



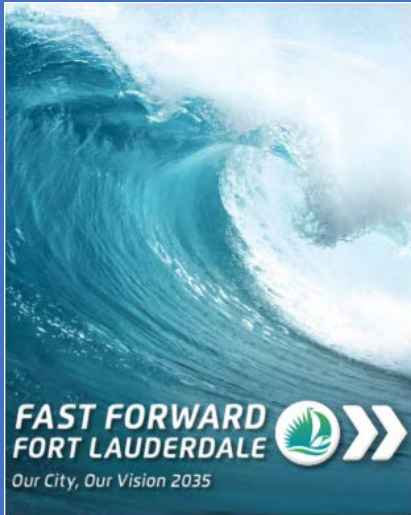
**Established: April 1, 2013**

**Jorg Hruschka**  
**Chief Service Officer**

**Two Roles:**

1. • Encourage volunteerism to enhance the quality of services in City government.
2. • Strengthen and enhance vibrant, growing networks of public/private partnerships that routinely work together in volunteer service to address pressing issues in our communities.





# NEIGHBOR VOLUNTEER OFFICE

Volunteerism: The Spirit of Fort Lauderdale

## Goal:

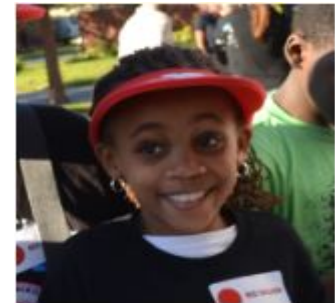
Address City and neighbor goals and objectives while building community and significant goodwill to enhance the City's quality of life.

### • City Strategic Goals:

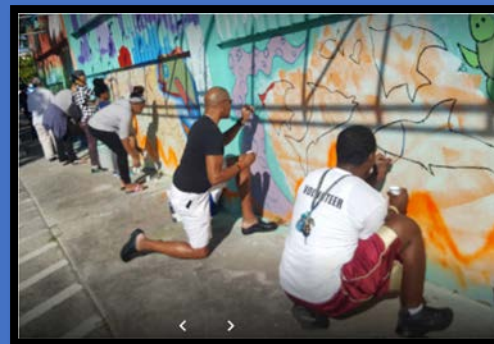
- Goal 1: Build a sustainable and resilient community
- Goal 3: Build a healthy and engaging community
- Goal 4: Build a thriving and inclusive community of neighborhoods
- Goal 6: Build a safe and well-prepared community



## WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?







## Three Core Focus Areas:

1. **Sustainability and Blight Remediation**
2. **Early Literacy and Youth Empowerment**
3. **Community Engagement and Empowerment**



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## 1. Sustainability and Blight Remediation projects:

- **Four major service days** (80 + projects)
  - a. **Fort Lauderdale Cares Day** – April: 300 - 450 volunteers complete 25 - 35 HOA driven projects. They do urban farming, paint homes, read to children, landscape neighborhood entrances, beautify parks, clean beaches and neighborhoods.
  - b. **Fort Lauderdale Ready Day** – June: 100 -150 Volunteers from 12 – 15 HOAs engage their neighbors in hurricane preparedness conversations and distribute 200 hurricane preparedness starter kits.
  - c. **\*Fort Lauderdale Makes a Difference Day** – October: 350 - 500 volunteers complete dozens of service projects. They paint homes, landscape neighborhood entrances, beautify parks, clean beaches, parks, and neighborhoods.
  - d. **Fort Lauderdale United Day** – January: 300 - 400 volunteers from local organizations come together in one neighborhood to remove litter, build and paint Little Free Libraries, give away trees, read to local children, etc.
- **Fort Lauderdale Beach Sweep** – every second and fourth Saturday. Thousands of volunteers remove tons of trash and untold cigarette butts annually.
- **Paddle With A Purpose** – Every month several dozen volunteers clean waterways and shorelines collecting 250 - 400 pounds of debris.
- **\*Adopt-A-Neighbor** - Painted 24 homes of deserving, disadvantaged neighbors.
- Initiated the Food Forest at Snyder Park to educate children in sustainable practices.

