

CEO, Nancy Johnson & President, Shelly Harris Reflect on 2014

Ten years after the devastation of Punta Gorda, **TEAM** is still here, working harder than ever to fulfill its mission of helping make the greater Punta Gorda area a better place to live, work and play. The focus has shifted from disaster recovery to community development, but the TEAM Punta Gorda tradition of community involvement and collaboration is still fundamental to our approach. In addition to great projects our work behind the scenes has become part of the fiber of the community. We also know that successful community projects promote community building. These efforts capture the imagination of our citizens and demonstrate the incredible good they can do when they set their minds to it. We believe that 2014 has been a wonderfully successful year for TEAM. This success is entirely due to volunteers who have generously contributed their talent and time to work on our projects. We are most grateful to our volunteers who do the heavy lifting and to our sponsors who provide the means to further our projects. Thank you!

Cultural Anthropologist Margaret Meade once said "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has".



Nancy Johnson, CEO

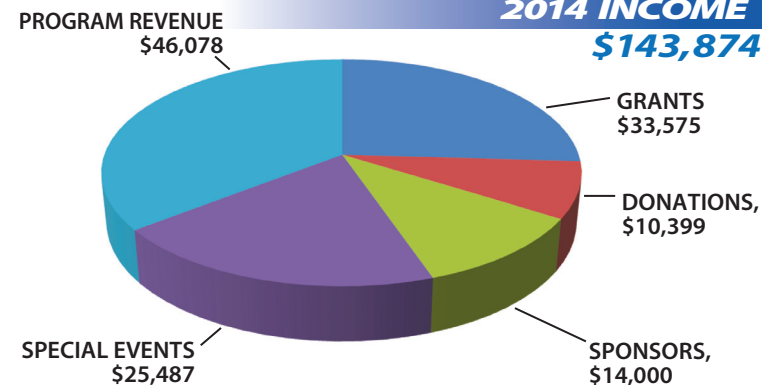


Shelly Harris, President

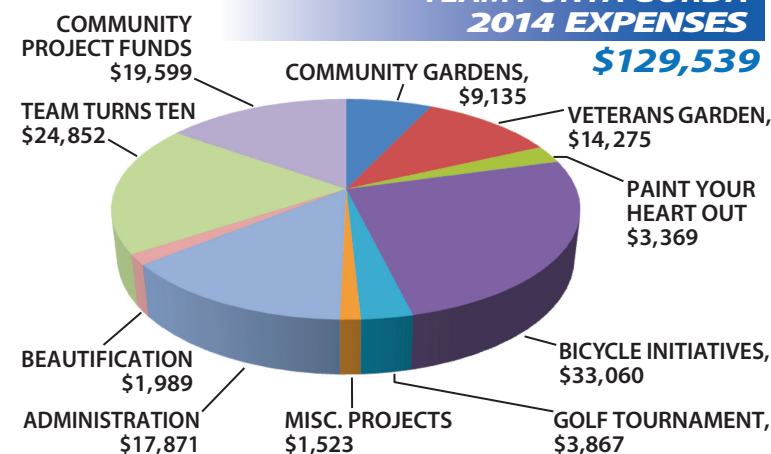
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TEAM PUNTA GORDA 2014 INCOME \$143,874



TEAM PUNTA GORDA 2014 EXPENSES \$129,539



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Annual Report Designed by
 Cliff Art & Design
 Honored by 10 Years of Association with TEAM Punta Gorda

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Celebrating **Ten Years** Of Volunteer Accomplishments

