EXECUTIVE WOMEN
of the Palm Beaches Foundation
EST. 1982

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

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






EWPB Foundation Giving

The application and vetting season for Scholarships and Grants closed by September. Thank you to all of the members of the scholarship committee and the grants committee for all their hard work. We received over 130 scholarship applications and over 20 grant applications. EWPBF has stepped into the 21st century by utilizing the Jot Form platform for the application and vetting process.

Diane McNeal served as the Scholarships, Grants, and Donor Relations Committee Chair again this year. Caryn Stevens chaired the Scholarship Subcommittee. Virginia Spencer, Jackie Halderman and Mary Lewis Moews co-chaired the Grants Subcommittee. Thank you for all of your time and effort this year.

Thank you to all of honorary chairs over the years, to our WILA supporters, and to the donors who directly support our grants and scholarship programs. We look forward to your support for WILA and these programs in 2027.



Grant Committee
From left: Virginia Spencer, Dari Bowman, Jackie Halderman, Elisha Roy, Christine Pitts, Tyrene Morgans
Committee Members not pictured: Diane McNeal, Mary Lewis Moews, Leslie Adams

NOVEMBER 2026

2026 Fall Foundation Luncheon

Scholarships:
Twenty (20) scholarships totaling $29,500 were granted this year to female undergraduate and graduate students who are Palm Beach County residents. We expanded our reach to all Florida Universities not just Palm Beach County colleges and Universities due to some donors agreeing to widen the network of schools. We funded 16 of these scholarships from endowed funds accumulated over the years from Honorary Chairs of our Women in Leadership Luncheon. Four scholarships were funded by directed donations of 2 members. Thank you to our generous donors. These scholarships carry out EWPBF's mission of mentoring and supporting the next generation of female leaders.

We granted a Pathfinder's Scholarship in honor of Hareen Bertisch earlier this year. Thank you to Caryn Stevens for sitting on the Pathfinder's Scholarship Review Committee.

Grants:
EWPB Foundation funded three grants for a total of $20,000 this year. these funds were raised through directed donations and WILA proceeds.

A $10,000 Lois C. Kwasman Grant was awarded to an organization who provides a program to assist girls and young women between the ages of 8 to 22 develop life skills, gain self-confidence, become resourceful and self-sufficient, and position themselves for a successful life. Her Path to Possibilities Program at the Children's Place at Home Safe was the 2026 Grant Recipient. This program serves teens who have suffered trauma and are residents of their residential program - leadership, coping, emotional resilience skills.

Two $5,000 Community Outreach Grants were awarded to organizations that provide programs to assist girls and young women who need critical services. Her Soil is Her Story in Belle Glade was one of the grant recipients. The organization offers an academic and leadership skills program to assist Belle Glade HS students gain admittance to college. It also provides the students with college scholarships The Hands and Feet was the other grant recipient. The organization assists foster children with emergency needs at time of placement and then provides ongoing support to the child and family.

NOVEMBER 2026





















Upcoming Events

Seat at the Table:
Living Well, Leading Well
Members Exclusive
November 12th at 8:30am
Higher Order, WPB
Register HERE!

Holiday Luncheon
December 3rd at 11:30am
PGA National Resort
Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

3rd Annual Trailblazers Event
February 26 at 8:30am
Riviera Beach

43rd Annual Women in Leadership Awards Luncheon
May 6th at 11:30am
Kravis Center, Cohen Pavilion

Reoccurring:
Breakfast Bunch
First Friday of the Month, 8:00am
Lili's Cafe, Palm Beach Gardens

Welcome New Members:

Charlotte Hall
CEO
Stickman Productions LLC

Amanda Moss
Vice President/Trust Officer
Citizens Private Wealth

Mary Hart
CEO
YWCA of Palm Beach County

Theresa Valinotti
President/Owner
HER Next Chapter -Securing Income & Wealth for Women in Retirement

