



TIDEWELL FOUNDATION



SPOTLIGHT

Honoring Matthew

One family's journey with the
Tidewell Grief Care program

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Caring Quarterly

Fall 2023



Season of

Giving

“
Tidewell Grief
Care gave us
a map to find
the way out of
the darkness, a
flashlight to see
the path, and
a compass to
point us in the
direction.

”

~Tidewell
Grief Care
Participants

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It's Thanksgiving season—what better time to express our gratitude for your generous support to the Tidewell Foundation? With your help, we're rounding out another year of progress in our community, building toward a vision where everyone has access to full-life care—hospice, home health, senior care services, HIV-AIDs treatments, and community counseling.

The holidays can be a difficult time for those of us grappling with grief. It's a time we associate with family and warmth, which can accentuate feelings of loneliness at the end of life. This is when our work matters more than ever. We're here to make sure that no one is alone in the hardest days of their lives, especially during the holidays.

As always, we rely on your ongoing support. Your gift changes everything for a family in their darkest hour.


*Together in our mission,
and with gratitude immeasurable,*

Jonathan D. Fleece, Esq.
President & CEO, Empath Health
and Affiliate Programs



Delesa Morris, MS, CFRE
President
Tidewell Foundation





See the Impact of Your Kindness *and* Save on Taxes

If you're 70½ or older, you can use your IRA to make a year-end gift (up to \$100,000) to the Tidewell Foundation.

Benefits Include:

- You see the difference you're making today.
- You pay no income taxes on the gift. The transfer doesn't generate taxable income or a tax deduction.
- Your gift can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution.

Delesa Morris, MS, CFRE

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This tax-smart way to make an impact at Tidewell

is known as an IRA charitable rollover, or qualified charitable distribution. Contact Delesa Morris to learn more.



A Grateful Family's Tidewell Story

The enormity of child loss is indescribable—you mourn your child, but you also mourn the future they will not have, the experiences they will miss, the grandchildren you will never meet... The legacy they were unable to secure for themselves.

At 7:38PM, September 15th, 2018, our 15-year-old son, Matthew, and his friend were killed in a traffic accident on their way to their high school homecoming dance, not far from our front door. Our known path ended abruptly and we found ourselves “lost in a forest.”



Tidewell Grief Care gave us the tools to help us find our way out of the forest—a flashlight to see the path, a compass to point us in the direction, and the knowledge that we were not alone in our journey. The staff were our guides, helping us find our way. We connected with others trying to navigate out of

their forests, assuring us we were not alone.

When we were mired in our own grief, we struggled to understand what our younger children, who were 13 and 11 years old, needed

to cope. We turned to Tidewell’s Blue Butterfly Family Grief Program. We received support from the licensed counselors and trained volunteers at Blue Butterfly, designed for not just kids like them who are grieving, but the whole family.

Matthew never had the chance to secure his own legacy. By helping other families and ensuring services like Blue Butterfly continue

to be available to everyone, we are not only helping to honor Matthew, but we are helping make our community stronger and healthier.

*~Dan & Rebecca Powers
Parents and Blue Butterfly Ambassadors*



DONATE

Tidewell Grief Programs

Tidewell Grief Care is free and open to everyone in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. You are welcome to join one of our programs even if you haven't had a family member in Tidewell Hospice's care.

We hope you can find meaningful connections and support for your personal journey through grief. If you or someone you know is dealing with grief, Tidewell Grief Care is a powerful, accessible resource.

