG

Human Trafficking Awareness Event

September 16th at 5:30pm

Location TBA

Fall Foundation Luncheon

October 22nd at 11:30am

Marriott West Palm Beach

Reoccurring:

Breakfast Bunch

First Friday of the Month, 8:00am

Lili's Cafe, Palm Beach Gardens

Welcome New Members:

Elisha Roy, Partner

Sasser Cestero & Roy

Dr. Kacey Atkinson, Dean of Student

Services/Director of Financial Aid,

Academy for Nursing and Health

Occupations

Sandra Stella, Business Advisor

Grassi

Michelle Middleton, Founder and

Medical Provider, SPOKEMed

Shawna Camilleri, Founder &

Director/ Founder and Director,

Keenan's Caring Konnections, LLC &

Shawna's Basket Brigade Inc

Karlene Maharaj, CEO, The Elephant

Mantra Group

Edith Scott, Executive Director, No

Forgotten Kids

JoAnne Berkow, (Returning Member)

Founder & President, Benzaiten

Center for Creative Arts