

Robert Finder Endowment

Dr. Karen E. Finder, Co-Founder and former President of the GAL7 Foundation, suddenly lost her husband of 39 years, Robert ("Bob") Finder, on June 13, 2017. Mr. Finder was a strong advocate of the idea that we are "our brother's keeper" and as a society we must help all those who are less fortunate to live a better life with hope for the future.



During his years as Chief Negotiator for the State of Connecticut, he implemented the Workers Compensation Unit and negotiated an overhaul of the state employee pension system, which allowed 5,300 state workers to avoid the pension crisis that plagued many other states. His advocacy included post-retirement teaching in the Teenage Parent Program at Hartford Public Schools, helping teens earn their high school diplomas. To honor Bob's life of service and love for his family and friends, The Foundation has set up the Robert Finder Endowment. Donations can be made by sending a check to GAL7 Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 350707, Palm Coast, Florida 32135-0707 (in the memo section, indicate for Robert Finder Endowment) or by donating online at www.GAL7Foundation.org

School Supplies

This year 90 backpacks stuffed with a school shirt and a special pencil were provided across Circuit 7. The pencils were imprinted: "I am a special child!" There were a few left over so if your child needs a backpack please submit a funding request.

Thank You, GALs

The GALs in Circuit 7 are a fabulous group of volunteers who contribute greatly to the children every day. Your care and protection during a crisis, such as Hurricane Irma, goes above and beyond and is deeply appreciated.

Daytona Office Relocated Due to Hurricane Damage

NSB Courthouse Annex

New address: 124 N. Riverside Drive, NSB, FL 32168

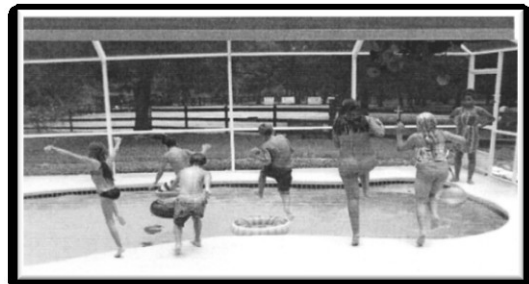
A Message from Your President

We exist to meet the needs (basic, emergency and incentive/inspirational) of kids in foster care within Florida's Judicial Circuit Seven as presented by their Guardian ad Litem Volunteer Advocates. Our newsletter is an effort to provide communication between the Foundation and the Circuit GALs. We are here for you and the children we all serve.

It is our firm belief we can "break the cycle of dependency" one child at a time! We can do so much more than meet basic needs of kids taken from all they know—often in the clothes they are standing in—and dropped into a system filled with strangers, rules and expectations they do not understand. In fear and anger, these children fall back on the behaviors, skills and attitudes which resulted in their being identified as abused, neglected or abandoned.



Help us break the cycle!
Donate now! Every dollar counts.



How your dollars count

This past summer the GAL7 Foundation provided 24 scholarships to children from Volusia, St. Johns, Flagler and Putnam counties. These 24 children attended a 3-day summer camp at Whispering Meadows Ranch near Flagler Beach. These joy-filled days provided swimming, arts and crafts, games, horseback riding and more; all contributing to normalcy for these children. The Foundation plans to fund scholarships for children to attend next year. Would you like to sponsor a child?



We are pleased to say **THANK YOU** to Publix Supermarkets for a \$500 grant to be used for infant needs such as diapers, pack and plays, car seats, formula, etc

Additional Volunteers Needed

Do you, or do you know someone, who has a passion for helping children in need? We encourage you and/or your friend to contact us. Both Board Members or Committee Volunteers are needed. Board Secretary Brenda Hagedorn will be happy to answer your questions at 845-853-4467 or email bhagedorn10@gmail.com

Funding for Child Activities



The children are officially back in school which means sports, art, girl scouts, field trips, etc. These activities contribute to normalcy for your dependent children. A friendly reminder that your Foundation stands ready to help you provide these and other normalcy activities. Complete a Funding Request on our website at www.gal7foundation.org and please contact the funding committee chairperson, Andrea Wozniak for assistance: anwoznia44@gmail.com or call her at 386-871-6627

Steps to a Quickly Processed Funding Request

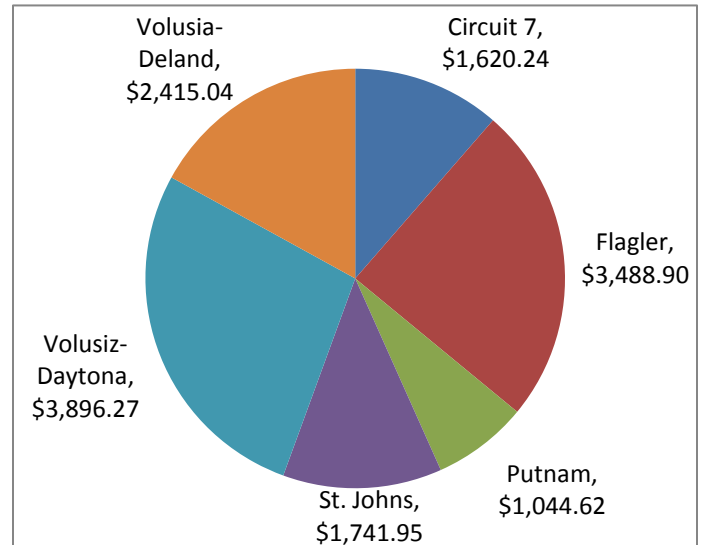
1. Discuss your need with your CAM
2. Visit GAL7Foundation.org website to identify other possible funding and advise what other funding has been explored
3. Get Funding Request Form from GAL7Foundation.org
4. Fill out the form in *specific* detail of child's needs (size, color, quantity, item#, etc.)
5. Advise how (pickup/delivery), where and to whom item is to be delivered.
6. Submit online for fast processing. Questions? email directly to Funding Chair anwoznia44@gmail.com
7. Upon approval by the Funding Committee, you will receive funding and be responsible for providing receipts (unless item is available & ordered by the Foundation through Wal-Mart)

