



PRESS RELEASE

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Blues Angel Music Foundation provides free mp3 players to Council on Aging seniors

(PENSACOLA, FL) Blues Angel Music Foundation (BAMF) has recently donated mp3 players to participants of Council on Aging of West Florida's adult day program, The Retreat. Earlier this year, BAMF began implementing "Bring Back the Rhythm," a program in which seniors of local care and assisted living facilities receive MP3 players with a tailored music catalogue of their choosing. In a number of cases, older adults, and even some with conditions such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Diseases, experience a positive neurological reaction to hearing music from their past. While this program is not intended directly to treat neurological conditions, there are instances in which positive therapeutic benefits have been achieved such as joy and nostalgia.

"Our programs are not curative, but they do improve quality of life," said Nan DeStafney, owner of Blues Angel Music and president of BAMF Foundation. "It's amazing when you can sit in front of somebody and see their eyes just light up."

In September, BAMF joined forces with Lensea Film and Big Jerk Soda Co. to hold the 2nd annual "Chump Change" event at Handlebar which raised \$5,000 for the foundation. One hundred percent of funds procured by BAMF go directly to programs like Bring Back the Rhythm, and Council on Aging is the most recent recipient of the mp3 players. BAMF intends to provide these players to more seniors in the Pensacola area in 2024 and beyond.

"Music is such a powerful tool for enrichment and engagement within the aging community. For some, verbal and personal skills are diminishing, and we can use music to connect with that person," said Jessica Ayers, Council on Aging Adult Day Care Center Director. "Bring Back the Rhythm allows for a device to be used to assist staff in connection with the participant as well as behavior modifications. We are so fortunate to have this program local and available to our center."

The Vision of Blues Angel Music Foundation aims to make a positive impact on the Greater Pensacola Area through the promotion of music education, instruction, and therapy throughout the lifespan of any and every individual it touches. In addition to Bring Back the Rhythm, the foundation also holds community youth drum circles at City of Pensacola resource centers and at Blues on the Bay, the company's signature summer concert series at Hunter Amphitheater.

To learn more about Blues Angel Music Foundation, visit them online at bluesangelmusic.com/foundation or stop by the store at 657 North Pace Boulevard in Pensacola, FL.

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