

**Regional Scholarship Providers Network (RSPN)  
Meeting Minutes  
October 29, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
SCF Lakewood Ranch**

**1. Meeting Attendees** – There were 25 attendees at the October meeting.

1. Maricris	Alfree	Keiser University
2. Evelyn	Almodóvar	UnidosNow
3. Hank	Battie	A. Jean Battie Education Fund
4. Jodie	DeLoach	DeSoto Education Foundation
5. Laura	Dykstra	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
6. Heather	Ferrigno	Education Foundation of Sarasota County
7. Brent	Giangregorio	Women’s Resource Center
8. Karima	Habity	CareerSource Suncoast
9. Laura	Horner	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
10. Caitlin	Joyner	Rotary Futures
11. Anna	Kollmeyer	Catholic Community Foundation of SWFL
12. Jennifer	McKinney	Boys & Girls Club Manatee
13. Stephanie	Miller	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
14. Carlos	Moreira	University of South Florida
15. Nicolle	Mudafort	Keiser University
16. Elizabeth	Power	William G. and Marie Selby Foundation
17. Theresa	Quin	Manatee School for the Arts / Take Stock in Children Manatee
18. Gina	Rosabal	Healthy Teens
19. Zeida	Santos	UnidosNow
20. Molly	Saunders	Women’s Resource Center
21. Dan	Sidler	CareerEdge, Sarasota Chamber
22. Kristin	Taylor	Gulf Coast Community Foundation
23. Lori	Tomlinson	State College of Florida Foundation
24. Taylor	Wey	University of South Florida
25. Kiarra	Womack	William G. and Marie Selby Foundation

- 2. Welcome** – Kiarra welcomed the group. She reviewed the reasons for the creation of the RSPN emphasizing that the goal is about building community. The group objectives include to *strengthen relationships, improve communications, increase collaboration, share information, and learn and develop together.*
- 3. Intro** - Kiarra reviewed the 2025 meeting topics and the agenda. She then introduced and moderated the panel session on Award Displacement, Financial Aid, and Student Loans.

**4. Award Displacement, Financial Aid and Student Loans** – The Discussion panelists were Taylor Wey, Associate Director of Foundation Scholarships, University of South Florida; Brent Giangregorio, Director of Client Services, Women’s Resource Center; Henry "Hank" Battie, Board Member, A. Jean Battie Education Fund; and Theresa Quin, Board Chair, Take Stock in Children of Manatee County. Each panelist spoke about how they manage their awarding processes, select and consider financial need for their students as well as how they navigate Award Displacement. The meeting covered the importance of student education when sharing financial aid information, student advocacy and ways to support students as in-between to help them receive their scholarships, strategies around communication and engagement of awards, and tips to ensure the award process is transparent and efficient for all parties. The session concluded with an open Q&A and breakout discussion. Please see the following notes summary regarding the meeting.

a) Please see the key points and takeaways of the presentation and breakout discussion below.

- Tips to Encourage Student Education around financial aid:
  - Share resources around cost of attendance
  - Talk about award displacement with students and encourage them to be proactive
    - Can they request a financial aid appeal if they need more funding?
    - Have they made a friend in the financial aid office at their college, or can you help introduce them?
- Suggestions for Advocating on behalf of students:
  - Write out a sample email for students to send regarding your scholarship award?
  - Share the links to the financial aid offices at a school your student attends and encourage them to meet with a counselor?
  - Ask for the students’ permission to include you in college conversations about your scholarship to reduce stress?
  - Collect parent information of students when applying to have them remind students to renew applications?
  - Encourage students to pursue their college’s financial aid appeal process
- Scholarship Awarding Process ideas to consider:
  - Collect Award Summaries from students to understand their incoming financial aid
  - Create / Update your award letter to colleges and state that your scholarship can go to anything that falls under cost of attendance
  - Communicate with students and colleges in advance about when and how they will receive your scholarship
  - Help students with award displacement:
    - Are you able to get your award amounts out early and notify colleges that the scholarship is coming?
    - Are you able to send money directly to the student?
    - Can you work with a prepaid plan that goes to housing, dorms, or costs beyond tuition?

- We appreciate you taking the time to share your feedback and interest in future RSPN topics by completing our meeting survey [HERE](#). We will use the results to help determine meeting topics.

**5. Closing** – Kiarra thanked everyone for attending and encouraged them to offer input on how to make the Network as impactful as possible on the survey. The next RSPN meeting will be held in January 2026. More information to come.