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# Our Town News

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**Not Your Ordinary Magazine — But Extraordinary!!**



**Food, Fun And  
Giving At Gateway  
Community Outreach  
Silent Auction  
Fundraiser**

By Nicol Jenkins, Editor



**I**t was a night of fun and giving back to a great cause at the Gateway Community Outreach Silent Auction Fundraiser and Community Awareness Event.

Many community supporters and leaders came out for the fundraiser which was held on July 29th at Vibe Las Olas in Fort Lauderdale. A fun time was had by all attendees who enjoyed drinks, complimentary appetizers, mingling with guests, viewing a sparkling new Audi from Audi of Coral Springs, and bidding on silent auction prizes, such as a day at the golf course at the Coral Springs Country Club at a value of \$400, a romantic beach getaway at the luxurious Embassy Suites Hotel and Spa in Deerfield Beach at a value of \$200 and a ride on the Goodyear Blimp with a value of \$500, and many more prizes. All the funds



From left, Alan Kirschman of Audi Coral Springs, Carol A. Ray, President/CEO of Gateway Community Outreach, and Bill Reichert of BR Signs.

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raised benefited Gateway Community Outreach in Deerfield Beach.

For 18 years, Gateway's mission has been to actively address the issue of hunger and seek to safeguard and protect our most vulnerable community members. Unlike other organizations, Gateway Community Outreach has a 90-day treatment plan which focuses on stabilization to help the entire family. They also offer emergency assistance through their food and ancillary services.

"This is a community awareness event with the goal of bringing different people from different sections of Broward County together," said Carol Ray, Founder of Gateway Community Outreach. "There are very few prevention programs that prevent homelessness and work with the families. We help 8,000 families per year and have six sites.

We realize that one person can make a difference in the world."

Carol spoke about the organization and thanked all the supporters and sponsors of Outreach, including Our Town News. Their Corporate Foundation Funders were also honored and included Enterprise Rent-A-Car, FPL, Jarden Consumer Solutions, Publix Supermarkets Charities, Sun-Sentinel Children's Fund a McCormick Foundation Fund, TD Bank, TJX Company, and WalMart.

"I love this organization and the dedication that Carol has. What's different about Gateway is that they are not just giving people the fish, they are teaching them how to fish," said Anne Tanis, International Tax Director at Jarden Corporation.

Florida House Representative of District 92 Gwyndolen Clarke-Reed, who was a Deerfield Beach City Commissioner, also supported the cause. "This is an organization that came about during my time as a Deerfield Beach City Commissioner and it grew. It has supported the City and the community. With the economy the way it is now, so many people are in need and Gateway Community Outreach has stepped up to the plate."

Helping find jobs and getting them on the right track to financial independence is another main focus of Gateway. They also provide food, clothing, a month of rent, payment for a water bill and more services.

"I have seen people get jobs and the help they need. It is great to be able to honor people that have helped us so we can help others," said Sheri Benton, site liaison, employment liaison and case manager for Gateway Community Outreach.

**Gateway Community Outreach is located at 291 SE 1st Terrace, Deerfield Beach. For more information, call 954-725-8434. You can also visit their website at [www.gcoflorida.org](http://www.gcoflorida.org).**