



C.A.R.E. GIVERS

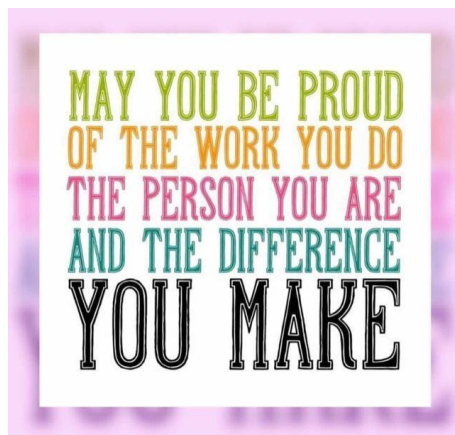
April-June 2019

C.A.R.E. Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies

A Note from our Volunteer Coordinator

Stephanie Lucy

On March 10th, C.A.R.E. had the opportunity to celebrate their amazing volunteers for their hard work and dedication with a Volunteer Appreciation Brunch at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club. Karen McElhane (C.A.R.E. Executive Director), Judy Harris (C.A.R.E. Board Chair), Karalynn Bacon (ReUse Supervisor) and myself joyfully conveyed our appreciation and presented each volunteer with our new 2019 challenge coin. A special thank you also goes out to our sponsors, Pam Monnier (Grand CarePlus), Stacy Jones (Kays-Ponger & Uselton Funeral Home & Crematory) and Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club.



April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)! The SV team has been very busy bringing awareness to our community. Our first event was an Empowerment Self-Defense workshop. We had a great turnout and would like to thank Charlotte Memorial Gardens Funeral Home for hosting our event, as well as, Shuman's ATA Black Belt Academy for teaching us some easy to perform self-defense techniques for every situation. The SV team had a beautiful display highlighting some of their efforts.

C.A.R.E. also participated in a National Campaign, which looks to end the silence and change the way we respond to sexual assault. Staff, volunteers, and community members signed a pledge to 'Start by Believing' as a way to show support to survivors.

A special thanks to the Charlotte County Sexual Assault Team (SART) for collaborating with C.A.R.E. and hosting our first ever SAAM Leggings Drive to replenish items needed for Hospital Response Bags. Graciously donated by community members were bags full of t-shirts, leggings, undergarments and sandals. Thanks goes out to our partners at Bealls Outlet in Englewood and both Murdock and Punta Gorda Walmart locations for welcoming us.

