

Your Donations Saved Susan's Life

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Health care was never top of mind for Susan*, a 52-year-old Nassau County resident. After she lost her health insurance five years ago, she stopped receiving regular medical care. She managed to get by, believing all was well – until one day, it wasn't.

What started as a small lump turned into a growing mass in Susan's neck and chest over the following weeks. Before she knew it, she was having serious trouble swallowing and breathing. Although Susan did not have health insurance, she found the help she needed at Barnabas Center.



Susan now has peace of mind thanks to Barnabas Center's medical team.

Our medical team swiftly arranged essential imaging, and through our partnership with Baptist Medical Center Nassau, an ENT specialist performed a biopsy.

Fortunately, the results showed it wasn't cancer.

However, Susan's troubles didn't end there. She suddenly lost vision in one of her eyes after her biopsy. The Barnabas Center medical team swiftly stepped into action again and provided her with an emergency evaluation and treatment for a retinal tear – thanks to our partnership with a local ophthalmology practice and the Vision Is Priceless organization. Susan did not end up having any permanent vision loss.

After both of these medical emergencies, Susan asked Barnabas Center for help reestablishing her health insurance. Our team helped her secure insurance through the Health Care Marketplace so she could receive the highly specialized surgery she needed for her neck condition.

It's thanks to supporters like you that we can assist people in need like Susan. She is deeply thankful for the kindness and assistance she received, which turned her uncertain future into one filled with hope and healing.

Your Donations Gi

Dear Friends,

Fall brings many exciting times and activities our way – from football to changing leaves and finally enjoying warm soup on a cool evening. However, it's not always a joyous time for many of our Nassau County neighbors. As we embrace the comforts of the new season, it's important to remember those who could use a helping hand during this challenging time.

Requests for assistance continue to rise each month, as the ongoing challenges of making ends meet have stretched family budgets to their limits. Essential needs such as healthy food, rental assistance and access to health care services are becoming increasingly difficult to afford. As a result, many of our neighbors are struggling to stay in their homes.

The help and hope provided by Barnabas Center continues to be critically important for these local families, but we can't do it without you. Your generosity is truly making a difference in the lives of individuals and families like Robert and Susan whose remarkable stories are featured in this newsletter.

Thank you for providing help and hope.

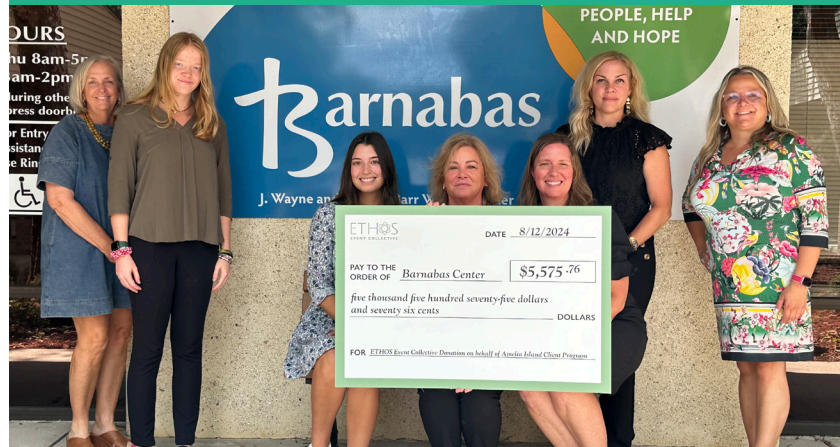


Jamie Reynolds
Jamie Reynolds
President & CEO

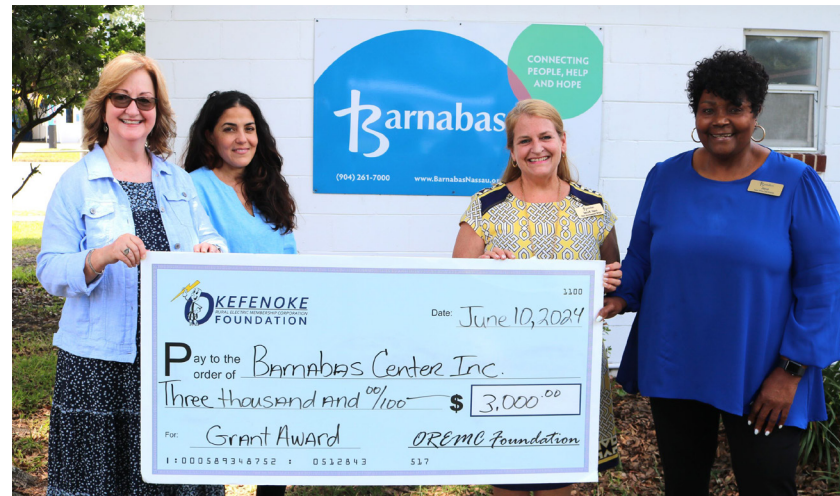


Wayne McLellan
Wayne McLellan
Board Chair

Thank You to Our Community Partners!



