

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Hundreds of volunteers, partners and financial contributors helped TEAM accomplish amazing things in 2018. We continue to collaborate with both the public and private sectors to make Punta Gorda an even better place to live, work and play.

A sampling of the year's activities:



- TEAM's survey on possible future uses for the Gilchrist Park Activity Center was widely circulated. It provides an important resource for the City's future waterfront planning.
- TEAM BUILDS! completed its first Habitat for Humanity home for a deserving family. Volunteers also painted their hearts out for a 5th year, providing a much needed face-lift to homes in several neighborhoods.
- We continue to create, replace and maintain hand-painted bicycles at strategic locations around the City.
- Twenty more History Park Community Garden plots were completed, bringing the total to 92 gardens. Charlotte High students are actively engaged.
- Pedal and Play in Paradise celebrated its ninth year as Punta Gorda's premier bicycling event.
- Our operating budget was bolstered by the 13th Annual Judy Brentano Golf Scramble and by Friends of TEAM contributions during the biennial "Giving Challenge."
- New yellow bicycles were added to the loaner fleet. Retired bikes were gratefully accepted by St. Vincent De Paul for distribution to the needy.
- TEAM's maritime committee participated in the 2018 Coastal Cleanup, tested for micro-plastics, held a hugely successful kayak clinic and re-launched Paddle Punta Gorda.
- We hosted several community "Mixers" at city dining venues and continue to participate in Punta Gorda's monthly "Third Thursday Wine Walk".
- The City and TEAM launched the process of organizing *Journey to the Future*, a significant 2019 public education project designed to inform citizens of best practices in community development prior to updating the Citywide Master Plan.

Community and School Gardens Thrive

Volunteers added twenty more individual plots to the History Park organic garden in 2018, making a total of 92 fully subscribed spaces for residents to grow their own healthy food. Charlotte High students are actively involved in this important outreach project. A new horticultural class is underway at the Southwest Florida Collegiate High school, where TEAM has sponsored ten raised beds. Volunteers also worked with the City to help construct beds for their AGRIPRENEUR garden/ fresh market project on Virginia Street. Community and school garden programs encourage participants to learn best growing techniques and the importance of sustainability. The History Park garden now supplies the Peace River Wildlife Center with fruits and vegetables for animals in their care. Learn about organic gardening in video seminars at www.teampuntagorda.org/community-gardens/.



Southwest Florida's Premier Bicycling Event Pedal and Play in Paradise

TEAM Punta Gorda and The Isles Yacht Club joined forces again in 2018 to host a fun filled weekend of events, raising thousands of dollars for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and TEAM's bicycle initiatives. The two-day event kicked off Friday evening with the City Manager's Tour of important city sites. Saturday began with breakfast and entertainment at Laishley Park, followed by guided bicycle tours for every level of expertise. The nearly 500 participants returned to the waterfront for lunch, ice cream, beer, entertainment and raffle prizes,

provided in part by the generosity of more than twenty-five sponsors. Learn more about the upcoming March 2019 event at www.pedalandplayinparadise.com.

Paint Your Heart Out Celebrates Five Years

PYHO Punta Gorda began as an ambitious one-day event in 2013. Five years later, more than 40 homes in Punta Gorda have been given a much needed face-lift. Each year more than 100 volunteers prepare,



repair and paint the exteriors of a handful of homes owner occupied by needy or disabled citizens. This enduring partnership between TEAM and the Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity has literally transformed neighborhoods. The Signature Sponsor for "Paint Your Heart Out" is

The Rotary Club of Punta Gorda. Their support and the generosity of many individuals, local businesses and civic organizations are critical to the success of the project.



*TEAM depends upon sponsorships, grants, corporate donations and **Friends of Team** annual contributions to sustain initiatives that are not self-funding. Your support is deeply appreciated.*



Protecting and Promoting Our Waterfront

TEAM's maritime volunteers had many oars in the water this year. They explored alternative kayak launch locations and offered a free educational clinic on kayaking at the Isles Yacht Club. A capacity crowd at that event had an opportunity to demo various types of kayaks and learn more about the sport. In coordination with the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program, maritime has made a commitment to sample and test water monthly to measure the level of micro-plastics in our watershed. Instruction

was provided by Julie Ryder of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. The first water collection was completed on *International Coastal Clean-Up Day*. This annual event brings out a small army of volunteers to collect debris in the waterways and along the shoreline of Charlotte Harbor. Maritime also re-launched "*Paddle Punta Gorda*". More than eighty registered paddlers enjoyed eco-enriching tours on four local waterways, accompanied by Florida certified naturalists. Tours were followed by lunch and festivities at Lashley Park.



