

GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**OUR**  
**AGENDA FOR**  
**IMPACT**



2015



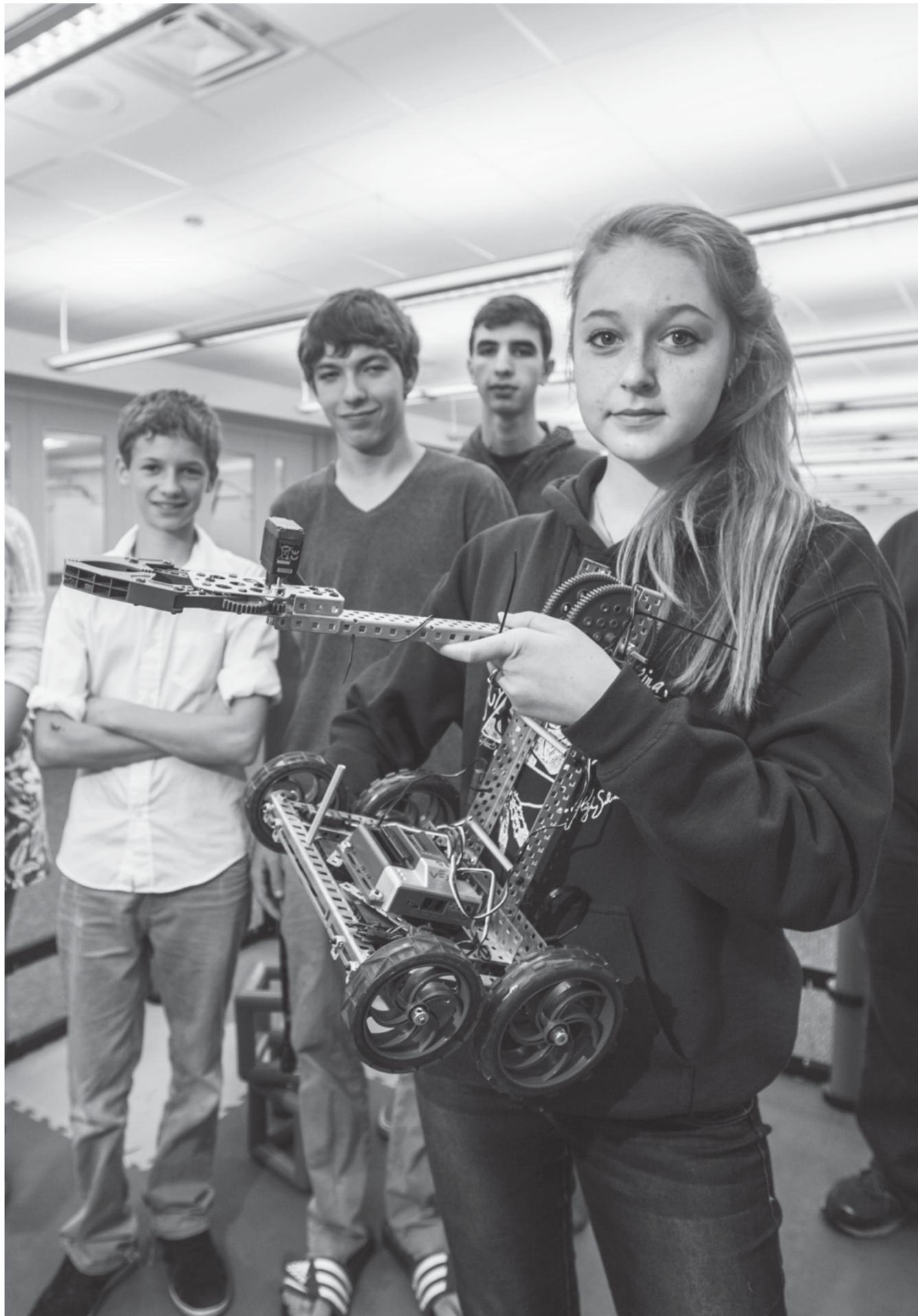
If not for  
**our community of donors,**

how could we have renewable hunger relief for the region's families in need, a fresh crop of support with every season?

If not for  
**our amazing nonprofit community,**

how could our neighbors receive  
shelter against the storms of ill  
fortune that threaten their chance  
to thrive again?





If not for  
**our passionate citizens,**

where would we get proof or pride that  
our newest generation of learners is  
making “smart” sustainable?

If not for  
**our own dedicated Board and staff,**

who would endow so many in our community with such confidence in the gifts they give and in the impact that their generosity will deliver?





