



7,026
dreams
came true
in 2024!

Annual Report 2024

January 1 – December 31, 2024

WE WON'T REST UNTIL EVERY CHILD HAS A BED OF THEIR OWN



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A NOTE FROM SUZY

Dear friends,

For eight years, our program has remained true to its mission, without losing sight of its sole purpose: to get children off the floor and into a bed of their own. When asked, "What's new?" at Sweet Dream Makers, our response is steadfast – it's not a new project, or deviating from *A Bed of My Own*® – it's the volume of impact.

The families referred to us face challenging times – working with nearly 200 social service agency partners, we answer the call to solve their situational bedlessness. Your belief in the efficiency and empowerment of our program changes lives daily. With humility and fortitude, we have provided **nearly 30,000 beds since 2017**. Your dedication to our program ensures that our neighbors live with dignity, and their children feel safe in a bed of their own.

Because you chose to stay steadfast with us this past year, your support delivered a record 7,026 beds in 2024, averaging 600 beds per month. Now in our 9th year of operation, 2025 is on track to exceed last year's impact.

I was honored with an Opal Award in January 2024 from The Rotary Club of Boca Raton, chosen by supporters who have witnessed our evolution and expansion to meet the staggering need. Our vision remains clear, and our program is transparent, with direction from my Board of Directors, who oversee all aspects of our program. Each member offers their time, talent, *and* treasure, facilitating our growth throughout South Florida.

Thanks to you, no child has ever had to wait to receive a *Bed of Their Own* from Sweet Dream Makers. Our community's capacity to give is unmatched, and your belief in our mission is *fully understood*. I invite you to read about our impact in our 2024 Annual Report, and I hope you are proud and confident in our work. With great admiration and appreciation, *thank you for making sweet dreams come true!*

All my very best,

Suzanne Broad, Founder and Executive Director of Sweet Dream Makers



In 2024, a family of five was living in a two-bedroom apartment with another family. The father worked, but due to their low income, they couldn't afford any furniture. The parents and their three children, including a 10-month-old baby, all shared one room and slept on the floor.

Thanks to a referral of their circumstance from Boys Town to Sweet Dreams Makers, their situation significantly improved. The two older boys, aged 10 and 7, now share a bunk bed, allowing them to have their own space to sleep and the baby sleeps safely in a crib, as the infant is currently recovering from head trauma after falling out of bed while co-sleeping with his parents. The parents have their own bed to eliminate co-sleeping, and have noticed a remarkable improvement in the entire family's sleep quality and overall mood – and shared that they feel more energetic and well-rested since they can now sleep comfortably and safely.

This change has been especially meaningful for the 10-year-old, whose mother passed away two years ago. Since then, and due to their low income, his stepmother has felt unable to provide him with something of his own. With the new bed, she believes their relationship at home will improve, and he will feel more like he belongs to the family. She hopes this will also reduce the jealousy he feels from having to share everything with his 7-year-old brother.



The positive impact on children having their own bed and getting a good night's sleep cannot be overstated. The Boca West Children's Foundation and my family have supported SDM since its inception. Over the years we have been dazzled by their ability to scale its operation to meet the needs of ever-growing numbers of at-risk children without beds. This charity changes the trajectory of kids' lives, and we love partnering with them!"

— **Richard Zenker**

Chairman of the Boca West Children's Foundation

MISSION

Sweet Dream Makers® improves the health and well-being of children and families by providing beds, bedding, and essential furniture.

VISION

We won't rest until every child sleeping on the floor, sharing beds, or sleeping in unsafe, unsanitary conditions has a bed of their own.

In 2024, Sweet Dream Makers provided 7,026 beds to local children and their families.

Through our flagship program, A Bed of My Own®, children and their families in need are referred through our network of nearly 200 social service providers and receive at no cost:

- A new mattress
- A mattress protector
- Box spring, bed frame, or platform
- Complete bedding set chosen by the children
- Fresh pillows



Because of Sweet Dream Makers, no child has ever had to wait to receive a bed of their own, despite the 13.5% increase in requests from 2023 to 2024.

