



Nonprofit Newsletter February 2020

## INTRO

This being a Leap Year there are 29 days in the month. The Birthstone for February is Amethyst; the Flower is the Primrose and the Zodiac Signs: are Aquarius and Pisces. There are actually 12 holidays in this month. Chinese New Year, National Freedom Day, Ground Hog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day, Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday, Black History Month, American Heart Month, Chocolate Lover's Month, National Bird Feeding Month, and finally National Dental Month. Certainly, there is something for everyone. It is the shortest month of the year, the third month of winter and probably most important to many "The Super Bowl Game".

This month's featured nonprofit is:

### **Oldsmar Cares, 163 St. Rd. 580, Oldsmar**

Sharon Patch and her husband James at the United Methodist Church in Oldsmar started the concept in 1997. It began helping the needs of Oldsmar residents for rent and utility assistance. A year later, a small food pantry was established, and in 2002, a clothing closet was added to serve men, women and children as well.

Because of the growing large needs, it became a 501C3 charitable organization in 2009. To meet the needs of the community, fundraising started in 2011 with a Wine and Food Gala and has continued yearly as the main Fund Raiser. This year the Gala will be held at Nielsen's on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Lucky for those who have tickets, as they have sold out for this year. Keep it in mind for next year though. It is amazing how the folks of Oldsmar support this organization through donations and attending events.



David Wallace and the Oldsmar Cares Board has worked tirelessly and in 2018 the new building on State Road 580 was built. That was the same year that David received the Tampa Bay Lightning Community Hero award and the \$50,000 grant that came with it.

For current news and happenings check out their Website and Facebook page. <http://www.oldsmarcares.org/>

Oldsmar Cares has many Life Changing programs and services

- A. **Food Bank** - Once a month, two loaded bags of groceries are offered to each of the registered families.
- B. **Clothes Closet** – Twice a month two bags of clothing, shoes etc. are also given to the registered families. With the help of the Women’s Club of Oldsmar, the Professional Clothing Closet was established and it provides business attire needed for job interviews.
- C. **Financial Assistance** – When help is needed assistance is provided for rent, mortgage, electric & water bills up to \$200.00 a year per household.
- D. **Oldsmar Works** – Local residents and local businesses connect through this Oldsmar Works program. Help is available for honing interview skills and resume writing. For more information email [info@oldsmarworks.org](mailto:info@oldsmarworks.org).
- E. **Weekend 4 kids** – Children in need from Oldsmar Elementary School and Westminster Apartments receive nutritious meals over the weekends.
- F. **Patchwork Assistance Fund** – In June 2013, Cofounder James Patch passed away and to honor his memory an emergency financial assistance program was formed. An award of \$500.00 for special circumstances is available by designation from the board of directors.

When David Wallace gave me a tour of Oldsmar Cares, I was completely impressed and moved by the range of services. It’s organization, neatness, cleanliness, and variety of offerings was more than impressive. There is a shower where the homeless can cleanse with soap and water helping those who would have no other way to take care of their bodies. A washer and dryer are there to keep the theme of cleanliness; basic human needs are met by this wonderful organization.

Key to the daily operations of keeping the flow of donated clothing, food in the freezers and refrigerators and working with the public is their volunteers; they are the heart and soul of this operation. They work hard day in and day out to maintain the Mission and Vision of Oldsmar Cares. The Mission and Vision is to provide Stop Gaps in rent and utility assistance, the food pantry and clothes closet all at no cost to those in need in the Greater Oldsmar area.

I want to thank David Wallace and Michelle Baldwin for opening my eyes to such a complete service to the community of Oldsmar.

THE BLESSINGS KEEP COMING!

## SHOUT OUT FROM JANUARY

### The 5 Chamber Mega Mixer at Nielsen

Students from area High Schools met with 34 Nonprofits to learn about opportunities to earn community service and bright futures points. It was well attended. Later in the evening the Upper Tampa Bay, Tarpon Springs, Palm Harbor, Dunedin, and Safety Harbor Chambers of Commerce enjoyed a mega mixer and got a chance to meet with many of the Nonprofits for the first time. It was another great Opportunity for Relationship Building.

### Project Pop Drop

Sharon Edwards and her band of angels went to Holy Ground Homeless Shelter in Hudson, Florida. What a Blessing to those homeless folks. Men, Women and Children in hopelessness benefited by the giving from Project Pop Drop.

### Top of the Bay Kiwanis

Held a “minute to win it” Fundraiser night at the Centre of Palm Harbor. Proceeds will go to the kids; it’s all about the kids!

### Chi Chi Rodriguez

The first tee program Director Karen Wise received an award from the PGA West Central chapter. It was PGA West Central Chapter Youth Player Development Award. Congratulations to Karen. Another note of worthiness from the Chi Chi School was that there were 18 students on the honor roll. What a successful program they have. Congratulation’s for all the great work you are doing with the kids.

## FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES OF NONPROFITS

### Score

Saturday, February 8th, 10:30am

Tarpon Springs Library

Video Marketing for the rest of us

Free workshops to anyone interested in growth and development.

Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm

Clearwater Library

Show me the money!

Course topic Show me the money: what cash flow do I need to start up/scale up. For other courses throughout the county go to [pinellascountyscore.org](http://pinellascountyscore.org)

## **FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES OF NONPROFITS CONT.**

### **PROJECT POP DROP**

#### **POP Drop for the Haven House of RCS**

Sharon has chosen the Haven House of RCS for this month's giving. The Haven provides housing for abused women and children. Give, Give, and Give to this worthy cause.

#### **Top of the Bay Kiwanis**

**Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm**

Rumba Island Bar and Grill dinner Meeting with Laura Tobe Community Liaison from Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation. Guests are welcome

**Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 12:00pm**

#### **Keiser College**

Key Club Zone Conference at Keiser College

**Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30am**

#### **IHOP US 19 and Curlew**

Regular membership meeting

**Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Christian Church of Clearwater**

Springtime City Kiwanis Club is hosting Chili Cook off at 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Church of Clearwater

**Saturday, February, 22<sup>nd</sup>**

#### **Bill Greer Memorial Day**

Students, families and teachers from the Paul B. Stephens School for Exceptional students spend the day at the zoo and end the day with a party including a DJ and Pizza. In addition, a face Painter and a balloon specialist will add to the festivities.

#### **UTB Chamber of Commerce**

**Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am**

#### **Speed Networking**

#### **Courtyard Marriott**

UTB Chamber of Commerce will hold a Speed Networking event at the Courtyard Marriott 4014 Tampa Road Oldsmar. Cost is \$20.00, a worthwhile and enjoyable networking event.

#### **Relationship Builders of UTB Chamber**

**February 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at Aston Gardens - 7:30am till 9am**

**February 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Wild Rover - 11:30 till 1pm**

Come and enjoy meeting and greeting other Chamber Members and guests.

## **FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES OF NONPROFITS CONT.**

**Chi Chi Rodriguez Foundation**

**March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Valspar Championship at Innisbrook**

The Chi Chi Foundation is looking for volunteers to help staff the Michelob Ultra Club during the Valspar Championship at Innisbrook. To volunteer call Laura at 727 642-6758 or email her at [Laura@ChiChi.org](mailto:Laura@ChiChi.org)

There is always something to do, occasions to partake in to support the Nonprofit Members of the Upper Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has many events every single month, so check out our calendar <https://business.utbchamber.com/events/calendar/> and I'll see you there. Say Hello, I would love to get to know more about your organization and mission. Blessings for a great February.

**Wendie Roeper**

**Non-Profit Liaison**

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