If not for  
**our collaborative business community,**

how could our biggest ideas grow  
beyond their potential and our  
brightest initiatives shine with  
such intensity and promise?

# IF NOT FOR YOU,

## how could all this be possible?

On behalf of our entire team here, we would like to welcome you to the 2015 **Agenda for Impact**. For many years, we have called our annual “report” our Agenda for Action, to place an emphasis on the “to do” part of “to donate.” We’re a restless bunch, because we feel it’s the only responsible approach to tackling the challenges of the region, and to taking advantage of the opportunities afforded it. Of course, we’re proud of our track record, the extraordinary work we do in partnership with the community, but at the end of the day, we always feel our focus must be forward. In many ways, it’s like we’re taking pictures of tomorrow.

How do we accomplish this? We have developed over the years a proven model, powered by our combined funding and passion for transforming the region through bold acts of philanthropy. In this year’s book, we want to share our plans for the next 12 months and beyond as seen through this lens.

The work begins with the act of **Investigation**, key to understanding the scope, texture, and challenges of an issue. Next is the act of **Mapping** the terrain upon which steps will be taken toward resolving the situation at hand. Then the act of **Piloting** the plan, which connotes both testing its viability in real-life situations and steering the team involved toward expected success. Finally, bolstered by the intelligence we’ve gathered, we **Act for Scale**. For Gulf Coast and our community, it all adds up to IMPACT.

It goes without saying that the most well-conceived model for change is only as valuable as the tangible strategies it comprises and the capable human beings who usher it into reality. We hope you will find each of the items on our 2015 Agenda as inspirational as we do, as important to who we are as a community and what we are capable of achieving together. As for the men and women at the helm of this enterprise—from our world-class donors and peerless advisors to our committed staff and Board of Directors—well, what can we say? We are proud to count ourselves part of the team, and confident that it will continue to be a winning one.

Thank you for your precious time. We hope to see you often, and experience your impact, in the transformational year to come.



Teri A Hansen  
President | CEO



Benjamin Hanan  
Board Chair

# THIS IS OUR **PROCESS** FOR CHANGE.

I

M

P

ACT

## INVESTIGATE

1. We will put consolidated, current data about our community in front of donors and decision-makers for analysis and action.
2. We will answer the age-old student question, "When will I ever use this?"

## MAP

3. We will lay the groundwork for a bold competition that incentivizes innovation in the region.
4. We will help bring forth a shared vision for Sarasota's Bayfront from our community.

## PILOT

5. We will steer ambitious local entrepreneurs to the right resources, networks, and mentors.
6. We will test strategies to fill the gap in attainable housing.

## ACT FOR SCALE

7. We will guide our successful STEMsmart initiative to expanded reach and independence in participating schools.
8. We will leverage new shelters and new agency collaborations to aggressively grow care for homeless families.
9. We will add strength to the region's already reenergized hunger-relief system.
10. We will grow philanthropy on the Gulf Coast.

# INVESTIGATE

“The work begins with the act of Investigation, key to understanding the scope, texture, and challenges of an issue.”

**INVESTIGATE**  
FOR IMPACT

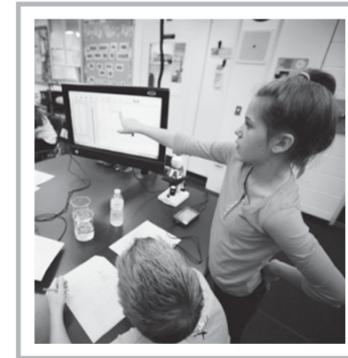
**WE WILL PUT CONSOLIDATED,  
CURRENT DATA ABOUT  
OUR COMMUNITY IN  
FRONT OF DONORS AND  
DECISION-MAKERS FOR  
ANALYSIS AND ACTION.**



Working with a national research leader, Gulf Coast will present a new, data-driven online profile of our region. This “state of the community” website will help tell us where we are heading, which signposts to watch, and whether we are making progress. While many local groups collect information on things like human services, student achievement, or workforce skills, these data are rarely available in one place or actively mined to drive decisions. This newest manifestation of our belief that data is a guiding element of our work will inform our Board’s funding priorities and be available, anytime, to our entire community, including government and nonprofit leaders as well as our family of donors.