WHO WE SERVE

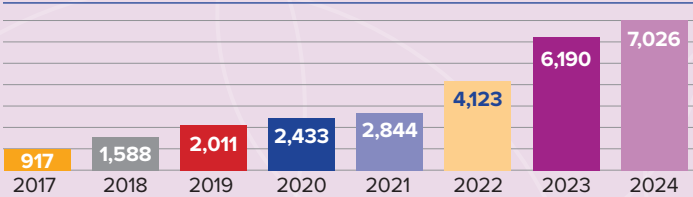
Most families we serve are low-wage earners — individuals who, despite working one or more jobs, need assistance to ensure they have a safe, clean, and appropriate place to sleep each night. Given their economic vulnerability and the continuing struggle for affordable housing, these families faced extraordinary challenges in 2024.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

Our dedication to serving the South Florida community continued in Broward County with expected, exponential growth, with 2,778 beds provided in 2024. These efforts were bolstered to new heights with the support of the Community Foundation of Broward, FloridaBlue Fdn, and Memorial Fdn. Furthering our reach to neighbors in Miami/Dade, The Al and Jane Nahmed Family Foundation championed the expansion for the past two years and is committed to supporting our mission in the future. In addition to geographical growth, we also served veterans, senior citizens, disabled adults, and young adults who have aged out of foster care across South Florida. These efficient and effective solutions to bedlessness are possible thanks to our dedicated mattress suppliers, Sleep EZ Mattress and Furniture, and City Mattress.

BY THE NUMBERS

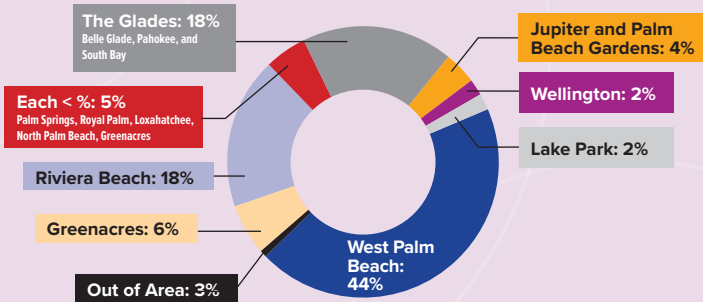
Total Beds Provided



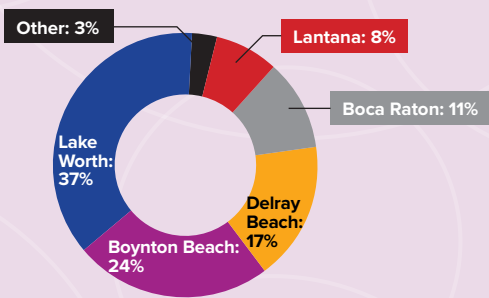
People Served in 2024



North Palm Beach County Service



South Palm Beach County Service



BROWARD COUNTY SERVICE NOW 40% OF OUR PROGRAM!

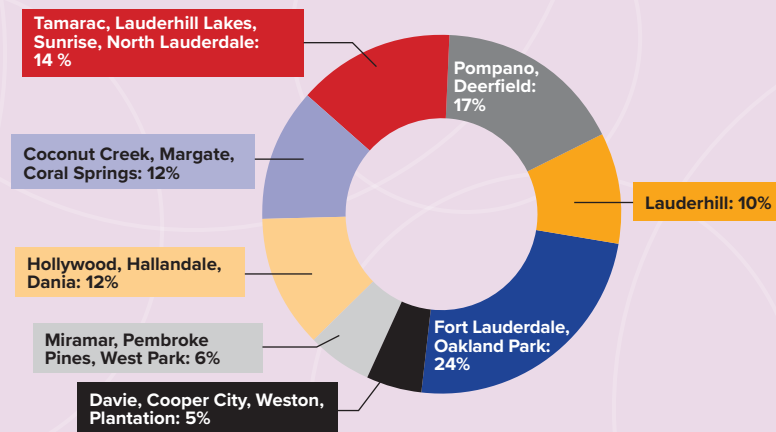
Poverty has far-reaching impacts on individuals, families, and communities. It can lead to education, health, employment, and overall well-being issues, often perpetuating a cycle of intergenerational hardship. In Broward County, many households struggle to make ends meet and face barriers to economic mobility. Local data indicates that nearly half of Broward households live paycheck-to-paycheck or below the poverty line.

