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Healthier Glades Mini-Grants Promote Wellness and De-Stigmatize Mental Health

[Healthier Glades](#), a Palm Health Foundation [Healthier Together](#) initiative, is kicking off the year by awarding mini-grants ranging from \$2,000 - \$3,000 to nine residents and four nonprofit organizations to implement their ideas for impacting behavioral health in Palm Beach County's western communities, including Belle Glade, Canal Point, Pahokee, and South Bay.

"We believe behavioral health is how we cope with life stressors and

what it means to be healthy and well physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We work with the Glades communities by beginning with the area's natural assets and resources, including family, faith, and friends."

– Annie Ifill, Project Director, Healthier Glades

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A Palm Health Foundation Scholar is Breaking the Chains of Disparity in the Glades

When Palm Health Foundation nursing scholar Dr. Oglesby-Brihm met Annie Ifill, project director of [Healthier Glades](#), her dream to increase healthcare access for the Glades community started to become a reality.

Lack of affordability, transportation, and access to services keeps Glades residents from achieving their full health potential. According to Ifill, many have gone for years without receiving any kind of medical care.

Dr. Oglesby-Brihm's vision was to open a clinic that delivers healthcare services through churches in the Glades, which are places of trust – a deeply needed component for residents who have suffered inequities for generations.

"As a nurse, I had to dig deep to understand how trust holds community back from the services or people who want to serve them in the right way."

– Dr. Jinga Oglesby-Brihm

With Healthier Glades' help, Dr. Oglesby-Brihm established [Empower Healthcare](#) at First United Methodist Church, a primary healthcare center and women's health

provider.

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Valley Bank Provides Seed Funding for Palm Beach County Neuroarts Collaborative

A \$5,000 gift from [Valley Bank](#) is the first of its kind in support of the new Palm Beach County Neuroarts Collaborative convened by Palm Health Foundation. The collaborative brings together local leaders in brain science and the arts, including [the FAU Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute](#), the [Max Plank Florida Institute for Neuroscience](#), the [Cultural Council for Palm Beach County](#), and [The Palm Beaches](#).

The gift will support the collaborative's launch and growth as it focuses on identifying and mapping local partners, programs, resources, and existing research to support the advancement of [neuroarts](#) in South Florida.

"At Valley Bank, we empower our communities to thrive. Linking brain health to the arts through the collaborative will create powerful ways for people to come together and experience the benefits of music, art, dance, and more. We're proud to lead on the local funding for this emerging field and are excited to see the collaborative's impact on our community."

- Charles W. Keys III, Vice President and Corporate Social Responsibility/
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PHF/FAU Fellowship Prepares Future Clinician for Community Change Work

Palm Health Foundation and the FAU College of Social Work & Criminal Justice have partnered through *The Palm Health TriCity Fellowship Fund* to support students in developing job-readiness skills needed to address the mental health and wellness needs of our community. PHF/FAU Fellow Amanda Kopacz shares her experience working with Director of Grants & Evaluation Andy McAusland on the *Glades Life* project and learning how complex community change work truly is.

[Read Amanda's Reflection: "Traveling the Countryside of Complexity"](#)

"FAU is immensely proud of its longstanding partnership with Palm Health Foundation. Generous gifts like this one move our college one step closer to realizing its vision of a more just, resilient, and equitable society that honors the dignity and worth of every person across our one human race. The foundation is blazing a trail that enables our students to thrive and exemplify the power of paying it forward." – Naelys Luna, PhD, MSW, Founding Dean and Professor, FAU College of Social Work & Criminal Justice

Palm Health Foundation in Palm Beach Daily News' Estate Planning Supplement

Contact Carrie Browne, Director of Stewardship & Strategic Partnerships, to learn how you can create lasting impact on health-related causes that matter to you: CarrieB@phfpbc.org, 561-837-2281.

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Advancing Brain Health Through Powerful Partnerships

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