INVESTIGATE  
FOR IMPACT

# WE WILL ANSWER THE AGE-OLD STUDENT QUESTION, “WHEN WILL I EVER USE THIS?”



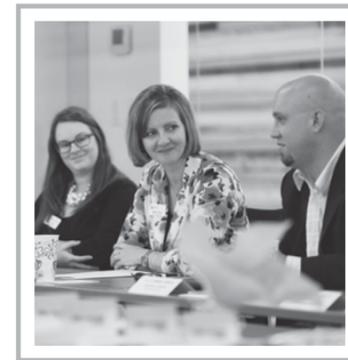
Gulf Coast will search for the best way to connect studies to the world of work, because for a student, discovering what they want to be when they grow up is a gigantic deal. We will empower our children and youth to develop the skills and knowledge that will be in greatest demand when they graduate—in large part by introducing students to the very employers who might hire them. And we will probe specifically for the most effective approach to closing the gender technology gap, so more of our girls and young women move into promising technology careers.

# MAP

“Next is the act of Mapping the terrain upon which steps will be taken toward resolving the situation at hand.”

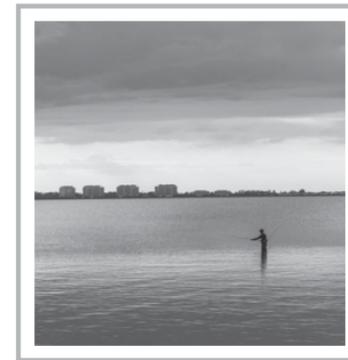


# WE WILL LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A BOLD COMPETITION THAT INCENTIVIZES INNOVATION IN THE REGION.



Inspired by the world-famous XPRIZE, we will test-launch a new kind of competition tailored to our region that spurs innovation to improve it. We aim to tap the competitive, entrepreneurial spirit that is strong on the Gulf Coast, but has yet to be focused on a single endeavor. By embracing unlikely partnerships and rewarding regional vision, we believe our community can accelerate positive change to achieve social benefits while advancing the regional economy.

**WE WILL HELP  
BRING FORTH A SHARED  
VISION FOR SARASOTA'S  
BAYFRONT FROM OUR  
COMMUNITY.**

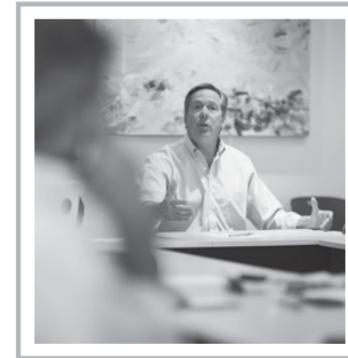


Gulf Coast will provide safe harbor for ideas, hopes, and dreams for one of the most promising properties in all of Florida: the Sarasota Bayfront. There is literally no place like it. That is why, as a partner in the Sarasota Bayfront 20:20 process, we will continue to engage with public and private organizations and, most importantly, active citizens to articulate guiding principles and advance a potential roadmap for its sustainable redevelopment. By facilitating collective input and honoring collaboration, we stand to establish a cultural and economic legacy for the region while ensuring open, public access to our greatest natural asset.

# PILOT

“Then the act of Piloting the plan, which connotes both testing its viability in real-life situations and steering the team involved toward expected success.”

WE WILL STEER  
AMBITIOUS LOCAL  
ENTREPRENEURS TO  
THE RIGHT RESOURCES,  
NETWORKS, AND  
MENTORS.



We will turn our BIG initiative into a BIG network. Why? Because young, fast-growing firms create the majority of job growth, and that's not lost on the seasoned executives who have landed on our shore. BIG is short for (but long on) Bright Ideas on the Gulf Coast. By connecting the next wave of idea generators with successful professionals and retirees who want to help them, we can leverage our region's wealth of experience to enable more young talent to make a start here.

PILOT  
FOR IMPACT

# WE WILL TEST STRATEGIES TO FILL THE GAP IN ATTAINABLE HOUSING.

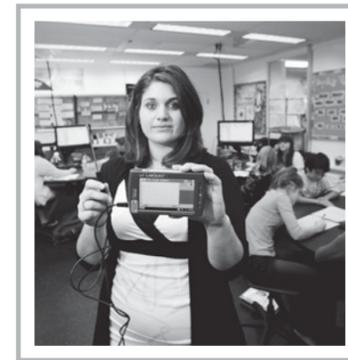


We will strive to create attainable housing for families in our community who currently have none. While we now have the system in place to stabilize homeless families in crisis, we need real options to help them successfully transition into more-permanent homes. From new housing stock to a pool of funds for families who can't quite make ends meet, we will partner with nonprofits and businesses alike to show the market and our community that there are multiple ways to make housing affordable.