Poverty can create considerable stress for families; when combined with limited access to vital resources, it can further exacerbate health conditions and make everyday life more challenging. And while many factors of poverty seem out of our control, making sure children and families have a bed to sleep in at night in their own homes isn't one of them. Through our A Bed of My Own® program, Sweet Dream Makers has become a critical lifeline for those experiencing bedlessness in Broward County – over 40% of all beds provided in 2024.

With referrals from community partners increasing by 36% from 2023 to 2024, we are steadfast in our efforts to continue serving those in need in Broward County.



Broward Expansion



In 2024, **2,778** beds were provided to families in Broward County — **40%** of all beds this year.

Some notable Broward County agencies include: Ann Storck Center, Community Based Connections, Gulf Coast Jewish Family Comm. Ser., Harmony Development Center, Hispanic Unity of Florida, JAFCO, Kids in Distress, Memorial Healthcare Systems, Women in Distress — and many more.

Funders: Community Fdn of Broward, Florida Blue Fdn, Florida Panthers Fdn, The Harry T. Mangurian Jr. Fdn, Memorial Fdn, The Jim Moran Fdn, Ronald McDonald House Charities, The William R. Watts Fdn and more.

Miami Dade Expansion

393 beds and bedding were provided to our neighbors in Miami-Dade County, a **189%** increase from 2023 to 2024!

COLLABORATION

Our support of social service agencies has grown to nearly 200 partnerships in 2024, including collaborations with organizations that assist at-risk families with wraparound services, affordable housing, escaping domestic violence, or overcoming homelessness.

These agencies – already near and dear to our donors' hearts – support our neighbors with vital services to help get on their feet. Often, despite having jobs, families do not have enough income for basic necessities, let alone purchasing essential furniture — specifically beds. Because of our program, trusted case managers who understand each family's needs can now ask, "What are your children sleeping on at night?" After careful vetting and detailed referral information, an answer with an immediate solution to bedlessness has been made possible by Sweet Dream Makers.



*On the Cover: Family referred to us by
The Delray Beach Police Department*

Having your own bed is a huge part of having a home. In 2024, 317 parents and children who were recently experiencing homelessness were able to get tucked into their beds as a result of the work of Sweet Dream Makers. We are beyond fortunate to have this partnership – the ease of referral, the health benefits, and the passion and grace of their team inspire us daily. On behalf of AAF – thank you for ensuring that the families and children we house have a safe place to rest. ”

– Matt Constantine, Chief Executive Officer at Adopt-a-Family Palm Beach County

Social service agencies continued to request beds and cribs for children and families in need as an essential element of health, safety, and dignity. Our partners include:

Achievement Centers for
Children and Families
Adopt-a-Family
Agency for Persons with
Disabilities
Alpert Jewish Family Services
American Association of
Caregiving Youth
Ann Storck Center
ARC Broward
AVDA-Aid to Victims of
Domestic Abuse
Boys Town SoFI
Bridges of PBC
Broward Children's Center
Broward Housing Solutions
Broward Sheriff's Office
Caridad Center
Catholic Charities Diocese PBC
Center for Child Counseling
Child First
Child Net