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Member Exclusive

Seat at the Table

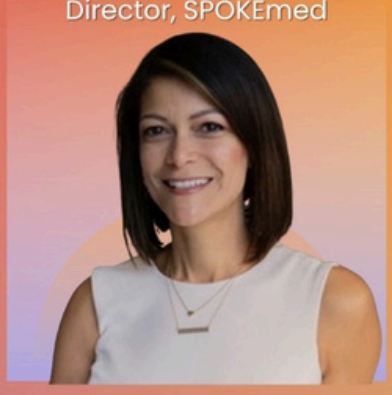
Living Well, Leading Well

Leadership, Wellness & Longevity

Michaeline Daboul
Founder, Thrive for Longevity



Michelle Middleton, PA-C
Founder & Clinical Director, SPOKEmed



Thursday
Nov. 12, 2026
8:30am-10:00am
8:30am Breakfast & Networking
8:45am Event Starts

Higher Order
424 Park Place, Suite 104
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Join Executive Women of the Palm Beaches for a morning of inspiring conversation and connection with two accomplished women dedicated to helping women thrive at every stage of life. Gain practical insights to support your health, energy, and longevity.

Morning Agenda:

- **Coffee & Networking**
- **Speaker Presentations**
- **Audience Q&A**
- **Guided Tour of Higher Order**

Members Register: ewpb.org/monthlyevents

Register HERE!



Help Us Fill Our Holiday Auction!

Help make our Holiday Luncheon Silent Auction a success by donating a gift basket, gift card, or other exciting item!
Click here to submit your donation!

Register HERE!



Member Spotlight:

DR. KACEY ATKINSON

DEAN OF STUDENT SERVICES/DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID, ACADEMY FOR NURSING AND HEALTH OCCUPATIONS

What path brought you to your current role or business?

My professional journey began in July 1996 when I joined Nova Southeastern University as a Financial Aid Counselor. From the very beginning, I knew I had found a career I was passionate about. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to work at four different colleges, gradually growing into leadership roles while expanding my expertise in financial aid, enrollment management, and student services.

For the past four years, I have served as the Dean of Student Services at a nonprofit nursing college, where I oversee admissions, financial aid, the registrar, career services, and the bursar's office. I am passionate about helping students overcome obstacles and achieve their educational goals, knowing that many will go on to serve our communities as nurses and healthcare professionals. Seeing students walk across the graduation stage and into meaningful careers is one of the most rewarding parts of my work.

What inspired you to join Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation?

I joined Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation because I was inspired by its mission to empower women through leadership, education, and community. Throughout my career in higher education, I have seen the value of mentorship, collaboration, and learning from others, and I wanted to become part of an organization that shares those values.

As a new member, I am excited to connect with other accomplished women, learn from their experiences, and build meaningful relationships. I look forward to growing both personally and professionally while contributing to the Foundation's mission of supporting and empowering women in our community.

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

One of the accomplishments I am most proud of is earning my Doctor of Education. After stepping away from my doctoral program in 2013, I never imagined I would return to finish what I had started. Years later, my boss encouraged me to go back, and that support gave me the confidence to pursue my goal.

Completing my doctorate was both personally and professionally rewarding. It reminded me that it's never too late to achieve a dream and reinforce the importance of having mentors who believe in you. Earning my degree has opened new opportunities for professional growth and strengthened my commitment to lifelong learning and serving students.

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

Don't be afraid to take on new challenges, even if you don't feel completely ready. Some of the greatest opportunities for growth come from stepping outside your comfort zone and believing in yourself. Surround yourself with people who encourage you, learn from those who have walked the path before you, and don't be afraid to ask questions along the way.

Most importantly, remember that your success can inspire others. As women, we have the opportunity to lift one another up, share our knowledge, and create opportunities for the next generation of leaders.

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

When I'm not at work, you'll usually find me enjoying live music with friends. Whether it's a local band, an outdoor concert, or a beachside venue, I love spending time with the people who matter most, relaxing, and making memories.