# ACT

“Finally, bolstered by the intelligence we’ve gathered, we Act for Scale.”

**WE WILL GUIDE OUR  
SUCCESSFUL STEMSMART  
INITIATIVE TO EXPANDED  
REACH AND INDEPENDENCE IN  
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS.**



Approaching five years under our roof, Gulf Coast's STEM education initiative has grown so "smart" that it is ready for a new home. As we celebrate student success in science, technology, engineering, and math, we will transition STEMsmart to our partners at the Sarasota County school district. Gulf Coast will continue to support this ongoing investment in our kids and the region's future by connecting more business partners, volunteers, and other resources to STEMsmart schools and classrooms. After all, it takes an entire community to raise an upstart initiative into a national model for transformative education.

**WE WILL LEVERAGE NEW  
SHELTERS AND NEW  
AGENCY COLLABORATIONS  
TO AGGRESSIVELY GROW  
CARE FOR HOMELESS  
FAMILIES.**



Even as we pilot strategies for longer-term housing solutions, we will further strengthen our community's new system of care for children and families without homes. The system we helped build now stands on a solid foundation of master case management, coordinated services, and safe entry points for families in crisis. Next, we will tighten the safety net by weaving into it even more local groups that provide vital wraparound services and support.

**ACT**  
FOR IMPACT

# WE WILL ADD STRENGTH TO THE REGION'S ALREADY REENERGIZED HUNGER-RELIEF SYSTEM.



Building on last year's improvements to the food-delivery system, Gulf Coast will make targeted investments to help All Faiths Food Bank and its hunger-relief partners deliver more healthy meal options and fresh produce to food-insecure children and their families. And because hunger knows no season, we will assist the food bank and our school district in expanding a menu of effective food and nutrition programs throughout the year.

**ACT**  
FOR IMPACT

# WE WILL GROW PHILANTHROPY ON THE GULF COAST.



Achieving our mission starts “together with our donors,” so we will assist more generous people in formalizing their philanthropic intentions through strategic charitable giving. By helping them vision what is possible and then accomplish what could be, we will collaborate on transforming our region for the better. But we will always meet donors on the ground of their passions, ready to inform and inspire their philanthropy, but responsive to their wishes first.

IF NOT FOR

our donors, advisors, and Board of Directors

# DONORS



In the engine of change for the Gulf Coast region, our donors are an invaluable and renewable source of impact-fuel. Their gifts, whether informed by a sense of duty, instinct for progress, or concern for our neighbors, are the impetus behind the actions our team takes every day. Though each gives for the most personal of reasons, their unflagging energy and enthusiasm as a united force inspires us to push the bounds of the achievable.

**Pictured left to right, top to bottom, are just some of the donors in our Gulf Coast family /** Allen and Stephanie Hochfelder, Doug Bradbury, Patty and Jim Ericson, Joe Strosnik, Julie Harris, Megan and Matt Otto, Mickey Fine, Margot and Warren Coville, Irving Bashevkin, Tom and Gwen Watson, Judith Keeler, Jill and Scott Levine



# ADVISORS

Professional advisors advance the cause through great practical knowledge and real-world experience in their own fields of expertise melded with a vision of ideals and goals that are still in the dreaming stages. Nobody is more crucial in helping their clients take charity, begun at home, to the drawing boards of our community change agents. Their trust is hard earned, forged in the crucible of daily challenges and breakthroughs. Together they form a true network of impact.

**The professional advisors pictured left to right, top to bottom, recently made charitable referrals to Gulf Coast /** Bret Tackett, Bruce Haltinner, Chris Crites, Christine Hause, Dorothy Korszen, Ellie Harris, Grady Huie, Josh Sankes, Michael Paz, Nick Magero, Susan Hecker, Tim Self, Tom Hinck, Benjamin Hanan, Jay McHargue, Scott Collins

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Who guides the Agenda for Impact? What group uniquely shepherds the momentum of our work here from the first, need-motivated stages of investigation and blueprint-drawing, through the uncharted proving-waters of achievement, to Gulf Coast's ultimate goal of steady, practicable action for scale? That would be our Board of Directors, an ensemble of expertise if there ever was one, true believers and achievers.