Children's Harbor
Children's Home Society
Chrysalis Health
Citrus Health Network
CityHouse
Community Based Connections
Community Partners
DCF (Dept of Children &
Families)
Delray Beach Police Dept
Families First of PBC
Family Central Inc
Family Promise
Farmworkers Coordinating
Council
FLITE Center
Guardian ad Litem
Gulf Coast Jewish Family
Community Service
Gulfstream Goodwill
Habitat for Humanity
Harmony Development Center

Healthy Beginnings Nurses
Healthy Mothers, Healthy
Babies
Henderson Behavioral Health
Hispanic Unity of Florida
Home Safe
HOPE South Florida
Jack and Jill Center
JAFCO
Jewish Community Services of
SoFI
Kids in Distress / KID First
Kristi House
Memorial Healthcare System
Mental Health America
Mujeres Latinas
One Hope United
PBC Division of Senior Services
PBC Human and Veteran
Services
PBC School District
PBSO

Pickett Fences Family of SoFI
Rales Jewish Family Services
Salvation Army-Pathway of
Hope
Smith Community Mental
Health
SOS Children's Village
Stand Down House /
Faith Hope Love
Start Off Smart Inc
Taskforce for Ending
Homelessness
The Hands and Feet of Florida
Ukrainian Refugee
Resettlement Project
Urban League of Broward Cty
Urban Youth Impact
Vita Nova
Women in Distress
YWCA - Harmony House
And many more!

IMPROVING BEHAVIOR, GRADES, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SLEEP QUALITY

In 2024, Sweet Dream Makers saw a 13% increase in bed requests year-over-year. The continuous stream of applications stemmed from social service agencies becoming more aware of our mission to lift children and families up and into safe, comfortable beds of their own.

Students throughout our local schools are all too familiar with the challenges their families face. Children and teens sleeping on the floor and sharing mattresses are not maintaining adequate sleep. They feel embarrassed and often struggle with mental health. For many parents, a bed is a luxury item they cannot afford. 80% of the families surveyed reported that their school-aged children who received a bed from Sweet Dream Makers improved their grades, behavior, and homework habits. Nearly 100% stated improved quality of life, including physical health, sense of security, dignity, and mental well-being.

Our 7th Annual Back-To-School appeal bolstered our tireless efforts to bring relief to school-aged children. For the 5th year in a row, this effort was doubled by the generous support of Hands On Tzedakah (“HOT”), whose bed-for-bed matching grant of \$30,000 yielded an impressive 256 beds for local students to start the school year off with the most essential school supply... a good night’s sleep.

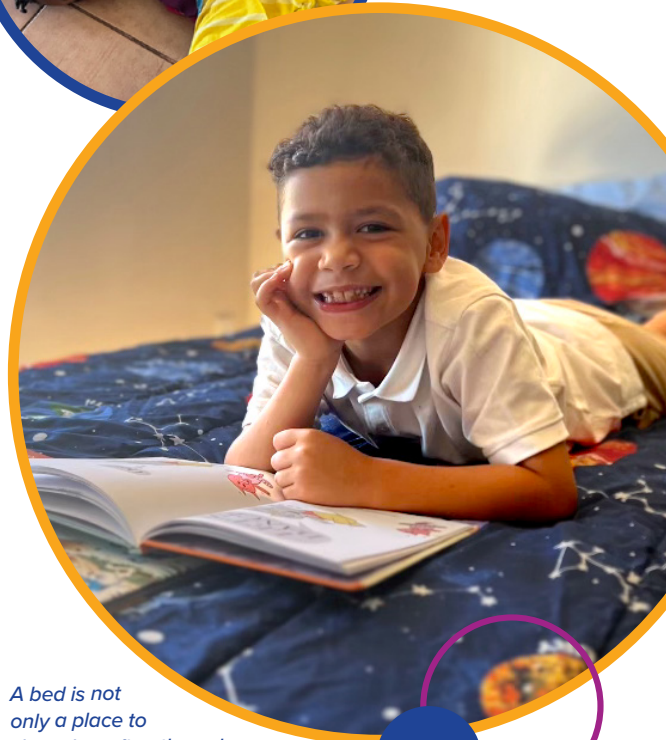
As a Community Mental Health Worker, my work extends beyond providing support. It navigates the intricate challenges faced by families who have endured trauma and hardship. I’ve witnessed firsthand how something as simple as a bed can transform lives. SDM has been a vital partner in this process, offering stability and hope to families transitioning from homelessness to secure housing. The gift of a bed is more than just a piece of furniture; it symbolizes safety, comfort, and renewal for these families. Witnessing the profound emotional and psychological transformation in both parents and children after receiving beds reminds us of how critical collaboration and compassion are in our shared mission to heal and uplift our community.”

