

Spotlight

Empowering Seniors to Live Safely at Home



Caring Quarterly
Summer 2025

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In this edition of *Caring Quarterly*, we spotlight how donor support empowers seniors to live safely and independently at home through the Empath LIFE program.

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

Summer is the season that stretches time. The days are longer, the evenings linger in golden light, and we're reminded to slow down—to savor watermelon slices, ocean breezes, and read books in the shade.

It's also a season of healing for the youngest among us. **This September, the Blue Butterfly Camp returns for a special weekend retreat supporting children and teens who have experienced the loss of a loved one.** Through activities like journaling, nature walks, peer connection, and moments of pure fun, young hearts begin to heal in a safe, supportive environment.

Thanks to generous donors, this transformative experience is offered at no cost to families. You can help make this healing possible—by sharing this opportunity or sponsoring a camper who needs a space to grieve, grow, and feel less alone.

In this edition of *Caring Quarterly*, we spotlight how donor support empowers seniors to live safely and independently at home through the Empath LIFE program. This compassionate care helps older adults maintain dignity and connection—right where they feel most at peace.

We invite you to gather with us at one of our upcoming community events. Whether you walk in memory of a loved one, sip tea among friends, or join us for a meaningful luncheon, each event is a chance to celebrate life and the care that surrounds it:

- *Lakeside Legacy Walk*
- *Tea with Tidewell*
- *Signature Luncheon*

Because of you, children find comfort, families find peace, and no one walks through life's hardest moments alone. Your kindness lights the way—thank you for continuing to walk beside us.

With heartfelt thanks,

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 the maximum amount allowable by law) to the Tidewell Foundation. **This tax-smart way to make an impact** is known as an IRA charitable rollover, or qualified charitable distribution.

Your Benefits Include:

- You see the difference you're making today.
- You pay no income taxes on the gift.
- You can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution.

Delesa Morris, M.S., CFRE

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GOOD TO KNOW:

You may now use your IRA to create a gift that pays you (or a loved one) income for life.

Special rules apply, so please contact us to find out if this option is right for you.

Empowering Seniors to Live Safely at Home

Paula is a local senior who struggles with physical and mental health challenges resulting from several traumatic life events. In the past, she found purpose in volunteering, but it became more difficult to remain active as she got older. Staying home alone all day left her feeling isolated and depressed. She realized she needed help but didn't want to lose her independence.

The opening of a bright spot in south Bradenton was just what she needed: the Empath LIFE (Living Independently for the Elderly) Center.

The Tidewell Foundation is pleased to support this important endeavor, thanks to donations from individuals and community partners including the **Bishop-Parker Foundation, which generously awarded a \$350,000 grant toward the project.** The award is part of a larger funding initiative to improve health, wellness, and access to care across Manatee and Sarasota counties.

Empath LIFE empowers adults aged 55+ to continue living at home while receiving extra care during the day.

Participants have access to medical and specialty services, nutritious meals, therapies, and daily activities. Transportation is available, and a home safety review is provided that can result in important upgrades like grab bars or emergency call systems.

For Paula, the Center means social time with peers, regular health checkups, and dedicated staff who support her wellbeing. She shares meals and swaps stories with new friends. She enjoys quiet time at home some days, but it's a comfort to know the Center is there when she needs it.





*I need to be able to smile
and laugh again...to feel like
my life will have value.*

Empath LIFE follows the nationally recognized PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) model and is funded through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The program offers a cost-effective, holistic approach that helps reduce hospitalizations and delays or avoids the need for nursing home placement.

This new resource wouldn't exist without the generous donor support through the Tidewell Foundation. Their investment helped make the Center a reality—bringing life-enhancing care to the area's growing senior population. By 2030, nearly 40% of Sarasota County and 32% of Manatee County residents will be over the age of 65.

Programs like Empath LIFE are helping to meet that need—providing care and connection for older adults while empowering them to live safely at home, and offering peace of mind for families. Now enrolling!

To learn more, visit EmpathLIFE.org
call 941.735.0727, or stop by the Center
at 303 13th Avenue E. in Bradenton.



New Team Members!

BECKY ABRAHAM *Philanthropy Manager*

Becky Abraham is the Philanthropy Manager at Tidewell Foundation in Sarasota, FL. She brings over seven years of fundraising experience to her role, and is passionate about building genuine relationships that help strengthen the community. Originally from Chicago, Becky moved to Southwest Florida in 2020 and quickly found her place in the nonprofit world. Before joining Tidewell Foundation, she served as Director of Development at Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Florida and as Manager of Special Events & Donor Engagement at All Faiths Food Bank. Outside of work, Becky enjoys discovering local restaurants, relaxing at the beach, and getting lost in a good book. She's proud to support Tidewell's mission and be part of an organization making a difference every day.