Ethos Event Collaborative teamed up with a client to host a food drive benefiting Barnabas Center during their visit to one of our stunning island resorts. We're grateful to Ethos for their hard work on this special event and unwavering support of our mission.



The Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation Foundation awarded Barnabas Center a grant to help provide nutritious food for Nassau County residents facing hunger. Trustee Ramona Jones presents the grant to Barnabas Center Resource Coordinator Priscilla Eljaiek, Chief Development Officer Tania Yount and Callahan Office Empowerment Program Coordinator Joyce Knox.

ve Help and Hope

Your Support Helped Robert Get Back on His Feet

Life as a single dad can be incredibly challenging. For Robert*, a father to two young boys ages 8 and 12, those challenges became overwhelming when he lost his job. With bills piling up and basic needs becoming harder to meet, Robert was struggling to make ends meet. Fortunately, during a community dinner at the Callahan Methodist Church, he was introduced to Barnabas Center – a lifeline for many local families facing similar hardships.

Volunteers distributed flyers at the dinner in August, highlighting the support services available. One of them caught Robert's eye, and he took it as a sign that he should finally ask for help. Taking that first step was not easy, but it proved to be life-changing.

Your generosity made it possible for us to step in and provide Robert with the assistance he needed at a critical time.



Robert is grateful for Barnabas Center's help for getting him and his family back on the right track.

Robert made contact the next day with the Empowerment Programs Intake Counselor at our Callahan office. The two set up an appointment during which they determined how Robert needed help. He started a new job at the end of the month, but his driver's license had just expired. Without it, he couldn't drive to his new job.

Through our Empowerment Programs, Robert successfully renewed his driver's license just in time for his first day of work, ensuring he could commute and maintain his new job. But at Barnabas Center, we recognize that people often need more than the initial help they seek.

Thanks to your kindness, we were able to provide Robert with wraparound support beyond his immediate needs. Barnabas Center supplied him with a grocery store gift card to help put food on the table, certificates for his sons' school clothes from our New to You Resale Stores and backpacks filled with school supplies. This holistic approach ensures families like Robert's are equipped not just for today, but for a more stable and hopeful tomorrow.

Robert is deeply grateful for the assistance he received. Because of you, his family is now back on the path to stability. Your generosity made all the difference in their lives. Thank you for empowering Robert to move forward with hope.

Leave a Lasting Legacy with Barnabas Center



Corky and Andrea Hoffman chose to support Barnabas Center through their will.

Planning your will might not be on your radar, but it's a crucial task that too often gets pushed aside until it's too late. Taking the time to address it now not only gives you peace of mind but also ensures that your wishes are honored, and future generations benefit from your thoughtful actions.

"Choosing Barnabas Center as a beneficiary in our wills was a decision filled with both heart and reason," said Nassau County residents Corky and Andrea Hoffman. "It's important to us to contribute to an organization that invests so significantly in our local community."

Barnabas Center has been Nassau County's only comprehensive service center for more than 35 years, helping those in need become healthy, productive citizens. You can help us for the next 35 years and beyond when you include a provision for us in your will.

"A high percentage of the money donated goes directly to programs that provide vital assistance to children and adults," Andrea Hoffman said.

Estate planning is about taking control of the most important areas of your life. Without a plan, important decisions about your life are left to the courts and state laws. The process is simple, and you can make an even bigger impact by including a gift to Barnabas Center in your plans.

Here are four steps to get you started:

1. Gather information about your assets, tax information, retirement funds, bank accounts and real estate properties.
2. Think about the people and organizations that matter most to you, how you would like to provide for them and whom you would like to appoint as your executor or trustee.
3. Visit BarnabasNassau.Planned.Gifts and click on the Legacy Planner for a FREE WILL that's simple to complete and legal in all 50 states.
4. Meet with a professional. If you do not have an attorney or notary public in mind, we would be pleased to make a referral.

Your Donations Give Help and Hope

Barnabas Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. For questions about programs, donations or planned giving opportunities, please contact Tania Yount at **904.261.7000** or **tyount@BarnabasNassau.org**.

Your gifts help provide food, clothing, housing/utility assistance and medical and dental care for those in need.

*Stories contained within the publication are representative of the participants served throughout Barnabas Center's wide array of programs. Names and photos have been changed for privacy.



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1303 Jasmine St., Suite 101 • Fernandina Beach, FL • BarnabasNassau.org • 904.261.7000