– Kenneth Jones

Mental Health Worker at Mental Health America of Southeast Florida



Case managers report causes of bedlessness, such as families who are recently homeless, escaped domestic violence, bed bugs, mold, cannot afford storage, economic hardship, eviction, and more.



A bed is not only a place to sleep, but often the only personal space a child has to read, study, or have quiet time.

Our post-delivery surveys to families reported that

Nearly 80% of children who receive **A Bed of Their Own®** report improved behavior, grades, and quality of sleep.



MAKING A HOUSE A HOME: OUR WAREHOUSE PROGRAM

In 2024, our Warehouse Program supported over 200 families by providing essential furniture at no cost to recipients who needed more than beds and bedding. Over 1,200 like-new items were distributed to SDM recipients, keeping the furniture out of landfills and bringing dignity to our neighbors in need.

Our Warehouse Program, funded in its entirety by the Pat Moran Family Foundation, supports our mission to provide essential furniture, in addition to beds, to make a house a home.

Continual funding for our Stock the Shelves initiative provides new kitchen items such as pots and pans, dishes, and silverware. Vision-driven supporters supply like-new or gently used inventory year after year!

Local businesses continue to support our mission with mattresses gifted by City Mattress. Baers Furniture and Casper donated hundreds of pillows, and Vertical Bridge hosted another employee volunteer day, building student desks and dinette sets. Exclusive Flooring Collection deepened its commitment as a partner to contribute dozens of rugs every month to add a comfortable flooring layer to families' living spaces. Multiple organizations, including Shutts Law Firm, Spanish River Christian School, Natural Healing Wellness Center, and Ready Set Grow Pre-School, hosted "Bed In A Bag" donation drives to collect new bedding sets to stock our shelves so that children could "go shopping" and choose their bedding.

Thank you to our local business partners who contributed to our Warehouse Program in 2024:



HONORING A WOMAN OF EMPATHY AND ACTION: SWEET DREAM MAKERS' VERY OWN JODI IJAC

"I feel like I'm the luckiest member of the Sweet Dream Makers Team because I get to interact so closely with the people we're helping. The families we serve at the Warehouse come from many different circumstances or walks of life and they find themselves in need. Perhaps they just got housing, but the apartment is empty and I get to help them piece together their home. I hear endless stories of generational poverty from people who didn't have parents to guide them. I get to step in like a mother and help, such as explaining why we should use mattress protectors to prolong the lifetime of a mattress – a helpful tip that no one ever taught them the benefit of.

The sense of community is truly incredible. Recipients are so grateful for the opportunity to furnish their homes and don't want to take more than they need. They feel for others and want to make sure there's enough inventory for their neighbors. I tell them, 'Don't ever be afraid to call me and ask if we have something in stock,' – and their gratitude continues. They send me photos on Christmas with their family, eating at their dinner table with dishes WE gave them. We've grown so much over the years and I'm blessed to have this role. It's like putting frosting on a cake with unconditional love."



EVENTS

Our Sweet Dream Makers' Board Members, Ambassadors, and Volunteers have continued to put their passion into action in 2024, hosting annual events and in new neighborhoods and clubs. Highlights included:



Suzy & Brian Broad with Emily & Neil Kishter, Annual Mission Sponsors and Boozy Bingo Event Hosts

Our **Inaugural Boozy Bingo at Woodfield Country Club** brought new awareness to West Boca. Hosted by Annual Mission Sponsors Emily and Neil Kishter, they inspired their friends and neighbors – ladies and gentlemen – to join in on an electric evening of bingo, premier silent auction items, and knowledge of our mission, raising funds to provide 322 beds.