Further questions, please email the Vice-President of the Foundation at anwoznia44@gmail.com

During 2016, requests totaling \$13,712.77 were approved and paid within Circuit 7.

2017 Requests Funded Through August 31, 2017

Total \$14,211.77



Raise Funds for Your Foundation!

AMAZON SMILE is a really easy way to raise funds for your Foundation at NO COST to you. Same low prices, large selection, and easy to shop and ship—just as you shop on Amazon. Go to www.smile.amazon.com, then select GAL7Foundation, Inc. Your purchase will result in contribution to your Foundation.

eBay FOR CHARITY

eBay for Charity helps buyers to make a donation during check out, sellers to see items to support a charity and non-profits to sell items to benefit their organizations. You will have the option of donating 10%-100% of your selling proceeds.

- Search for eBay Charity
- Click on Charity Search
- Enter GAL7 Foundation, Inc. in search box
- Click on Learn More
- Two Choices: Sell for Charity or Make a Donation
- You will be directed to a page with a video. It will walk you through the process

Volunteer Support Grants

Thousands of companies offer monetary grants to eligible non-profits when their employees volunteer their non-paid time to these organizations. The exact amount of the grant depends upon the number of hours the employee volunteers per year. The grants range from \$250--\$1,000. and are a way for companies to recognize and encourage volunteerism by their employees. Here are a few companies that offer volunteer grant programs: Allstate, Bank of America, CVS, Kohls, Starbucks, Comcast,, Home Depot and Walmart. If you think you may work for a company that has this program, please contact your company request the forms and we would be happy to help you complete them. Contact Board Member Deb Dunning at 821-369-1554 or email debddunning@hotmail.com

Grant for Recruitment

In Spring 2016, we applied for and were awarded a grant of \$10,000 from the Frank V. Oliver, Jr. Endowment (administered by the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida) to be used to develop a public relations campaign to recruit additional GAL Advocates for Putnam County. By the end of June 2017, 25 new Advocates have signed up to become GALs!



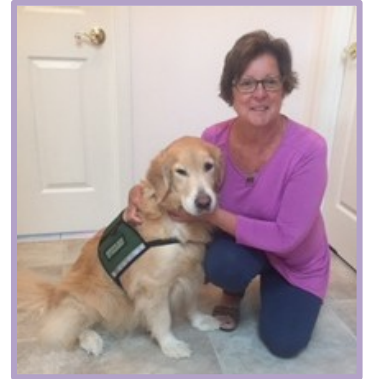
Foundation Board President
Beverly Naylor and Ms. Joyce
Oliver at the Kickoff Luncheon

A special thanks to long time GAL Russ Miller. He and his fellow Rotarians donated all the food and beverages for the kick off luncheon event.

Our success was accomplished due to the cooperation between our eleven-member Board of Directors and GAL recruiters, Kim Taylor and Lauren Manville. Kim and Lauren's efforts do not end with the grant; they will work to build on the momentum of last year's recruitment blitz with the hope of adding additional Advocates to the Putnam County GAL Program.

Pandora

On July 1st, a law went into effect authorizing therapy dogs in Courts throughout Florida. Therefore, GAL7 Foundation, Inc. is delighted to introduce our long awaited pilot program, Friends of Pandora, providing a dog therapy team to Flagler County Dependency Courts and the Flagler County Guardian ad Litem Program.



Pandora is a 4-year old golden retriever from New Horizons Service Dogs, Inc. Donna Brown, a certified Flagler GAL and the GAL7 Foundation's Treasurer, is her handler. Pandora has over two years extensive advanced training and has trained with Donna for an additional two years.

The bond between dogs and children is magical, providing emotional relief for the children during anxious and stressful times. Pandora's "job" may include accompanying those children afraid to appear in court, entertaining the children waiting in the hallways for their appearance before the Judge, and accompanying the supervision of children after their appearance before the Judge. Future plans involve expanding the program to the other counties in Circuit 7.

Pandora loves people! When Pandora has her vest on, she is in "working mode" and should only be greeted after permission from her handler. Any questions about *Friends of Pandora* should be directed to Donna Brown at dstollbrown@gmail.com or 904-614-7034.

Save the Dates

December 2, 2017 Dunn's Attic Christmas Pancake Breakfast with Santa. Tickets \$5 8:30-10:30 a.m. More details to follow.

December 16, 2017 Christmas Party at the Flagler County Fairgrounds