Tidewell Family Grief Center, Palmetto 4151 37th St. E

Art and Relaxation

Every Other Wednesday
Thru December 20, 10:00-11:30 am

Art Your Grief Out

Every Other Wednesday
Thru December 13, 10:00-11:30 am

Caregiver Support

Virtual Zoom Meetings
Thursdays, Noon - 1:00 pm

Loss of Adult Child

Virtual Zoom Meetings
Every Other Wednesday
Thru December 27, 5:30-6:30 pm

Lakewood Ranch Administrative Building 6310 Capital Dr., Lakewood Ranch

Spousal Loss

Every Other Tuesday
Thru December 5, 10:30 am - Noon

North Port Family Service Center 6919 Outreach Way

Spousal Loss

Every Other Tuesday
October 10 - December 19
Noon - 1:00 pm

Survivors of Suicide

Virtual Zoom Meetings
Every Other Wednesday
Thru December 20, 5:30-6:30 pm

**RSVPs are required for these programs.
Please call (941) 845-3061.**



Venetian Golf Club Raises \$8,250 at Inaugural Heritage Cares Golf Classic

Presented by Absolute Window & Door, 128 golfers teed up at the Venetian Golf Club for the inaugural Heritage Cares Golf Classic on October 4th. The event, which raised \$8,250 for the Tidewell Foundation, was held in memory of a beloved Venetian employee, Barb Schmidt. Funds will support important community services, such as hospice care and grief care.



If you are interested in hosting your own golf tournament, or other fundraiser to benefit the Tidewell Foundation, please contact Megan Wenger at (941) 552-7515 or MeganWenger@TidewellFoundation.org.



To see more photos,
go to TidewellWalk.org.



A Walk to Remember

The inaugural Tidewell Foundation Remembrance Walk a big success

On November 4, more than 300 Tidewell friends and community members gathered at Nathan Benderson Park to honor memories of loved ones and raise money to support the free services Tidewell Hospice provides.

After the Walk, participants explored the Full Life Fair and enjoyed a morning of connecting with others, food trucks, and music.

The Remembrance Walk was made possible by Alltrist Insurance and our other generous sponsors.



 **empath**
**TIDEWELL
FOUNDATION**

*15th
Annual*

**SIGNATURE
LUNCHEON**



Celebrity Keynote Speaker Announced

Marilu Henner Headlines 15th Anniversary Signature Luncheon

Mark your calendars. The Tidewell Foundation's Signature Luncheon celebrates its crystal anniversary on March 1, 2024 at The Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota. It's a privilege to announce Caldwell Trust as Exclusive Signature Sponsor, along with our keynote speaker: the incomparable Marilu Henner.

With the energy of a teenager, the wisdom of a sage, and the memory of a superhero, Marilu Henner has deservedly earned the nickname "Perpetual Motion."

Along with starring in seventy-two films, seven Broadway shows, and two hit classic sitcoms, "Taxi" and "Evening Shade," this five-time Golden Globe Nominee is also a "New York Times" Best Selling author of ten books on health, parenting, memory, and lifestyle improvement.

Marilu Henner is a spokesperson for Alzheimer's disease awareness. She has been a vocal advocate for hospice care, and in 2019 she became a spokesperson for the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

Henner has said that she believes hospice care is "one of the most important things that we can do for our loved ones at the end of life."

Henner's mother died in hospice care, and she has said that the experience was "beautiful and peaceful." She has also said that she believes hospice care can help families cope with the death of a loved one.

The Signature Luncheon—our premiere fundraising event – is a celebration of community, service, and mission. We're looking ahead to another year of ambitious growth and life-changing care. Our goal for this year's event is to raise \$141,000, ensuring the torch of care, compassion, and comfort continues to light the paths of Tidewell patients.

Let's gather, connect, and ensure that everyone has access to world-class end-of-life—and full-life—care.

**Tickets are now available at
SignatureLuncheon.org.**



laugh heartier



“
When
we lift a
community
we all live
brighter.”

 **TIDEWELL FOUNDATION**

3550 S. Tamiami Trail,
Sarasota, FL 34239

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Tidewell Foundation helps brighten the lives of the patients and families in the care of Tidewell Hospice during their most difficult moments.



Learn how you can help us lift our community at TidewellFoundation.org.

We're Here to Help You Plan!

No matter how you donate —or how much— our donor advisors are available to help you plan your gift, event, or sponsorship.



Delesa Morris, MS, CFRE
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Tidewell Foundation is grateful to our sustaining annual corporate partners for their ongoing sponsorship of the Foundation's work.

Partner in Excellence: 

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The Tidewell Foundation, Inc., is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling Toll-Free 1-800-435-7352 or 1-800-352-9832 (en Español) or going to the department's website www.floridaconsumerhelp.com. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. One hundred percent (100%) of the donation is received by the Tidewell Foundation, Inc. Charitable solicitation registration #CH63240.

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