



**TIDEWELL FOUNDATION**



**SPOTLIGHT**

# Art Heals

**A Blue Butterfly participant celebrates the program's 6th anniversary at artsy Cafe Barbosso, and tells her story.  
page 4**

**Caring Quarterly**  
Spring 2024

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We are thrilled to share that the Tidewell Nurse Residency Program is the first hospice-only residency program in the country to receive prestigious accreditation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Commission!

”

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past few months, we are overwhelmed with gratitude and the community's generosity to the missions we serve. It is truly inspiring to see the impact of the Tidewell Foundation and the support it receives from the community. The dedication to providing hospice care, grief counseling and complementary services is remarkable, and it is clear that the generosity of donors plays a crucial role in ensuring these services are available to those in need.

We are thrilled to share that the Tidewell Nurse Residency Program is **the first hospice-only residency program in the country to receive prestigious accreditation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Commission!** This is truly a testament to the commitment to excellence and innovation in care. This program will benefit our community for years to come, and it would not be possible without the donations of caring people like you.

Tidewell is honored to be a part of Empath Health, the region's largest not for profit organization committed to Full Life Care, which includes hospice, home health, senior care services wherever they call home, and so much more. **Thank you for your continued support of the Tidewell Foundation's mission to brighten the lives of patients, families, and communities served by Tidewell Hospice and affiliates.** We remain committed to advancing care and compassion for all who need it.

With gratitude,



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



**Delesa Morris, MS, CFRE**  
President  
Tidewell Foundation





## Legacy and Estate Planning in an Election Year

Legacy Society members enjoyed an intimate gathering for “Plan, Don’t Predict – Leave Your Legacy”, at the Portofino Ristorante at the Longboat Key Club on March 25. Speakers from event sponsor, Northern Trust, were **Tami F. Conetta**, Director of Wealth Strategies for the East Region, and **Kirstin M. Fulkerson**, Vice President. The two experts

addressed topics including options for leaving a philanthropic legacy, the impact of this election year, and more. It was a fun, informative evening and we hope more members will join us for future events!

**Interested in becoming a Legacy Society member? Contact Delesa Morris at (941) 735-7155.**

## Giving Through Donor Advised Funds

Simple record-keeping, tax-savvy contributions... the reasons to open a donor advised fund (DAF) are many.

### Here’s why you should open a DAF:

- **Convenience**—Take a tax deduction when you make a gift to the fund, without having to choose the charities to support.
- **Simplicity**—Support Tidewell without having to retain records for separate contributions.
- **Family philanthropy**—Build a tradition of giving and teaching children the values of philanthropy.



**I Can Help**

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 **empath**  
**TIDEWELL FOUNDATION**

# L.T.'s Tidewell Story

Blue Butterfly participants tell their story at its 6th anniversary celebration at Cafe Barbosso.



**At just 11 years old,** L.T. dreamt of being the youngest person to sail around the world. Her mother enrolled her in a sailing camp, and she was on her way. No one could have anticipated that L.T.'s dream would become a nightmare when she witnessed a friend's tragic death during practice on the water. At a recent fundraising event at Café Barbosso in Sarasota, she shared her Tidewell Story for the first time with the public:

"For the longest time I blamed myself. I'd been his helper that day. His teacher. He was my responsibility. I remember my first session with Miss Lendy. I swore to myself that I would never share with anyone, ever, other than Miss Lendy. But when she finally got me to open up, I don't regret letting her finally open the floodgates."

L.T.'s mom is grateful for finding the Tidewell Blue Butterfly Family Grief Program, which she calls

*Thank you  
for never giving up on me.  
For never walking away.  
Never putting your hands up  
and saying I was too much.  
Even when I was.*

~L.T.

"a powerful, crucial, life changing, grief mending program with significant impact for children that are dealing with death in their lives."

She says of her daughter, "With the valuable guidance of the Tidewell Blue Butterfly program she is receiving the tools, the support, the validation to grieve, process, heal, and live through her loss."

Public speaking is not something L.T. could have done just a few short months ago, but Blue Butterfly has helped her gain the confidence to share her journey of loss, grief, and healing.

The Blue Butterfly Program is possible through donations and individual contributions. When you support the Tidewell Foundation, you make life-changing services accessible for children and families at a critical time in their lives.

**To learn more about the Blue Butterfly program, visit [TidewellFoundation.org](https://TidewellFoundation.org)**





L.T. is embraced by her Blue Butterfly team after she shared her story.



