UPLIFT Florida Network’s mission is to improve the well-being of individuals and communities via a network of villages and organizations supporting them. For more information or to get involved, contact UPLIFT Formation Body’s chairperson Emile Gauvreau: revgauvreau@protonmail.com.

Sarasota County’s Age-Friendly “Trifecta”
By Sue Firestone Berger, Sarasota County’s Aging System Policy Coordinator

According to the Urban Dictionary, a trifecta is a perfect group of three...winning three times. Sarasota has just reached the “Age-Friendly Trifecta!”

Sarasota County became Florida’s first age-friendly community in 2015. Sarasota Memorial Hospital followed in 2019 when it was designated as an Age-Friendly Health System and received recognition for being committed to excellent care. Completing the trifecta is the recent acknowledgment of The Florida Department of Health in Sarasota (DOH-Sarasota) as the first local health department in the nation to be recognized as an Age-Friendly Public Health System by Trust for America’s Health (TFAH). Read more here.

Spotlight on Tidewell via Debbie Mason, President of Tidewell Foundation

Tidewell Foundation’s Never Alone Initiative engages community partners to identify solutions addressing older-adult isolation and ensuring a full life in physical, social, emotional and mental realms. Tidewell Foundation’s long-term objective is to serve as a catalyst and convener with partners, creating improved education, advocacy, and thought leadership around senior-related health and wellness issues.

Tidewell Foundation is expanding...
Volunteer Spotlight: Brenda MacKay

Brenda MacKay has been a volunteer with UPLIFT since August 2020. That’s when a group of four people, inspired by the neighbor-helping-neighbor philosophy of the village movement, decided to form a village in Sarasota. She continues to share her many gifts as the organization’s scope expands to create a hub and network of villages. Brenda supports the technology required for the successful formation of UPLIFT and its administrative functions.

To meet our goal of a live website by the end of 2021, we need volunteers interested in setting up well-designed, easy-to-use web pages within Helpful Village and help with writing talent to create informative and compelling content.

Questions? Need more information? Contact Brenda at mackaybrenda@yahoo.com.

UPLIFT Florida Network – An Innovative Model to Scale Impact

By Joel Shapira, Board Member Emeritus, Village to Village Network

Through my efforts to spark the reimagining of the national village movement, I recognized the need for a new model to amplify the essence of villages – neighbors helping neighbors – with exponentially greater impact in the number and manner in which people are supported in their homes and communities. By creating a statewide infrastructure, UPLIFT Florida Network does just that. I am invested in helping UPLIFT succeed because I recognize the potential for more sophisticated, revenue-generating collaborations that support the operations of the village infrastructure. UPLIFT is pioneering an effort to adopt public-private strategic partnerships leading to a more sustainable and inclusive village framework that has the potential to be emulated nationally. I envision a thrilling journey through 2022 and beyond.
WE WISH YOU A
Happy New Year!

As 2021 comes to a close, the UPLIFT Florida Network team gratefully acknowledges the support and goodwill we have received this year. May the gifts of love, peace, and joy be yours this holiday season.