Event Chairwomen Cristina Lewis and Alejandra with Scales Apparel Sponsor, Sabrina Williams, and Suzy Broad

Our **2nd Annual Court of Dreams Tennis & Pickleball Tournament** inspired 60 women ready to game, set, dream! Hosted at Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club, the morning included two rounds with a mid-session brunch, plus raffle items, socialization, and the continuation of a joyful new event.



Sponsor Dianne Fine with her card game team "Royally Fine Pajama Mamas"

Our **5th Annual Pajama Game Night** sold out yet again at Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, with 250 ladies dressed in their finest PJs for the card party of the year! Special thanks to our dedicated committee as well as Presenting Sponsor, Michelle Hagerty, for their unending support of this fun-filled event!



Event Chairmen & Board Members, Neil Gillman and Matt MacFarland

Hurricane Milton could not put a damper on our **4th Annual Play Fore Beds Premier Golf Event** as we pivoted to host an upscale dinner event with a raincheck to golf. With special thanks to our sponsors and all 100 attendees encouraged us with their warm, hospitable flexibility and helped raise funds to buy 200 beds. Rain or shine, they knew children in our community needed their support!



Corporate, Warehouse, and Raffle Sponsor – Josh Feldman of Exclusive Flooring Collection with Suzy Broad

In addition, our **5th Annual Bingo & Breakfast at Boca West Country Club** embraced its festive "spooktacular" spirit and broke a new fundraising record for this event: 127 new beds! The event sold out with 250 attendees plus a few surprise guest bingo callers who brought heightened excitement to the room and great prizes for the Bingo winners and best costume.



Celebration Hosts, Neil & Doris Gillman and Abby Bernstein Henderson & Alex Henderson

In December, the Addison in Boca Raton embraced a classy new holiday theme during the **7th Annual "Be A Sweet Dream Maker" Celebration**. With a spectacular new holiday theme, an electric live auction, and delicious food, this festive, invitation-only event supports Sweet Dream Makers' mission by funding over 1,800 beds to begin 2025 with security and fortitude. More than 250 guests raised their glasses to celebrate the achievement, continuing their commitment to the fight against bedlessness.

DONORS

\$100,000 Plus

Emily and Neil Kishter*
The Gillman FF***
Steven & Alexandra Cohen Fdn**
Leslie L. Alexander Fdn***

\$50,000-\$99,999

Boca West Children's Fdn***
The Jim Moran Fdn**
Pat Moran FF**
Great Charity Challenge*
Albert H & Jane D Nahmad Fdn*
Brain Bowl

\$25,000-\$49,999

Rosenzweig CF*
Impact 100 Men

\$15,000-\$24,999

The Batchelor Fdn*
Lattner Family Fdn
The Mary Alice Fortin Fdn
Pulte Family Charitable Fdn
Melissa Lorensen
Debra Rales
Admiral's Cove Fdn
Comm Fdn for PB & Martin Cos.
The Mirasol Fdn
The Sid Pashelinsky FF.

\$10,000-\$14,999

Amy and Michael Kazma
Leslie and Bernie Friedman
Mary and William Donnell
David and Marcella Roberts

Bill Keith
The Boca Rio Fdn
Goldman Sachs PF
April Lewis
Alejandra and Bill Lippolis
Deepak Malani
Pear Therapeutics LT
Linda and Bobby Schmier
Memorial Healthcare System
Diana and Ary Khatchikian
Leslie and Rick Steinberg
Lizette and Alfredo Martinez
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Jeanette & Peter Austin
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Jay and Aziza Grunin

Victor and Elise Micati Fdn
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The Pohanka FF
The Huntt LaFrance Fund
Fuse Specialty Appliances
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The William R. Watts Fdn

