

*The Heart
of the
Florida
Nonprofit
Community*



FLORIDA
ASSOCIATION OF
NONPROFITS

Established 1990

February 6, 2024

Florida Association of Nonprofits Legislative Priorities

Chair

MARIA HIDALGO
VITAS Healthcare

1st Vice Chair

BOB KOVACEVICH
Avatar Company

2nd Vice Chair & Past Chair

NAOMI WRIGHT, CPC
The Lady Speaks

Secretary

VACANT

Director

IRENE DUPONT
FirstBank of Florida

Chair Emeritus

RUSS MARCHNER (deceased)
Miami-Dade County League of Cities

Immediate Past Chair

DR. BARRY BURAK
Affiliated Healthcare Centers

President CEO

MARINA PAVLOV-MARCHNER
Florida Association of Nonprofits

General Counsel

MICHAEL KOSNITZKY
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, LLP

Financial Management

MICHAEL J. ROBBINS
Robbins and Moroney, CPA

Statewide Headquarters

512 NE Third Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

www.fano.org

305.557.1764

Members@fano.org



Preamble:

We, the Florida Association of Nonprofits (Florida Nonprofits), asserts the following legislative priorities to advance the welfare of the State of Florida and its inhabitants, including residents, employees, visitors and nonprofits. Recognizing the pivotal role of the nonprofit sector, we advocate for the implementation of these programs, leveraging economies of scale through volunteerism, donations, and in-kind services.

Legislative Priorities:

1. Grant Acceptance and Allocation:

Florida Nonprofits advocates for the acceptance and allocation of grants from both the state and federal governments to nonprofit organizations. These grants, when passed down to nonprofits, provide crucial funding opportunities that would otherwise remain untapped if not accepted by the state government.

2. Addressing Elderly Housing and Financial Challenges:

Florida Nonprofits expresses concern regarding the plight of the elderly facing housing insecurity due to escalating insurance premiums and utility costs. The recession of 2021 and 2022 has exacerbated this issue, with premiums and utilities soaring by over 35%. This ongoing financial strain disproportionately affects those on fixed incomes, jeopardizing their ability to maintain their residences. Florida Nonprofits urges legislative action to provide relief measures for the elderly population facing these challenges.

3. Environmental Initiatives and Nonprofit Savings:

Florida Nonprofits emphasizes the importance of environmental conservation and the role of nonprofits in achieving sustainable practices. Many nonprofits operate with aging infrastructure, including outdated air-conditioning systems, inefficient ventilation, and traditional lighting fixtures. The transition to energy-efficient solutions, such as LED lighting, is paramount to reducing carbon emissions and mitigating environmental impact. Florida Nonprofits calls for the replication of federal grants, like those offered by the Department of Energy, tailored to support nonprofits in upgrading their facilities to environmentally friendly alternatives. By participating in such programs, nonprofits can contribute to global carbon reduction efforts while alleviating the financial burden of high utility costs.

Conclusion:

The Florida Association of Nonprofits is committed to supporting and empowering 50,000 nonprofits across the state. Through capacity-building programs and advocacy efforts, we strive to enhance the self-sufficiency of nonprofits and promote their invaluable contributions to society. We extend an invitation to all who share our dedication to the nonprofit sector to join us in our mission and initiatives.