- Guided the creation of the 2005 *Citizens' Master Plan* in the wake of Hurricane Charley.
- Created the *Waterfront Master Plan*, ideas for the future.
- At the forefront of the *Bicycle Friendly Community* initiative.
- Established the first free *Bicycle Loaner Program* in Florida.
- Host for more than 500 cyclists for the Fifth annual *Pedal & Play* bicycle ride & fundraiser.
- Facilitated the acquisition of two EMS bicycles for first responders.
- Collaborated with the City and County to install bicycle route signs.
- TEAM's *Beautiful Bikes in Paradise* committee presented more than two dozen brightly painted bicycle planters to area businesses.
- Created the *Artisans' Atelier* out of unusable parking garage space, providing a much needed venue for local artists.
- Facilitated the creation of the *Punta Gorda History Center*, now an independent 501(c)(3) organization.
- *Beautification and Landscaping* projects including Marion Avenue, Herald Court, Hector House Plaza, Pocket Park, Punta Gorda Train Depot and the Interactive Fountain.
- Successful *Community & School Gardens* projects are flourishing throughout the city.
- Coordinated the Veterans' Fountain Project at Laishley Park for local veterans' groups.
- Two hundred *Paint Your Heart Out* volunteers painted nine need-based homes and The Blanchard House Museum of African American History in one day in 2014 and they're set to do it again in 2015

Save These 2015 Dates

- **March 28**
Pedal & Play in Paradise
- **March 21**
TEAM Punta Gorda Golf Tournament in Memory of Judy Brentano
- **April 11**
Paint Your Heart Out, Punta Gorda

200+ Volunteers Paint Their Heart Out in Punta Gorda

On April 26, 2014, more than two hundred volunteers joined together with Comcast and Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity to paint – for free – the homes of people who could use a hand. This program has been used successfully in cities large and small for many years. With encouragement from the Punta Gorda Chamber, local builders, banks, service clubs and tradesmen provided professional expertise and support. Not only did they donate funding, but many provided on site supervision and painting. We believe that this project does more than paint homes. It sends a message of pride and builds a sense of community spirit and unity that lasts long after this day of service is over. Paint Your Heart Out, Punta Gorda 2015 is scheduled for April 11, 2015.



Community & School Gardens Flourish All Over Town

Volunteers from our Community & School Gardens Initiative hit the dirt again in 2014! They completed a new community garden located behind the Punta Gorda Public safety building, in partnership with the City. The Police & Fire Department's volunteer auxiliary has accepted the responsibility of managing the garden with consultation from the Charlotte Volunteer Master Gardeners. This is the same energetic team that assisted in the development of five school gardens, thanks to a generous grant from the Mosaic Corporation.



Beautification Team Creates Beautiful Bikes in Paradise

The year started with the profusion of Beautiful Bikes in Paradise all over town. This idea did not come from a committee, but rather, from an individual volunteer who discovered a similar project elsewhere, and brought the idea and the pictures home to Punta Gorda. Soon the prolific Beautification Committee had sprinkled the town with gaily painted bicycles brimming over with petunias. Merchants began to request them and before long, every downtown street was festooned with planters.



Thank you for being on our TEAM!



Free Yellow Loaner Bikes Grow in Popularity

You've probably seen our cheery yellow bikes all over town. Did you know that close to 5000 riders from 43 States, five Canadian provinces and 14 countries used our free loaner bicycles this past year? The yellow bike program is a joint venture of TEAM Punta Gorda and the City of Punta Gorda. There are 40 bikes available for this year's increased visitors, snowbirds and residents. To guide them in their exploration of our wonderful world, a new Bicycle Loaner and Punta Gorda Pathways brochure with maps is available. This program is completely managed by hard working volunteers. The AMI Cross-roads youth program has joined TEAM Punta Gorda in helping to maintain our bicycle fleet and student interns help to monitor the bicycles throughout the year.

Why Pedal? Special Events Build A Better Community

In just five years Pedal & Play in Paradise has grown from 20 to 535 riders. This fantastic community event, in partnership with the Isles Yacht Club, is not just about having fun. It also raises much needed money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) and TEAM Punta Gorda's Bicycle Friendly Community Initiative. In 2014 Pedal & Play made a record financial contribution to both these worthy causes. Join us March 28, 2015 as we explore Punta Gorda by bicycle. There is something for everyone; the occasional bike rider, serious cyclists, mystery lovers, and folks who just want to tour our beautiful city and learn more about its remarkable history.



Our 2014 Sponsors Made It All Possible