\$2,500-\$4,999

Cindy and Robert Friezo
Exclusive Flooring Collection
Patricia Lahn
Holtz FF
Joel Lehrman
Lisa Schultz
Hillary and Stephen Samuels



Left to right: 1. The Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation donates \$100,000 to support our "A Bed of My Own" Program. 2. Brain Bowl Chairwoman Pamela Higher-Polani presents Suzy Broad with a grant for \$50,000 to provide beds for senior citizens in need. 3. Grand Prize Grant for \$100,000 won at the Golden Ball Evening with Men Giving Back SPBC 4. Ballenlsles Charities Foundation contributes a grant for \$37,100 to provide beds in North Palm Beach County.

Michelle and Michael Hagerty*
Extraordinary Charities
Ballenlsles Charities Fdn*
Hands on Tzedakah*
Irvin Stern Fdn
Cristina & Tim Lewis
William and Helen Thomas CT
Debra and Stephen Block*
Beverly \$ Joel Altman Family Fdn
Ibis Charities Foundation*
Leonard & Hilda Kaplan Fdn*
Tim Lewis**
McNally Family Fdn*
Men Giving Back SPBC Fund
Steve E. Bernstein Fdn
The Beck Family Charitable Fdn*
Peggy Gotte*

JM Family Auto
Mason Slaine
Chris and Diane Pohanka
PBSO
Carrie Rubin
Myron & Elaine Adler Priv Fdn
Baldwin Family Fdn Trust
Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea
Community Fdn of Broward
Shannon and Rick Davis
Florida Blue Fdn
Karen and Barry Hamerling
The Harry T. Mangurian Jr. Fdn
The James and Sandra Mantey FF

\$5,000-\$9,999

Julie and Mark Pulte

Arline and John McNally
Phil and Jo Ann Procacci
Linda Schaps
Judy and Bernie Robinson
Martha and Ken Schwartz
Chuck & Nancy Rosenblatt FF
Sandy and Uf Tukel
Steven and Tracy Angeli
Suzy and Brian Broad
Donna and Steven Aptekar
Baer's Furniture
Steven Bernstein
The Billi Marcus Fdn
Cindy Dameus
Ann Davidson
Harcourt M. & Virginia W. Sylvester Fdn
Judy and Stewart Levis Krug

John Anderson
Deborah and Henry Gibson
City of Boca Raton
City of Delray Beach
Jim MacCutcheon and Ms. Fern Schmidt
Mike and Jennifer Ezekiel
Melissa and Marc Malaga
Jack and Grace Jaiven
Lulu and Philip Oranburg
Nancy and Bill Berkowitz
Steve Seiderman
Minelle and Alfredo Tendler
Christine Moran
Barry Cohen
Pia Giannone/Dana Scheer
Alex Henderson

* Gold Donors: lifetime contributions over \$100,000 | ** Platinum Donors: lifetime contributions over \$250,000 | *** Diamond Donors: lifetime contributions over \$500,000

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 Meryl and Ron Gallatin
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 Sandra and Arthur Tauber
 Susan and Frank Richard
 Brad and Veronika Ginsberg
 McMahon Mix & Mingle
 Susan and Doug Present
 Carla Cohn
 Babette and Calvin Haddad
 Exotech
 Goldman Sachs & Co
 Jessica and Matthew MacFarland
 Janet and Steven Grebow

Rhonnie and Sam Leder
 Meshnick Charitable FF
 Shaun Sharabi
 Sheltering Palms Fdn
 The Walter & Adi Blum Fdn
 Ronni and Herb Amster
\$1,500-\$2,499
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 Robin Deyo
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 Pauline and Alex Shender
 Tracey Labgold
 Barbra and Larry Weisberg
 Marcus Obser
 Steven and Debbie Melzer
 Seth and Jodi Weinstein
 Loree and Michael Dicenso
 Unity Jets
 Fran and Mark Freeman