Panelists Spencer, Summaya, and Katie were also part of the evening.



## Access to Grief Care

Tidewell Hospice’s grief services help people through some of their darkest days as they seek to find light and healing after the death of a loved one. Support groups, individual and family counseling, and the Blue Butterfly Family Grief Program are available to the community completely free of charge, funded 100 percent through donor contributions to the **Tidewell Foundation**.

### Tidewell Family Grief Center

Located in Ellenton and the only facility of its kind in our region, the Tidewell Family Grief Center provides holistic grief support for individuals, families, and the community. The center offers experiences essential to the healing of mind, body, and spirit for children and adults after losing a loved one.

*To learn more about Tidewell Grief Services or to donate to help make these life changing services continue to be provided free of charge, go to [TidewellFoundation.org](http://TidewellFoundation.org).*



## Spring "Showers"

From March through May, a shower of events and programs have bloomed an abundance of donations to Tidewell Foundation

### Signature Luncheon

Nearly 600 people attended the Tidewell Foundation's Crystal Anniversary Signature Luncheon on Friday, March 1, 2024, at The Ritz-Carlton Sarasota. Health advocate, famed actress, best-selling author and memory expert, **Marilu Henner**, was the keynote speaker. **The event raised a record \$434,558** to benefit Tidewell Hospice, which reaches more than 10,000 people annually in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties.

**Kelly Caldwell** of Caldwell Trust Company, the event's Signature Sponsor, shared his family's personal story of Tidewell Hospice care for his father. Guests also experienced one of the donor-supported complementary services during the event through a performance of the Maroon 5 song "Memories" by music therapist Haley Verinder, MT-BC. The memories of this event will surely last!

### 2024 Giving Challenge

Thank you to everyone who supported the Tidewell Foundation in the 24-hour Giving

Challenge, which took place April 9-10, 2024. Your donations, in addition to the matching funds made possible by The Community Foundation of Sarasota County with giving strengthened by The Patterson Foundation, will ensure Tidewell is here, ready and waiting, in times of need.

### 6th Annual Chad Day Fishing Tournament

This year's catch-and-release tournament was another great success, bringing in **\$25,500!** The event is a tribute to **Chad Day**, a Tidewell patient who died at age 23 from an aggressive brain cancer. His mother, Joann, organizes this annual tournament in celebration of Chad's love for fishing. Over \$75,000 has been raised to-date, all benefiting the Tidewell Foundation. "I like to pay it forward, because without Tidewell," Joann said, "I don't know what I would have done."





Attendees at the 15th Annual Signature Luncheon gaze up at keynote speaker, Marilu Henner. You can see more photos from the Event at [SignatureLuncheon.org](http://SignatureLuncheon.org).



# Empath Angels

The Empath Angels program allows donors the opportunity to memorialize a loved one and honor a Tidewell Staff member and volunteers that "made a difference" during their time in Tidewell's care with a monetary gift.

Staff members are then honored and recognized with a special Empath Angel Pin allowing the grateful families a way to express gratitude for their work of furthering Tidewell's mission.

The following staff members were recently recognized with Empath Angel Pins:



◀ **Liberty Veedon,**  
Hospice Licensed Clinical Social Worker



◀ **Lisa Wright, M.B.S.**  
Sarasota County Business Development Liaison



◀ **Liz Haushild,**  
Certified Nursing Assistant



## Women Vets Recap

Tidewell honors Veterans, and this spring, we specifically honored women Veterans by hosting the "Red, White, and Brave" luncheon on April 16 at the Robert Toale and Sons Celebration of Life Center. Women in the armed forces do not always receive the same recognition as their male counterparts, yet their sacrifices are just as meaningful. There are currently over 350,000 active service women and 2 million female Veterans in the U.S.\*

*\*U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs*

## Linens and Love

Each year, in partnership with **Dignity Memorial**, approximately 2 tons worth of linens are donated to support our patients. We have already received requests for sheets from our clinical teams! To-date, we have received **over \$4,300** in linens (almost 1,000 individual items).



# laugh heartier



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

 **TIDEWELL FOUNDATION**

3550 S. Tamiami Trail,  
Sarasota, FL 34239

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## We're Here to Help You Plan!

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



**Delesa Morris, M.S., CFRE**  
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Tidewell Foundation is grateful to our sustaining annual corporate partner for their ongoing sponsorship of the Foundation's work.

**Dignity**  
MEMORIAL

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](http://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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