**Pictured left to right /** Benjamin Hanan (Chair), Bayne Stevenson, Janis Fawn, Jay McHargue, Elton White, James Gallogly, Judy Cahn, Norbert Donnelly, Teri A Hansen (President | CEO), Phil Humann (Vice Chair) Pauline Joerger, Scott Collins, Lisa Carlton, Tommy Taylor, Michael Saunders

## GULF COAST STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS

The Gulf Coast Board appreciates the service of these community members on the Board of this supporting organization:

David Dignam  
Kirstin Fulkerson

Benjamin Hanan  
Teri A Hansen

Pauline Joerger  
Karl Kokomoor

Tommy Taylor  
Jon Thaxton



# FINANCIAL REVIEW

Growth is good when it comes to philanthropy. How else will we afford our community the resources—financial and intellectual—to ensure it can meet today’s needs and systemically address tomorrow’s challenges.

In our 2014 fiscal year, Gulf Coast Community Foundation invested \$18 million in regional initiatives, grants to nonprofit organizations, and scholarships for students. Our assets, meanwhile, grew to \$274.5 million, lifted by record contributions of \$27.6 million and a return on our investments of \$34.5 million. That is the power of endowed philanthropy in a community where generous donors give for the present and plan for the future.

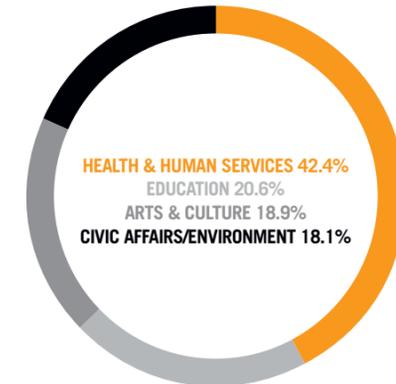
Because we base our annual grantmaking on the average of our invested assets over the previous 12 quarters, Gulf Coast’s growth in 2014 signals continued ability to head off emerging issues in the coming years. Indeed, bold proaction and prudent stewardship can be fundamental to the same foundation.

To review Gulf Coast’s audited financial statements, as well as quarterly updates on our grants, assets, and investment performance, visit our website at [GulfCoastCF.org](http://GulfCoastCF.org).

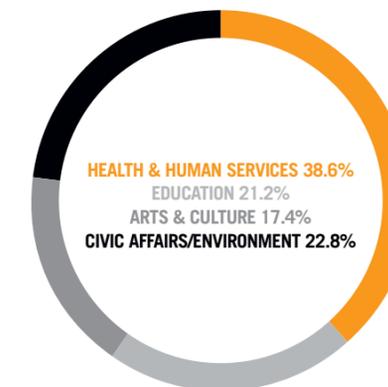
## FISCAL YEAR IN REVIEW JULY 2013 – JUNE 2014 / IN MILLIONS

GRANTS AWARDED	\$18.0
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$27.6
RETURN ON INVESTMENTS	\$34.5
TOTAL ASSETS	\$274.5

## 2014 GRANTS \$18.0 MILLION JULY 2013 – JUNE 2014



## CUMULATIVE GRANTS \$171.3 MILLION 1996 – JUNE 2014



## CONTRIBUTIONS IN MILLIONS



To access the June 2014 independent auditor's report, Gulf Coast's IRS Form 990, and our most recent investment results, go to [GulfCoastCF.org](http://GulfCoastCF.org).



# WHAT WILL YOUR IMPACT BE IN 2015?

What you've just read is our Agenda for Impact, conceived by a collective of caring individuals just like you, to be set in motion by your fellow citizens of the Gulf Coast. We hope it inspires you to set your own Agenda for Impact, one that we can help make into a reality. Call us today to begin your journey.

Together with our donors, Gulf Coast Community Foundation transforms our region through bold and proactive philanthropy. Gulf Coast is a public charity that was created in 1995 through the sale of the Venice Hospital. Since then, we have become the philanthropic home of nearly 600 families who have established charitable funds here, and we have made community investments of more than \$185 million in the areas of health and human services, civic and economic development, education, arts and culture, and the environment.

941.486.4600 | [GulfCoastCF.org](http://GulfCoastCF.org)

**Why do we take action,**  
as not even the bravest step comes with a guarantee?  
Because every one has impact in some way for  
our community. Without exception, whether the  
transformation is dramatic or quiet, each measure  
changes our lives for the better.



**GULF COAST** COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
2015 AGENDA FOR IMPACT

Gulf Coast Community Foundation  
601 Tamiami Trail South, Venice, Florida 34285  
941.486.4600 / GulfCoastCF.org



Gulf Coast Community Foundation has been confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, the most rigorous standards in philanthropy for operational quality, integrity, and accountability.