



# KAIR

Since 1998

Keys Area Interdenominational Resources  
Food Pantry and Emergency Services for those in Need in the Middle Keys

## Summer 2017

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The 11<sup>th</sup> Sombrero Beach Run/Walk in March went on without a hitch. Hundreds of runners and walkers enjoyed being at the beach with friends, music, drink and prizes. Oh, and there was a race somewhere in there too! We thank all our sponsors and participants. It is KAIR's largest annual fundraiser and provides much needed funds to help our local neighbors.



## THANK YOU!

St. Columba Episcopal Church has been a wonderful supporter of KAIR through the last 19 years and their support has helped us receive a substantial grant from Episcopal Charities of SE Florida. Here Reverend Debra Maconaughey of St. Columba (who is also Board Chair of KAIR) receives the check from Bonnie Weaver of Episcopal Charities.



## WELCOME HOME!

We all know that Keys housing is one of our biggest obstacles. Often, our local workers can find an apartment but cannot afford to put down the first month's or last month's rent and security deposit. In the first 6 months of 2017, grants from Florida's Dept. of Children and Families along with matching KAIR dollars combined to give rental assistance to 55 families (a total of 116 people including children) to either avoid eviction or to establish a new residence. How rewarding it is to see people establishing permanent housing for themselves and their families! We are able to continue this program with KAIR dollars and DCF dollars.



## KAIR IS SUPPORTED BY UNITED WAY!

We are happy to report that KAIR and Independence Cay are both United Way agencies and recently were awarded grants totaling \$25,000 to be used to feed people. KAIR provides groceries to individuals and families 5 days/week and Independence Cay feeds the homeless a hot, nutritious lunch at the soup kitchen 7 days/week. The United Way of the Florida Keys is led by President/CEO Kate Bauer-Jones and a volunteer board. A primary focus of the local United Way is food and we are so fortunate to receive these grants to fight hunger locally.

## THANK YOU, PUBLIX!

Wherever Publix has a store, they have played an important role in fighting hunger. Our local store in Marathon has been a wonderful partner to the KAIR food pantry. Several times a week, the KAIR van is able to pick up bread, meat, vegetables, etc. to distribute to hungry people. Manager Steve Levine has also supported using the Santa dollars and Bunny dollars to provide thousands of pounds of staples to add to the pantry. Here Cindy Fox is surrounded by some of the 6,000 pounds of food just received from Publix.



## BACK TO SCHOOL

KAIR is getting ready to provide new backpacks, sneakers, and school supplies to local school children from families that struggle with daily expenses. Last year, we provided 150 children with these items. We are asking that you help us out by either purchasing some of these items or donating funds to be used solely for these items. The sneakers are a full range of sizes and backpacks and school supplies are the same since we provide them to children from Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade!

Questions? Referrals? Donations? Volunteering?

Call Marj Roberts at (305) 743-4582

Check Us Out on Facebook! -

KAIR Keys Area Interdenominational Resources

