



**November/December  
2018**

The Christ Child Society  
Naples, Florida

# Community Foundation Exec to speak

**S**haron Bayata, the Education/Scholarship Director for the Community Foundation will be the featured speaker at the Nov. 13 meeting. Her role at the Foundation is to assist donors to meet community needs – especially in areas related to education. Since December 2017, Sharon has been at the Community Foundation advancing its leadership and engagement in education.

In 2016, she managed the introduction of the *Scholarship Connector* website. It is the most complete online resource for scholarships available to students in Collier County and Southwest Florida. She is a key member of Future Ready Collier, a network

of organizations, businesses, schools and community members working to ensure every child is ready for kindergarten, and every young person enters adulthood with a vision for their future and a plan to accomplish that vision.



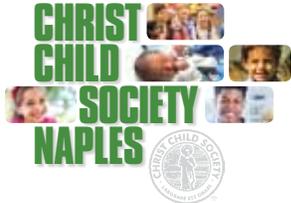
**Sharon Bayata**

Sharon earned her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and holds a Juris Doctorate. She lives in Naples with her two dogs and enjoys participating in the community through volunteer work and athletic events. Sharon will speak about the process of choosing the recipients of the Christ Child Habitat Scholarships.

For more information, contact Sharon Bayata at 239-649-5000, sbayata@cfcollier.org, or visit the website at [www.cfcollier.org](http://www.cfcollier.org).

## It's time to pay your dues

Membership dues are \$75 for the period from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. If you have not already mailed your check, please send to: PO Box 770179 Naples, FL 34107-0179.



## Video to be premiered at the November 13 Meeting

During the spring and summer, our president, Colleen Mayes, has worked with Lancit Video Productions of Naples along with the leaders of our four missions, Sharon Bayata and our student scholarship recipients to produce a video that highlights the work that Christ Child volunteers do for the children we serve. This video will be shown at the first meeting of the year, as well as at other Christ Child functions. Following the *Red Wagon Gala* in April, it will be available on our website.

## Board of Directors

Colleen Mayes  
*President*

Jane Austermler  
*Past President*

Kathy Clark  
*First Vice President*

TBD  
*Second Vice President*

Barbara Franks  
Mary Henrickson  
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Maureen Kincaid  
Collen Kaminski  
*Co-Membership VPs*

MaryAngela Smith  
*Communications VP*

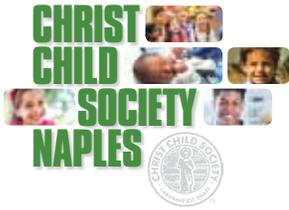
Sharon Prentice  
*Infant Care VP*

Kathryn Wagner  
*Basic Needs VP*

Mary Polizzotto  
*Literacy VP*

Gail Garratt  
Arlene Rossi  
Ellen Spencer  
*Members at Large*

The Rev. Kathleen Kircher  
*Spiritual Advisor*



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## Our Habitat Scholars

**T**he Habitat Scholars Fund was established last year in honor of the 20th Anniversary of the Christ Child Society of Naples. This fall our first group of five Habitat Scholars was announced. They are now college students. They are all from Habitat homes and are a most impressive group of students. They are: Makayda Archer from Gulf Coast High School now at Florida Southwestern State College; Etgard Senders Branchedor from Lely High School now at University of Kentucky; Jannet Frias from Immokalee High School now at University of Toledo; Tomas Ruiz from Immokalee High School now at Michigan State University; and Rosevertte Toussaint from Lely High School now at Florida Southwestern State College.

Each of them logged many hours of volunteer activities ranging from working in the high school or public library, assisting at church, mentoring, as well as other community services. Some played sports like soccer and basketball, but all belonged to a variety of school organizations including Key Club, Robotics Club, Choir and Safety Club to name a few. They all held part-time jobs in grocery stores, restaurants as server or busser, or helped with after-school tutoring.

These students have impressive plans for the future. One plans a career in medicine. Another looks forward to a career in business, while a third is studying computer science. A fourth plans to major in special education and early childhood education. Another plans to work toward not just a bachelor's degree, but also a doctorate in psychology in order to counsel people suffering from mental disorders. All listed educationally supportive parents as role models. Some of the parents had little education but want their children to have opportunities that they did not have.

## Volunteer Hours

As we begin this new season, it is important to remember to keep track of volunteer hours. This collected data is used to measure

the impact of the Christ Child Society of Naples on the community and to capture in one place the collective hours of all of our dedicated volunteers. Every year it is a truly impressive number. Included in hours may be travel time to meetings and volunteer activities, as well as actual time spent there. Knitters and crocheters should also keep track of the time spent creating hand-crafted blankets for the layettes.

Send volunteer hours to Marge Crnkovich (crnk@aol.com). Hours may also be submitted on the Christ Child Society of Naples website (christchildnaples.org). On the homepage, go to Documents and Forms/Member Forms/Online Volunteer Hours Form.

## Christmas Brunch December 5

**O**ur annual Christmas Brunch will be held at the Collier's Reserve Clubhouse on Wednesday, Dec. 5 from 10 to 11:30 am. Help us bring joy to the children of the Collier County organizations that CCSN supports while enjoying a wonderful brunch with friends.

Members are asked to bring unwrapped gifts for the children of Fun Time Academy, Grace Place, Providence House, The Shelter for Abused Women and Children, and Youth Haven. The ages of the children range from infant to 12 years, with the majority being infant to 8 years. Representatives of these programs collect the gifts at the end of the party to give to parents for children who might otherwise not receive gifts for the holidays. Gift suggestions are educational toys, stuffed animals, books and art supplies. Parents and the older children always appreciate gift cards to Wal-Mart, Target, etc. Last year we collected more than 450 toys and more than \$1870 worth of gift cards to distribute among the organizations (based on the number of children served) for use by older children and parents to choose gifts for their children. In addition, Books for Collier Kids distributed more than 500 books.