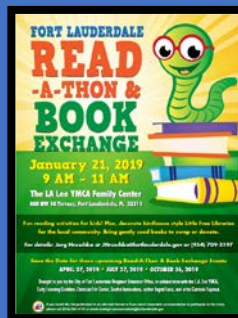
**\* National or Local Award-Winning Project**

CAM #21-0250  
Exhibit 1  
5 of 15



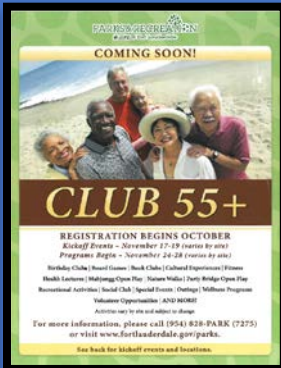
## 2. Early Literacy and Youth Empowerment Projects:

- **\*Fort Lauderdale Little Free Libraries** – Since 2016, the Action For Literacy team build, decorated and installed 127 Little Free Libraries throughout the city of Fort Lauderdale.
- Every year the Action For Literacy team gives away over 35,000 books at community events and through the library network.
- Coordinated a dozen library decorating events.
- Held quarterly Read-A-Thons at YMCA.
- **\*Show Up, Step Up, Stand Up Youth Leadership Program** – Over three years, 26 high school students completed service projects that taught accountability and built self-esteem.
- Collaborated with the ReadingPals and Take Stock in Children programs to place 50+ volunteers.



**\* National or Local Award-Winning Project**





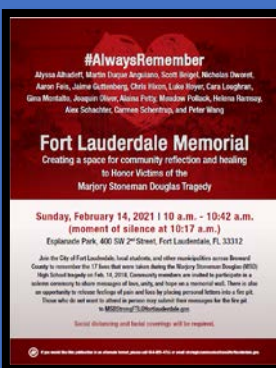
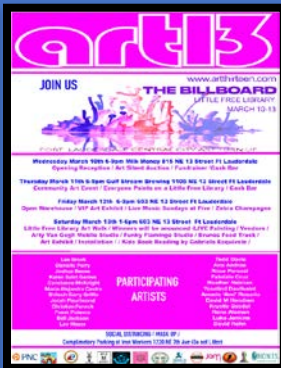
# NEIGHBOR VOLUNTEER OFFICE

## Volunteerism: The Spirit of Fort Lauderdale

### 3. Community Engagement and Empowerment projects:

- Held six **Find Your Passion Within** workshops.
- Piloted the **Club 55+** concept.
- Set up the **Riverwalk Ambassador** program.
- **Art13** – 25 local artists decorated prize winning Little Free Libraries.
- **MSD Memorial** – 100's of volunteers celebrated the 17 lives lost in the school shooting tragedy.
- **\*Open Canvas Project** – autumn 2017 – 80+ renown local artist and 400 + volunteers transformed the blighted former city building into an exciting and visually impactful urban art piece.

#### \* National or Local Award-Winning Project



GAM #24-0350



## COVID19 and Homeless initiatives

- Since April 17, 2020 co-managed 52 Mills Pond Food Distributions serving 41,000 + meals.
- Created the **\* Fort Lauderdale Cares Project**
  - Delivered over 1,000 personalized comfort packages to homebound elderly, veterans, and disadvantaged families.
  - Held eight monthly Pop-Up Resource Event to benefit 75+ families and 180+ children enrolled in Fort Lauderdale elementary schools who experience homelessness.
  - Raised over \$7,000 in cash and \$50,000 in material donations.
  - Engaged over 200 volunteers in food distributions and deliveries.

**\* Selected as a Finalist for NUSA's 2021 Best Neighborhood Program Award**



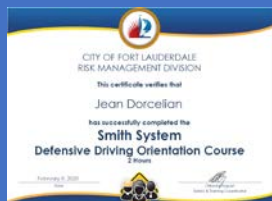




## REMEMBER - WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?



Mark Miller  
Ray Dettmann  
Barry Levy  
Stephen Einhorn  
Robert Figueroa  
Zachary Oppenheim  
Jorg Hruschka  
Barry Solomon  
Barry Zimmerman  
Judith Sexton  
Alan Garber  
David Jackovitz  
Meg Hopper  
Amy Swayzee  
Elka Keimel  
Carol Tamburry  
Karen St Genis  
Debbie Hime  
Connie McKnight  
Annette Gadus  
Paula  
Jonathan Bennett  
Tina Adams  
Tony Adams  
Elaine Franklin  
Nichol Petrella  
Jean Dorcelien  
Kyla Hunter  
Andy Jean-Pierre  
Chris Mahadeo  
Cari Rodriguez  
Barbara Barnett  
John Forshaw  
Maria McElroy  
Michelle Martinez  
Lew Naylor  
Ed Napolitano  
Richard Noel  
Mike McNamara