ALEX SEYER *Philanthropy Associate*

Alex Seyer is the Philanthropy Associate at Tidewell Foundation in Sarasota, FL. Alex is a recent graduate of Ringling College of Art and Design with a Bachelor's degree in Game Art, and a minor in Creative Writing. As a Sarasota native, Alex looks forward to assisting the Philanthropy team at the Tidewell Foundation.



Erika Perkola
Manager Resale Store
Venice Location

UPCOMING

Events

THAT Brighten Lives

Celebrate Life. Remember Loved Ones.
Support Compassionate Care.

 **TIDEWELL FOUNDATION**

LAKE SIDE LEGACY Walk

ETERNALLY HOPEFUL



“Eternally Hopeful,” reflects the lasting strength and spirit of the families we walk beside. Our walk is a tribute to lives remembered, legacies cherished, and hope that continues forward. We’re excited to share that the 2025 Lakeside Legacy Walk will take place on **November 1**. Together, we bring hope, healing, and connection to our community — all at no cost to those we serve.

Enjoy activities within the Connection Hub including:

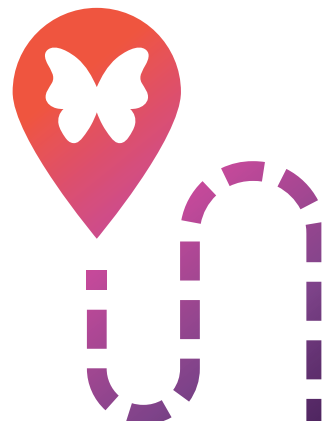
- Photo Booth
- Kid’s Zone
- Memory Maker Fan
- Butterfly Memorial
- Sponsor Tents
- VIP Tent
- Tribute Signs
- Awards
- Live DJ & Entertainment
- Water & Snack Stations

Scan the QR to Register today and be part
of something truly meaningful!



**NATHAN
BENDERSON PARK
CONSERVANCY**

TidewellWalk.org





Mark Your Calendar Big Things Are Coming!

Community Harvest Take a break from cooking and dine out for a cause **September 1-30, 2025**. Visit one of the 1905 Restaurant Group's seven locations, including **Columbia Restaurant** and Cha Cha Coconuts, and select the Tidewell Hospice to receive a donation! The Gonzmart Family Foundation is generously donating 5% back to area nonprofit organizations. Now in the 28th year, the company's month-long Community Harvest has given a total of \$4.4 million to Florida non-profit organizations selected by restaurant patrons. Dine Out and Do Good!

Tea with Tidewell Our Tea with Tidewell series returns on **December 9**. Dr. Dan Deems, M.D., PhD, will share insights on longevity and wellness. Attendees will enjoy tea and scones and thought-provoking

conversation at this event, planned for 10:30 AM at the Tidewell Foundation office. Please R.S.V.P. to Lisa Adams at LisaAdams@tidewellfoundation.org

Signature Luncheon You don't want to miss the *17th Annual Signature Luncheon* to benefit the Tidewell Foundation! On **Friday, March 6, 2026**, you are invited to the Ritz-Carlton Sarasota for an afternoon of celebration and inspiration with this year's **featured speaker, Joe Theismann**. As an entrepreneur, former star quarterback for the Washington Redskins, and NFL analyst for over 2 decades, Theismann will share his strategies for handling unforeseen change. While enjoying a delicious lunch, guests will also hear impactful stories from the meaningful programs the Tidewell Foundation makes possible. Sponsorship details are available on our website.



Thank You Michael's On East!

We are deeply grateful to Michael's On East for their generous support and ongoing partnership. Their sponsorship has helped make the Tidewell Foundation's Thanksgiving Drive, Metamorphosis Interactive Dinner, Tea for Tidewell, and Bubbles & Butterflies events truly meaningful experiences for our community. **Because of their commitment, Tidewell Hospice patients, their families, and participants of Adult Grief Support and Children's Grief Support programs received additional comfort, care, and connection, creating unforgettable moments of hope and healing.**



We're Here to Help You Plan

No matter how you donate—or how much—the philanthropy team is available to help you plan your gift.



Delesa Morris, M.S., CFRE

President

**Planned Giving, Corporate
Sponsorships, Gifts from
Foundations, DAF,
and Individuals**

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Dignity[®]
MEMORIAL

**Tidewell Foundation is grateful to our
sustaining annual corporate partner
for their ongoing sponsorship of the
Foundation's work.**