

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



*More than eight hundred volunteers, donors and contributing members helped TEAM accomplish extraordinary things in 2016*



- 140 volunteers painted eight need-based homes for free in one day, thanks to an enduring partnership with Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity. Help us paint with a purpose again on February 18, 2017.
- All yellow loaner bikes and tricycles were replaced, thanks to generous corporate and individual donations. 5,885 residents and visitors took a free ride on the yellow bikes this year.
- The original “beautiful bikes in paradise” were replaced with colorful, individually hand painted bicycles.
- Funded by the Mosaic Company in partnership with the Charlotte Master Gardeners, the Punta Gorda Historical Society and the City of Punta Gorda, our third and largest Community Garden was completed at the History Park on Shreve Street. It features 72 fully subscribed plots.
- The first two of a series of interpretive “trails that teach” harbor conservation signs were installed along Punta Gorda’s “Harborwalk”, thanks to a grant from the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program.
- Thousands of pounds of debris were collected by dozens of Punta Gorda volunteers during International Coastal Clean-Up Day. Naturalists guided 83 kayakers on five waterway tours in the first Paddle Punta Gorda event.
- New “Wayfinder” signs for cyclists and pedestrians were installed along Punta Gorda Pathways. The Share the Lane website was launched to inform and educate the public on safe cycling. These Bicycle Friendly Community initiatives were furthered by a grant from the Charlotte Community Foundation.
- The seventh annual Pedal & Play in Paradise, a joint effort of TEAM and the Isles Yacht Club, hosted nearly six hundred cyclists. The event raised \$8,759 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and TEAM’s Bicycle Friendly initiatives. Join us March 24-25, 2017 for this fun event.
- More than 40 public and private sector leaders attended an October seminar on affordable and workplace housing sponsored by TEAM and the Bernice Russell Community Development Corporation. This was the launch of a new initiative to be further developed in 2017.
- The 11th Annual TEAM Golf Tournament, held in honor of Judy Brentano, raised more than \$10,000 to help offset TEAM’s office expenses and fund projects not easily self-funded. The 2017 tournament will be held on March 18.

## History Park Garden Completed

The completion of the Punta Gorda History Park Community Garden in December capped a year of dedicated work by hundreds of volunteers. Funded by the Mosaic Company in partnership with the Charlotte Master Gardeners, the Punta Gorda Historical Society and the City of Punta Gorda, this beautiful garden has 72 beds fully subscribed by Charlotte County residents. Volunteers continue to provide ongoing support for previously built community gardens, as well as eight school gardens.



## New Free Bikes to Explore our City

TEAM's now famous and well used bicycle loaner fleet has been refreshed with new yellow bikes and tricycles. The bicycle loaner program, in partnership with the City of Punta Gorda and supported by local businesses and private individuals, was the first such program in the State of Florida when initiated in 2010. This year, the service provided bikes for nearly 6,000 residents and visitors who explored miles of bike paths in and around the City. There are more than 40 bikes available, located at six host sites around Punta Gorda.

## Bicycle Friendly Initiatives

The Bicycle Friendly Community initiative includes volunteers from Punta Gorda City and Charlotte County staff, local business leaders and private citizens. The objective is to promote safe cycling and mutual respect between cyclists, drivers and pedestrians. This year the group initiated pavement signage and information kiosks along Punta Gorda Pathways and launched the "Share the Lane" information and education campaign [www.sharethelanepuntagorda.com](http://www.sharethelanepuntagorda.com), funded in part by a grant from the Charlotte County Community Foundation.

Share the Lane



***TEAM depends upon sponsorships, grants, individual and corporate donations and contributing memberships to sustain initiatives and special projects that are not self-funding. Your support is deeply appreciated.***



## Painting with a Purpose

TEAM and the Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity partnered again for the third annual "Paint Your Heart Out" service project. One hundred forty volunteers joined forces to paint the exteriors of eight homes for needy homeowners. This important outreach project is supported by funds and services provided by local businesses, clubs and private individuals. TEAM's beautification committee selected at random one home for a simple but effective landscaping make-over. "Paint Your Heart Out 2017" is slated for the morning of February 18.



