

May, 28, 2024

## Tallahassee Nonprofits Awarded \$72,750 Investment from Bank of America

Grants to seven organizations address needs of individuals and families

**TALLAHASSEE** – Bank of America recently announced more than \$72,750 in grants to seven Tallahassee nonprofit organizations to drive meaningful and sustainable progress to help tackle society's biggest challenges. This first round of grants the company awards to local nonprofits throughout the year is focused on improving the lives of individuals and families by investing in health and jobs.

While the official U.S. poverty rate is 12.6%, the Tallahassee poverty rate stands at 19.6%, according to the Census Bureau's 2022 American Community Survey. Further, 37% of the North Florida population are considered working poor, living paycheck to paycheck at just above the Federal Poverty Level and unable to afford basic living expenses.

Too many communities across the country lack adequate access to the essential resources necessary to live healthier lives, contributing to poorer health outcomes. Recognizing the importance of access to care and health resources, the bank is directing funding to nonprofit organizations providing prevention and access to healthcare, food access and nutrition, family stabilization and other poverty related issues.

A grant to Second Harvest of the Big Bend will help address hunger and nutrition issues across North Florida. Of the 16 counties served by Second Harvest of the Big Bend, seven rank among the top 20 as the most food insecure counties in the state, with Hamilton County ranking first. The grant will help Second Harvest's immediate goal of increasing access to fresh, nutritious food for low-income, food-insecure children and families.

The bank's grant to Rotary Youth Camp is aimed at providing free counselor training and overnight camp to children and young adults up to 35 with disabilities. The program aims to help campers who have been excluded from other summer activities to raise their self-esteem, increase their social skills and provide opportunities for success in outdoor recreational activities.

A grant to Elder Care Services is aimed at bridging the healthcare gap for homebound seniors. This grant will enable them to reduce the wait list and provide vital counseling and support services to seniors in their own homes.

"Partnering with these local non-profits to address important issues like food access and nutrition, children with disabilities and senior care, and youth workforce development and employment is part of our commitment to creating real change in Tallahassee," said David Hulse, president, Bank of America Tallahassee. "Investing in Tallahassee nonprofits demonstrates how Bank of America is taking action to provide the resources and support needed to help build thriving communities long-term."

Other organizations receiving grants include: The Apalachee Center, Emergency Care Help Organization, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Big Bend and Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend.

These grants build on the \$3.4 million Bank of America provided to Tallahassee organizations since 2019 and are part of the bank's longstanding commitment to supporting economic opportunity for diverse people and communities. In

addition, since 2019, Bank of America employees have served 10,000 hours of community service and donated \$235,000 to local charities.

Additional background about Bank of America's Charitable Foundation giving can be found here.

## **Bank of America**

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