Of the many gifts our work in philanthropy has given back to us since The Patterson Foundation’s (TPF) inception in 2010, the stories of those strengthened by that work are some of our most cherished. Even more than a decade into our journey as changemakers, we never cease to be humbled and inspired by the personal accounts of the people, organizations, and communities able to turn their aspirations into actions through their participation in TPF’s initiatives and endeavors.

The opportunity to share that inspiration throughout TPF’s network and beyond has long motivated our approach to communications and storytelling.

This pursuit has led to the latest evolution of TPF’s approach to storytelling: our new multimedia storytelling platform, Beyond The Blog. In each edition of Beyond The Blog, you will find a collection of engaging content featuring stories of the people, organizations, and communities strengthened through the Foundation’s work.

We look forward to sharing our stories with you as we begin our journey. I encourage you to join that journey by signing up to receive our monthly editions here.

With happy anticipation for the stories to be told,
President and CEO, Debra Jacobs

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**SUNCOAST REMAKE LEARNING DAYS**

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading will present Suncoast Remake Learning Days, an exciting 10-day, free, regional learning festival from Friday, April 21, 2023, through Sunday, April 30, 2023, in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. This multi-venue open house will celebrate the joy of adults and children learning side by side.

Suncoast Remake Learning Days, presented by the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading with support from The Patterson Foundation, will consist of more than 200 events over 10 days hosted by organizations, including schools, museums, libraries, after-school organizations, early child care centers, universities, media outlets, and more.

All events are free and designed to be hands-on, relevant, and engaging educational experiences for youth of all ages (PreK through high school) and their families, caregivers, and educators. Suncoast Remake Learning Days gives us the opportunity to spark learning innovation. This festival is a fun and creative way to establish and affirm parents and families as learning allies.
Our region’s shared commitment to helping people, organizations, and communities weather significant disasters has long inspired The Patterson Foundation’s support for opportunities such as Season of Sharing, which provides givers throughout the Suncoast an outlet for their generosity. Under the dedicated watch of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and the Herald-Tribune Media Group, Season of Sharing has forged a reputation of excellence in safeguarding people and families in times when undue financial hardship threatens their dignity and security. By covering emergency payments for crucial expenses such as rent, transportation, or utility bills, Season of Sharing has protected 44,500 people in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties from succumbing to the worst outcomes of an unexpected disaster.

The outstanding $3.67 million raised by our region during the 2022–2023 iteration of Season of Sharing illustrates the power of that altruistic commitment. Despite the recent struggles felt in some way by all who call our region home, the need to help others — and our awareness of this opportunity to do so — prevailed once more. Along the way, The Patterson Foundation provided a total of six separate $100,000 contributions for every $500,000 raised by our region to sustain donor momentum throughout the campaign.

As a response to Hurricane Ian, the Community Foundation of Sarasota County has activated the Suncoast Disaster Recovery Fund, the result of a conversation between Debra Jacobs, President/CEO of The Patterson Foundation, and me. With TPF’s initial generous gift of $500,000 and matching funds up to $750,000, givers were inspired. We hoped it might become a $2 million fund to help address long-term recovery for our communities, supporting a macro-level approach that would help deliver strategic remedies to challenges that may not be top of mind now, but will reveal themselves in time. Unbelievably, the fund has gained enormous attention and giving, and astonishing generosity has helped us raise nearly $5 million to date.