## Pedal and Play in Paradise

This annual event, co-hosted by TEAM and the Isles Yacht Club, attracted nearly 600 cyclists of all ages and raised thousands of dollars for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) and TEAM's Bicycle Friendly Community initiatives. This year the event was expanded to include a Friday evening "Here and There" ride with City Manager Howard Kunik, followed by a lighted ride to Ponce De Leon Park, yoga and a wine & cheese tasting. Saturday's events included rides of several lengths and an easy "Mystery Ride" to discover the secrets of Solana. Learn more about the 2017 event at [www.pedalandplayinparadise.com](http://www.pedalandplayinparadise.com).

## Maritime Volunteers Protect and Promote Our Waters

TEAM's maritime committee concentrates on programs and events which focus on stewardship and promotion of Charlotte Harbor and in particular, the Punta Gorda waterfront. Among several 2016 projects, Maritime unveiled the first two of a series of "Trails that Teach" educational signs along Punta Gorda's Harborwalk, funded in part by a grant from the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program. It also coordinated Punta Gorda's first time participation in International Coastal Cleanup Day. In November, naturalists guided 83 "Paddle Punta Gorda" kayakers on five educational waterway tours.



## Reflections on 2016

**Retiring President Shelly Harris . . .** It has been many years since I first volunteered to help TEAM plant foliage on Marion Avenue. Over the years I have watched hundreds of dedicated, talented, selfless volunteers reinvent TEAM into the vibrant, grass roots organization it has become. I am privileged to be one of countless volunteers who have shaped TEAM. TEAM has grown not only in the number of projects we sponsor, but also in the number of organizations we have partnered with and the number of people participating on those projects. I am especially proud of our partnership with Mike Mansfield, CEO of Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity for our Paint Your Heart Out project. 2016 is my final year serving on TEAM's board. I know, as in the past, when TEAM volunteers move on, even more talented people pick up the slack.



### CEO Nancy Johnson ...

2016 was a year of great accomplishment as 710 volunteers stepped forward to help; 450 of those for special events. My hopes for the new year are that by working together we can make our town safer to cycle and walk; improve the health of our harbor; provide education and awareness about community housing options; continue to improve and beautify our neighborhoods and support the City and other community organizations in their endeavors through strategic partnerships. Because of the spirit of service and collaboration that is present in this town, Punta Gorda is a special place where if you dream it, you can do it.

### COO Sandy Dressler ...

Each day that I am involved with TEAM Punta Gorda, I am inspired by the dedication, commitment and hard work of our volunteers. 2016 was a very successful year with 20 actively working committees all with one goal in mind, making Punta Gorda a better place to live, work and play. Winston Churchill once said "You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give." Our volunteers give 100%...BRAVO!

### 2016 TEAM Punta Gorda Board Of Directors

Shelly Harris, **President**  
 Nancy Johnson, **CEO**  
 Merritt Brown, **Vice President**  
 Sandra Dressler, **COO**  
 Lew Morrissey, **Secretary**  
 Dianne Welsh, **CFO/Treasurer**  
 Jeff Kuhn, **Director/Legal Counsel**  
 Martha Bireda  
 Eric DeYoung  
 Craig Esterly  
 Ellen Harvey  
 Marie Moseley  
 Mike Ruiz  
 Michelle Rumreich  
 John Welsh

### TEAM Punta Gorda 2016 Income

Grants & Restricted Funds	\$ 40,242.35
Special Events	\$ 41,383.00
Membership & Donations	\$ 3,015.41
Fundraising	\$ 15,250.00
Sponsorships	\$ 25,840.00
Project Revenue	\$ 8,589.00
Interest	\$ 117.54
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$134,319.76</b>

### TEAM Punta Gorda 2016 Expenses

Community & School Gardens	\$ 23,435.72
Trails That Teach	\$ 4,032.00
Beautification	\$ 1,161.00
Bicycle Loaner Program	\$ 9,629.15
Paint Your Heart Out	\$ 5,499.00
Bicycle Friendly Communities	\$ 6,128.68
Pedal & Play	\$ 20,221.49
Golf Tournament	\$ 4,367.00
Paddle Punta Gorda	\$ 370.00
Fundraising	\$ 1,581.00
Meeting expenses	\$ 1,374.00
Operating	\$ 17,641.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 95,435.04</b>