Free Yellow Bicycles On a Roll

Florida's first bicycle loaner program has completed its eighth year serving more than 5,000 riders annually. TEAM's fleet of 44 colorful bicycles and tricycles must be ready to ride every day. The responsibility of upkeep requires energetic volunteers supported by these strategic partners: the City of Punta Gorda, vendors at six bike pick up locations and individual bicycle sponsors. Bicycles must be repaired and replaced on a regular basis. TEAM platinum sponsor Acme Bicycle Shop facilitates this process. Retired bicycles are used for replacement parts or donated as appropriate. A dozen retired bicycles were recently donated to St. Vincent de Paul for distribution to the needy. Bike sponsors have their names displayed on the bicycle's basket.



TEAM BUILDS! A New Habitat Home

TEAM's partnership with the Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity spawned a new initiative in 2018: TEAM BUILDS! TEAM's volunteer resources were enlisted to help Habitat build a home for a deserving family, helping to fulfill the promise of more affordable housing. It's a productive collaboration. Habitat is highly skilled at building affordable housing. TEAM, with its email distribution list of over 3,000, can get the word out when help is needed and put volunteer "boots on the ground." With little or no experience, TEAM

volunteers raised exterior walls, helped Habitat contractors with framing, roof truss and roof deck installation, interior wall framing, siding installation and interior painting. The result is a charming, three-bedroom bungalow for an appreciative family. This powerful partnership is doing it again in 2019!



Reflections on 2018 and Journey to the Future

CEO Nancy Johnson

This is an important moment in our City's history. This coming year we renew our community vision. The last time we engaged in a planning process like the Citywide Master Plan, it was motivated by a hurricane. This time it's about opportunity and desire for a shared vision. For TEAM it represents a return to our core mission: stewardship of community development. Thanks to incredible leadership among our board, chairs and an army of tireless volunteers, TEAM is stronger than ever, ready to take on the next steps as our community moves forward. One of the roles we have always played is to bring people together to learn: to offer best practices, new ideas, and stimulate new thinking. The spirit of Punta Gorda is strong. It is based on the principle that we are better if we work and learn together, and keep the conversation going! Punta Gorda is indeed a special place!



Board President Eric DeYoung

This year was another opportunity for me to sit in admiration of the many folks who come together to make TEAM Punta Gorda so amazing! Whether you are a person who lends your time as a tireless volunteer, your treasure as a monetary supporter, or your talent as a leader of one of our many initiatives; please let me thank you! Many hands really do make light work, and it is through the efforts of so many that we can accomplish such great things for our City. Thank you for helping make TEAM Punta Gorda a better place to live, work, and play!



2018 TEAM Punta Gorda Board Of Directors

Nancy Johnson, **CEO**
 Eric DeYoung, **Board President**
 Sandra Dressler, **Vice President**
 Suzanne Herron, **Treasurer/CFO**
 Lew Morrissey, **Secretary**
 Shelly Harris, **Director Emeritus**
 Tom Cavanaugh, **Director**
 Marie Moseley, **Director**
 Michelle Rumreich, **Director**
 Betsy Spagnolo, **Director**
 John Welsh, **Director**
 Bill Wood, **Director**

Corinne Carlson, Office Administrator

I truly enjoy working with so many who continually give their time and share their knowledge and unique skills. Our Board, Committee Chairs and Volunteers work tirelessly to make a positive impact on Punta Gorda. I'm blessed and grateful to be a part of the TEAM.

TEAM Punta Gorda 2018 Cash Resources

Grants & Restricted Funds	\$ 25,188.00
Special Events	\$ 31,912.06
Membership & Donations	\$ 13,908.77
Fundraising	\$ 14,565.20
Sponsorships	\$ 3,500.00
Project Revenue	\$ 3,531.50
Interest	\$ 107.41
Project Funds Raised in Prior Years	\$ 40,721.48
Total	\$133,434.42

TEAM Punta Gorda 2018 Expenses

Pedal and Play	\$ 19,700.32
Paint your Heart Out	\$ 18,377.25
Community Gardens Mosaic	\$ 7,407.94
Golf	\$ 3,539.82
Bicycle Programing	\$ 7,614.83
Maritime	\$ 3,249.79
Restricted Fund Spending	\$ 11,644.99
Programing Operations	\$ 12,976.69
Administrative	\$ 28,037.39
Total	\$112,549.02