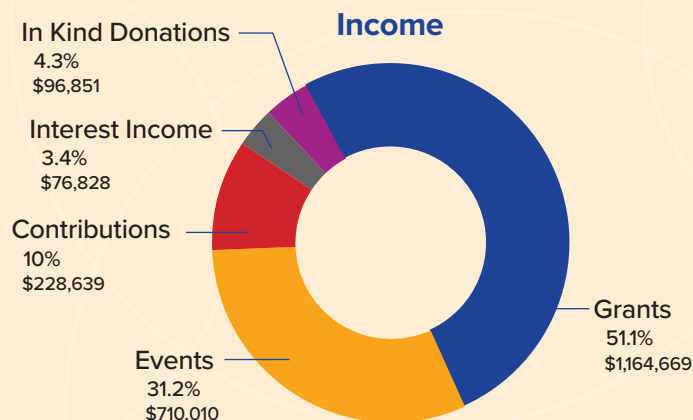
Myrna and Steve Pressman
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 Ilene and Steve Glickman
 Patty and Peter Larkin
 Debby and Joel Neiterman
 RNL Facility LLP
 Stephanie and Jose Theodore

Emily & Neil Kishter, Annual Mission Sponsors and Ambassador Board Members



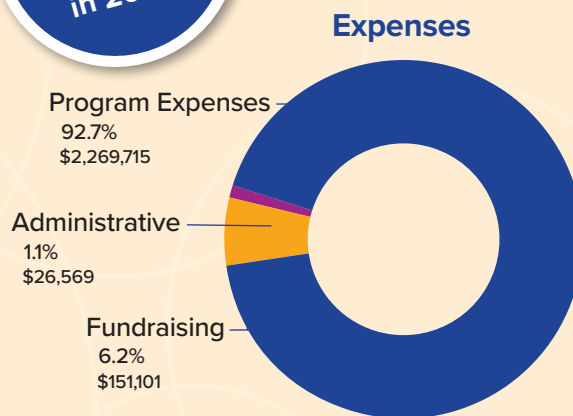
*We truly value every donor who made sweet dreams come true in 2024.
 Each \$250 contribution made a difference for a child to have a restful
 night's sleep in a bed of their own.*

2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



TOTAL: \$2,276,997

**Over \$1.8M
spent on beds
and bedding
in 2024!**



TOTAL: \$2,447,385

To view our 990 and Audited Financials, visit our website at www.SweetDreamMakers.org

Sweet Dream Makers is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, and your contribution is tax deductible as allowable by law. A copy of the Official Registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the State of Florida at 1-800-435-7352 or outside of Florida at 1-850-410-3800. The Department website is www.fdacs.gov/ConsumerServices. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. EIN: 81-3693206

Looking back on a year of growth, expansion, and new dreams

Sweet Dream Makers was able to grow our mission and share special moments like these thanks to the support we received from our wonderful community, volunteers, and foundations.



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www.sweetdreammakers.org

1. Chosen with admiration by the Gillman Family, our 2024 "Be A Sweet Dream Maker of the Year", SDM Board of Directors President Brian Broad
2. Advisory Board Member Abby Bernstein-Henderson nominated for JLBR Volunteer of the Year
3. Students helping students in need of bedding with a "Bed-in-a-Bag" Donation Drive at Ready Set Grow Academy
4. TLC with Summer Faerman at B'nai Torah Congregation
5. Impact 100 Men PBC donates a \$40,000 grant to provide 100 beds
6. SDM Board Member and Golf Event Chairman Matt MacFarland with Event Sponsor Michelle Hagerty
7. \$10,000 contributed by The Florida Panthers Foundation to support local children in need
8. Cheryl McBride, leader of our Annual Celebration's Auction Committee, with her husband John
9. Winning a grant for \$55,000 at the 2024 Great Charity Challenge
10. Community Foundation of Broward celebrates 40 years by donating 40 beds to SDM