Brunch hostesses are Kathleen Flynn Fox, Gloria Gaughan, Jane Kassolis, Ginny Packard and Terry Schrantz. **Please RSVP by Nov. 19 via email to makincai88@gmail.com.**

## News from Basic Needs

**S**hirley Booth has been very busy over the summer! On behalf of Christ Child Society of Naples, she has purchased seventy beds along with appropriate bedding for the children of Habitat families as they take possession of their new homes. Disney characters and sports are popular themes. While Shirley will continue with this project, there are other opportunities to help at Habitat, such as helping to send out their newsletters. If you would like to assist, please contact Kathryn Wagner at 239-537-0933 or [kmswagner@yahoo.com](mailto:kmswagner@yahoo.com).

## News from ELLM

Since its inception, Christ Child Society of Naples volunteers have supported ELLM. These volunteers help in one of two ways. Some give a couple of hours a week for 18 weeks (in season) to help Head Start prekindergarten children improve their emerging literacy. Tutors are provided with training and appropriate materials. Other volunteers help (about 12 hours a year) by preparing the materials that are used with the children. Please consider being one of the valuable volunteers that enhance the youngest learners' initial school experience. Contact Mary Polizzotto at [bobp1426@comcast.net](mailto:bobp1426@comcast.net) for more information.

## News from Grace Place

All educational programs are in full swing and at full capacity. Grace Place welcomes seasonal volunteers back to the soon-to-be completed new campus buildings with great enthusiasm. Newcomers are always very welcome. A recent change in staff related to volunteers is the following: Tracey Leichuk has become Volunteer Experience Manager, replacing Chrissie Guzman who has become Development and Special Events Manager. The positive energy at Grace Place is readily palpable. The smiles of both children and parents are very contagious! For more information, please contact Kathleen Long at [kathleenlong16@msn](mailto:kathleenlong16@msn) or Tracey Leihuk at Grace Place 239-234-2400.

## Golden Gate Elementary News

Golden Gate has the highest poverty rate of any area in Collier County. For this reason, Golden Gate Elementary School has for many years been a high priority for Christ Child Society Naples. We have provided funding for the Produce and Butterfly Gardens, literacy materials, and other learning-related items like daily planners. We have also contributed a significant number of volunteer hours and are seeking volunteers to work with the children. Past teaching experience is not a requirement. On Oct. 25, Golden Gate and other Collier County Public Schools heralded the new school year with a dedication ceremony and ribbon cutting for the Buddy Bench Program. The bench is meant to be a physical reminder that promotes inclusion and encourages new friendships on the playground. Christ Child Society members were in attendance at the 8:30 am ceremony at the school. If you are interested in working with children at the school and want more information about opportunities that exist, please contact Arleen Rossi, Christ Child Society/Golden Gate Liaison, at 631-365-9765 or [arleen1626@gmail.com](mailto:arleen1626@gmail.com).

## Supplies for Grace Place

**A**s at all of our General Meetings, we will collect non-perishable foods and necessities for the Grace Place Food Pantry. Grace Place is located in the heart of Golden Gate, and many families depend on the Food Pantry which is held every Friday. A representative will be at the parking lot entrance of the Northern Trust Bank (in back) to collect items. Do not bring them upstairs to the meeting as they may be missed. Suggested food items are: breakfast cereals, canned fruit and vegetables, canned soup, corn tortilla flour, dried beans, pasta and sauce, peanut butter and jelly, powdered milk, rice, sugar, and vegetable oil. Other necessities are diapers and baby wipes, toothbrushes and toothpaste, laundry detergent, and bar soap.

## Calendar of Events

### Board Meetings:

*Northern Trust Bank  
Liggett Room (formerly  
Keewaydin Room) 3 pm*

January 3, 2019

March 7, 2019

April 11, 2019

### General Meetings:

*Northern Trust Bank  
Fourth Floor  
Larson Room 3-5 pm*

November 13, 2018

January 8, 2019

March 12, 2019

April 16, 2019

### Save the Dates:

December 5, 2018  
*Christmas Party*

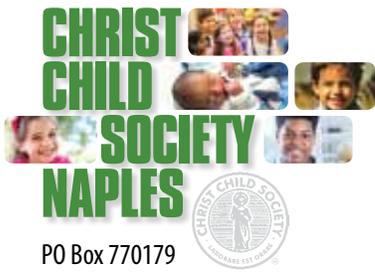
January 15, 2019  
*New Member Tea*

February 12, 2019  
*Founders Luncheon*

April 6, 2019  
*Red Wagon Gala*

## Annual Report Addendum

2017-2018 Donations made to The Christ Child Society of Naples Habitat Scholars Fund accepted and invested through the Community Foundation: IF Gillespie Fund, \$20,000; Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Deal, \$10,000; Mr. David Deal, \$3,000; Flynn Family Foundation (Chris & Kathleen Flynn Fox), \$500; Mr. & Mrs. Peter Manion, \$500.



PO Box 770179  
Naples, FL 34107-0179

[www.christchildnaples.org](http://www.christchildnaples.org)

## 2019 Founders Luncheon

# Founders Luncheon

**Save the Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019

**Location:** Royal Poinciana Country Club

**Time:** 11 am / Lunch at 12:30 pm

\$85 per person Valet parking provided

Guest speaker: The Rev. Lisa Lefkow,  
CEO Habitat for Humanity

Mary Henrikson and her committee are planning  
*Founders Luncheon*, one of our signature events.



**The Rev. Lisa Lefkow**