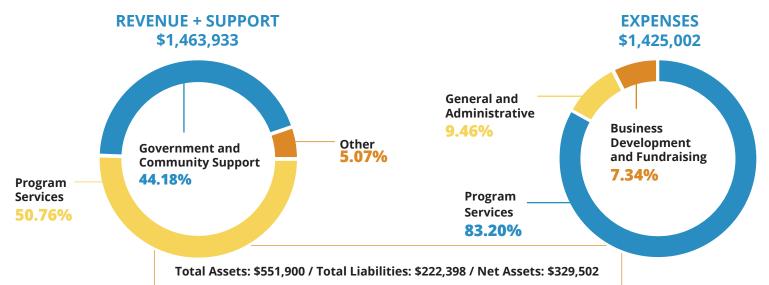
### Annual Report 2020-2021

## **Setting the Standard** for Solutions and Sustainability

The nonprofit profession looks to us daily for solutions that guide and strengthen their mission operations. Our portfolio of resources is strategically developed to anticipate and respond to the changing needs of communities addressed by Florida's nonprofit businesses. The Nonprofits First model is setting a new standard not only for internal operations, but for building strength across the nonprofit sector and increasing market economy.

Nonprofits First leads by example. From board governance to donor and fiduciary stewardship of our finances, we are pleased to present an organizational portrait of stability securing a sustainable future for the work to come.



### See More Honors From 2021 at nonprofitsfirst.org/2021annualreport

ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS **BOARD MEMBERS** COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND SPONSORS PROGRAM AND VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS HATS OFF NONPROFIT AWARDS WINNERS "Nonprofits First makes my job as the founder and CEO much easier. The monthly Board Smart Q & A meetings are making a huge impact. Join Nonprofits First; it is money well-spent! " Vicki Tate, President Alliance of Women Executives (AWE)

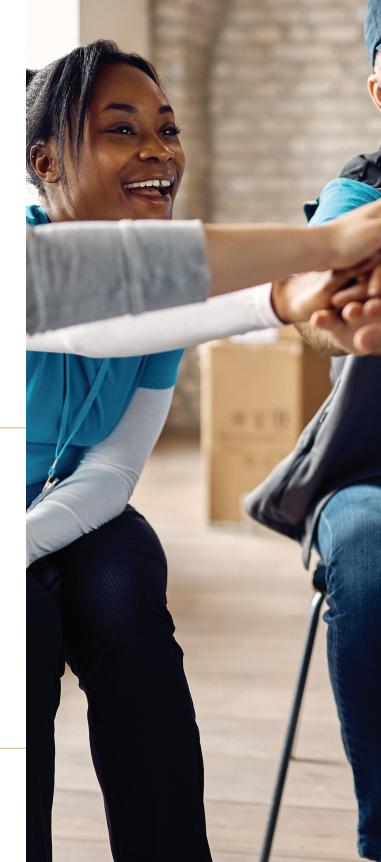
"The Nonprofits First community is nothing short of inspirational. In the past, we helped one grassroots organization raise nearly \$40,000 during one day of giving. Talk about working together to make an impact!" Erica Linguanti, Director of Marketing **Achieve Causes** 



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# tting the Standard for Social Impact



Nonprofits First exists to foster growth and sustainability in the great causes we serve and support. Which means that we, too, must progress in our mission to empower excellence in nonprofit leadership and operations.

The efforts of our board and staff in 2021 took us toward a higher purpose – shaping a clear vision for the future of nonprofit business and our role in advancing it. The impact points we share in this annual update are just the beginning of an evolution as we step up and set the standard for social impact organizations that meet mission and produce the metrics for positive change.

We are proud of many accomplishments in 2021, but three areas stand out and set the standard:

**ACCREDITATION.** The cornerstone of nonprofit success and sustainability, our accreditation program increased access and participation by launching virtual sessions. An unexpected benefit? The support and collaboration shared among organizations as we navigated recent difficulties together in real time.

**ADVANCING LEADERS.** The success of our exclusive leadership development program, Rising Leaders, led to the expansion of a training level for senior-level leaders. Both development programs equip the next generation of nonprofit leaders who will take the sector into the future.

5TH ANNUAL HATS OFF NONPROFIT AWARDS. The 2021 occasion reopened "in-person" events for our local community, which was eager to gather again to honor our most important heroes – our nonprofit worldchangers. With a record number of 172 nominees, HONA 2021 kicked off the season setting the standard for safe and healthy gatherings through touchless registration and safety protocols to prevent COVID-19 illness.

Furthering your mission is our mission. From the Board of Directors and Staff at Nonprofits First, we are honored to serve and support you. The accomplishments we share here are a direct reflection of the vision and strength of our entire sector. We are grateful for every partner and volunteer who remembers that Nonprofits First is also a charitable organization, and furthers our work with their time, expertise and financial support. Thank you for your dedication and believing that nonprofits are building a better, stronger world. Because together we are.

Jessica Cecere, CEO

### **Setting the Standard** *through Accreditation* + *Accomplishment*

Nonprofits First Accredited Agencies are the pride of our mission to drive excellence in nonprofit management and sustainability. The foundation for organizational strength, accreditation assures donors and partners that nonprofit practices are trusted and sound.

### 2021 NEWLY ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS 10 2021 TOTAL ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS 79 2021 TOTAL ACCREDITATION PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS 83

### WHERE DOES NONPROFITS FIRST ACCREDITATION LEAD?

**Greater Capacity**, **Sustainability and Funding** A collective \$100 million was awarded in 2021 to Nonprofits First accredited organizations from funders requiring an accreditation standard.

"Acquiring accreditation through Nonprofits First is a significant milestone for the Faulk Center. It opens up many new funding opportunities and has established a strong operational foundation for the future of the Faulk Center. All the hard work required to obtain this will further us and play an important role in the ability to expand and stay strong for many years to come." Gwenesia Collins, President **Board of Trustees** 

100% of Rising and Advancing Leaders graduates attribute growth and improved

Leveraged **Resources** 25 accredited organizations were recognized by their funders for collaborations that resulted in greater mission outcomes.

#### **Growth**, **Prosperity** and Higher Impact 100% of accredited organizations surveyed cite higher quality and performance in all aspects of operations and mission impact.

### **STANDOUT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2021**

#### Membership

Nonprofit Members returned to pre-pandemic levels, grew to our greatest number yet: 238 Rising Leaders and Advancing Leaders were invited to try membership benefits. Affiliate Members providing professional development, support and guidance grew to 75.

Celebrating 405 Total Leadership Graduates through 2021! Rising Leaders 2021 program graduates: 21 Advancing Leaders 2021 program graduates: 11 Recent program participants logged an incredible 2,560 volunteer hours on four Service-Learning Projects benefitting local causes.

#### Education

Professional Workshops delivered grew to 456 including Rising Leaders and Advancing Leaders cohorts while virtual presentations offered greater access to one-day seminars and multi-day series. Workshop Participants soared to over 1,100.