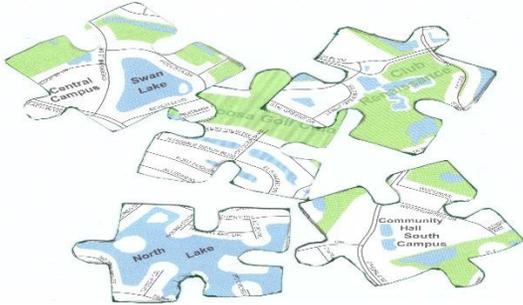


## Great Neighborhoods Project – Making Sun City Center Even Better!



County Grant used for Magnolia Lakes Mini-Park

## What would make Your Sun City Center Neighborhood even better?

### Here are a couple of ideas...

Sun City Center is an affordable community with plentiful opportunities to make friends, pursue happiness, passions and purpose, with social, sports and art amenities abounding. We are located near beautiful gulf coast beaches, sporting and cultural events, and access to quality health care. Our active retirement community is one of the most successful and we want to continue to build on its wonderful neighborhood qualities.

All great neighborhoods have common attributes – pride in ownership when the residents, whether renters or owners, maintain their homes and care about their neighborhoods. The community becomes even better when neighbors connect for the betterment of the community.

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***Sun City Center Charitable Foundation Inc. is interested in helping SCC HOAs and residents without HOAs to apply for Hillsborough grants and other forms of grants or assistance available to refresh or enhance the common areas of our neighborhoods.***

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Sun City Center Charitable Foundation Inc. is interested in helping SCC Home Owner Associations (HOA) and residents without HOAs to apply for Hillsborough grants and other forms of grants or assistance available to refresh or enhance our neighborhoods' common areas.

**Hillsborough County Grants include: 1) Neighborhood Mini-Grants (Mini-Grant), 2) Tree Program Mini-Grants (Tree Grant), and 3) Adopt-A-Pond program (Pond Program).**

**Mini-Grants.** The 2020 Hillsborough County Neighborhood Mini-Grant Application will be available online April 2, 2019 and due for submittal in August 2019. The Neighborhood Mini-Grant (up to \$5,000 per association) supports activities that improve communities, strengthen neighborhood associations and encourage civic involvement. Multiple SCC HOAs were awarded Mini-Grant funds that were pooled

to develop median-area landscapes on North Pebble Drive near the SCC Community Association facilities. For a specific HOA, awarded funds were used to create a garden area with a bench, so neighbors could enjoy a pocket-park on Azalea Landing. The beautification projects need to use Florida-friendly plantings.

**Tree Grants.** Tree Grants are available for neighborhood tree planning projects on a continuing basis until available funds for the grant are depleted. Applicants may receive grant funding every two years with a maximum of \$2,500 per HOA.



More attractive ponds with Adopt-A-Pond

**Pond Program.** The Pond Program helps improve water quality, wildlife habitat and creates a more attractive landscapes for ponds that are County-owned or with one or more drainage easements dedicated to the County. If eligible, HOAs receive expert guidance, a one-time cleanup of the pond and free native pond plants to enhance and improve the pond. Applications for the Pond Program are accepted at any time with the County Public Works Department.

**What is the Foundation offering?** The Foundation is offering workshops about these programs and meetings one-on-one with HOA

representatives for practical assistance to brainstorm about beautification projects and determine whether your proposed projects are eligible under these grant programs. If eligible, the Foundation will assist your HOA with completing the applications to participate in these programs. Our Foundation volunteers have experience with seeking the needed approvals to use these programs to make our neighborhoods more attractive.

### Help at no cost?

The County grants described generally do not cost the HOA any money for its participation. Every grant has its requirements about what types of projects qualify and whether the grant is the appropriate funding source or whether the project should be funded in another manner. As for the Foundation's assistance, there is no charge for its brainstorming and grant application/implementation assistance. The Foundation hopes that all residents encourage HOAs to utilize funds while they are available in order to enhance and improve our neighborhood's attractiveness.

### When can we start?

One-hour informational workshops are scheduled on to explain more about the available County funds and programs. More dates for informational meetings and workshops will be listed on the website. In addition, information about the funds and programs including the available applications will be posted on the Foundation's website at <https://charitablefoundationscc.org/>.

### Does our HOA need to involve the Foundation?

No, your HOA can move forward with your beautification projects as you see fit. There is no need to contact the Foundation. However, if you want help to describe your project and increase your chances in receiving funds, consider joining the Foundation's Great Neighborhoods Project – Making Sun City Center Even Better. Our goal is to have a talented group of volunteers joining forces to enhance our neighborhoods and make our community an even special place.

### What if I don't belong to an HOA?

The Foundation contacted the County to determine whether we can submit applications to support SCC neighborhoods that do not have an HOA. There are opportunities for non-HOA neighborhoods to participate if neighbors are interested in coming together for an eligible project. Talk to some of your next-door neighbors, and if there is an interest, Foundation representatives will be happy to discuss whether the project can qualify under one of these programs.

### Can you help me with my own home or landscaping?

These grant programs are for neighborhood common areas where it would be appropriate to receive this type of assistance. Creating curb appeal throughout our neighborhoods is a great idea and "Curb Appeal" workshops are being planned to provide practical, cost-effective ideas to refresh or enhance your landscape. The Curb Appeal workshops will include ideas to attract birds and butterflies.

### How can I join the Great Neighborhoods Project?

This is a great idea and I would like to participate – how can I help? The Foundation would like your help with making SCC an even better community. Contact us to discuss how you can help.

### Who We Are

The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization designed to shape the future of our community by creating public awareness, developing charitable resources, and supporting initiatives that specifically address the needs of Sun City Center.

### Contact Us – Great Neighborhoods Committee

Committee: Denise Chamberlain, Maggie Pliska and Nan Baytos

Email: [greatneighbors@icloud.com](mailto:greatneighbors@icloud.com)

Project Launch Date: March 16, 2019 (FunFest)



Foundation's SCC Veterans Memorial Project



Common Area Plantings