# NEIGHBOR VOLUNTEER OFFICE

Volunteerism: The Spirit of Fort Lauderdale

## Volunteer Leadership Council

With their help, nothing is impossible!



- The 39-person strong volunteer leadership team has been spearheading a variety of projects and supporting all Neighbor Volunteer Office activities.
- Twelve team members completed the Defensive Driving to operate city vehicles.
- They raised tens of thousands of dollars in cash and material donations as well as untold hours for volunteer time.
- Created three independent 501.3.c. Non-Profits to support their missions
  - **Action For Literacy LLC.**
  - **Beach Sweep America Inc.**
  - **Paddle With A Purpose Inc.**





## ACTION FOR LITERACY EVERY CHILD READS

- **President: Mark Miller**      **Vice-President: Ray Dettmann**
- 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit formed in 2017.
- Created "Childhood Literacy" programs targeted to improve neighborhood literacy levels.
- Build, installed and filled over 120 "Little Free Libraries" throughout the City of Fort Lauderdale and participated in numerous community events.
- Over 500 volunteers participated in various programs.
- Distributed 35,000 + Free Books annually .
- Raised \$25,000 + to support the Little Free Library program.







# Fort Lauderdale BEACH SWEEP

- **President: Barry Levy**      **Vice-President: Stephen Einhorn**
- 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit formed in 2016.
- Every second and fourth Saturday of the month between 100 - 275 beach lovers congregate at the HUB, 300 South Fort Lauderdale Beach.
- An average of **1,900 volunteers** participate every year to collect over **150,000 cigarette butts** and more than **2,000 pounds of garbage, plastics and recyclables**.
- Their small amount of donated time made a huge environmental, recreational, and economic difference.
- Kids Ecology Inc. provides educational programs for children.
- Publisher and Eco Artist Susie Q Wood turns collected trash into Art.
- There are an additional 35-50 smaller group beach cleanups organized each year.





## Paddle With A Purpose

*Waterway and Shoreline Cleanup*

- **President: Robert Figueroa**      **Team Leader: Zachary Oppenheim**
- 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit formed in 2019
- Every third Saturday of the month between 15 and 25 “Paddle With A Purpose” volunteers take out kayaks, sponsored by a local outfitter at George English or Delevoe Park.
- In a little over two years the team collected over 17,000 pounds of trash from City of Fort Lauderdale waterways.
- They typically collect anything from bottles, cigarette butts, tires, bike and car tires, strollers, fire extinguishers to the kitchen sink.
- Paddle with a Purpose is working not only to remove trash but to educate the community about littering, promoting cleaner waterways, and preservation of our quality of life.
- The organization has expanded to Key West, Orlando, and Tampa.



## Collective Impact:

### By the numbers since 2013:

- Over 25,000 individuals answered the call to service.  
(2019: 4,000+)
- Volunteer contributions averaged 9,800 hours each year and peaked in FY 2019 at 17,733 hours
- Estimated value to the City is \$2,135,000  
(2019: \$482,500)
- **Goodwill created in the community - PRICELESS**





## Collective Impact:

### As accomplishments:

- Built strong working relationships with a large network of local educational institutions, businesses, civic and non- profit organizations, churches etc.
- Volunteers and community leaders have taken leadership roles in almost all service projects.
- The collaborative efforts produced six National Award-Winning Projects and garnered over 20 local and national recognitions.
- The ability to engage neighbors to lead a large number of volunteer activities increases the social capital to enhance the image of the City, its leadership, and our neighbors.
- The low cost, high impact community service activities have created a high level of goodwill in the community.

### Opportunities:

- Harness the strong foundations of the community network to exponentially enhance education and community service within the City.