



# 2018 LODESTAR Awards

*"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."*

John Quincy Adams

*generously sponsored by,*



## *Dear Valued Members & Key Stakeholders,*

Over the past several weeks the Leadership Coalition on Aging has been accepting nominations for the annual Lodestar Awards celebrating leadership in the field of health & human services—specifically those making a difference in our community serving seniors.

We thank those who nominated a colleague for this honor. Through your efforts we are able to celebrate advancements in the care and services for seniors, and acknowledge those individuals who are making a difference!

We also thank Resort Lifestyle Communities, Bradford Square, for their generous sponsorship enabling us to share these inspirational stories with our community and present these awards.

To our nominees, the steering committee was impressed by the accounts of your work. As nominees, we commend you for your leadership and passion in advancing senior issues.

To our awardees, congratulations! The work you are doing is awe inspiring and we are delighted to have the opportunity to recognize you as a 2018 Lodestar Awardee. We invite you to join us for the award presentation ceremony scheduled on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> during the LCA's Annual Conference on Aging, *Tech Trends in Senior Care*. The conference will be held at the Ispiri Community Center, Avow Campus. If you're already attending the conference—you're all set. If you can't make it for the whole day, then we'd love to have you join us during the award ceremony.

*Yours truly,*  
The Steering Committee  
Leadership Coalition on Aging—Collier County

## Professional of the Year

*Recognizing the value of leadership that is innovative; an individual who has served as a catalyst for change in advancing the quality of life of older adults and those who care for them.*



**Annalise Smith,  
MHSA, CHA**

Senior Vice President  
of Engagement, Avow

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Honored nominees:

- Stephanie Vick, Department of Health
- Carol Harris, Meals on Wheels | St Vincent de Paul
- Adam Corcoran, Golden Care
- Amanda Barton, Seniors Blue Book

**W**hen someone’s name becomes synonymous with a professional niche you know they are not only an expert in their field, but also live & breathe the mission. This is true about Annalise Smith, Senior Vice President of Engagement at Avow. Her work at Avow has taken many forms, but at the heart of it all is her commitment to meet a need in a person’s life, in a family’s life-where dignity & comfort can be found through honoring someone’s humanity.

During Annalise’s two decades of dedicated service, she has utilized her knowledge and relationships for the betterment of her community. Annalise has been instrumental in Avow attaining a Level Four status with the *We Honor Veterans* program, a partnership among the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Administration. She has also been a driving force with Avow’s support of the *Honor Flight* of Lee and Collier counties,

Annalise was the powerhouse behind Avow becoming the first *Blue Zone* certified hospice in the United States. She also has offered support to the local Parkinson’s Association promoting wellness and support to those in need.

In acknowledging Annalise Smith as the Lodestar Professional of the Year, we commend her for being a catalyst for change and leading advancements in services for seniors in Collier County and those who care for them.

## Volunteer of the Year

*Recognizing the value and dedication of helping seniors remain independent within the community and advancing the quality of life of older adults and those who care for them.*



**Hallie Devlin**

SHINE, Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders, Area Agency on Aging of Southwest Florida

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### Honored nominees:

- Bruce Osbourne, Avow
- Doug Hartman, Step Smart Collier Senior Advisory Committee-Board of County Commissioners

**H**allie Devlin is a stellar leader who has been making a difference in the lives of hundreds of seniors in our community for over a decade. Her volunteer work with *SHINE [Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders]* provides seniors with free, unbiased one-on-one counseling as they choose Medicare coverage and plans, including the evaluation of Medicare plans, filing claims and appeals, and staying on top of the annual changes to Medicare. Last year, Hallie counseled more than 400 Collier County area seniors on their Medicare options, and contributed more than 500 hours of time to the SHINE program.

In her role as local coordinator, Hallie mentors and provides exceptional support to her volunteers. She’s also offers educational seminars on Medicare and Medicaid to both beneficiaries and professional groups, and serves as a subject-matter expert on senior health insurance issues for local media. Hallie’s service to seniors goes beyond her exceptional volunteer work with the SHINE program.

Hallie serves as a member of the *AAASWFL Advisory Council*, a citizen group that relays the concerns of seniors and people with disabilities to the agency. She serves on the board of her Naples condominium association, with many frail elderly residents among her neighbors.

Because of Hallie Devlin’s service to seniors in Southwest Florida, the staff and volunteers at AAASWFL are proud to call her part of the team and acknowledge her leadership in making a difference in the lives of seniors.

## Civic Grassroots Leader of the Year

*Recognizing the value of leadership that advances advocacy issues and addresses unmet needs for older adults and those who care for them.*



**Dr. Jaclynn Faffer**

President | CEO  
Naples Senior Center at JFCS

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### Honored nominees:

- Bruce Rosenblatt, Senior Housing Solutions
- MJ Scarpelli, Senior Friendship Health Center

**D**r. Jaclynn Faffer, president/CEO of Naples Senior Center at JFCS has been a visionary leader and pioneer in changing the landscape of senior supportive services in Collier County.

Dr. Faffer’s doctoral research was in social work practice with adults affected by chronic physical disabilities. Her early work in New York involved administration of 11 human service organizations, and subsequently in the specialty of adult/geriatric social work and psychiatry. Once in Florida, she applied her civic leadership skills in managing community-based services in the South Palm Beach County.

In 2010, Dr. Faffer’s advocacy work began in Collier County. She connected with community leaders to assess the needs of seniors in the community. Research studies at the time spoke to the complexity of navigating social services and defined the unmet needs of seniors.

Dr. Faffer is to be credited for developing a continuum of services that address senior isolation, poverty, and promote wellness. Today, the Naples Senior Center at JFCS offers programs for older adults, caregivers and their families that include dementia respite support, geriatric case management, emotional support services, a food pantry, and linkages with community-based services. Under Dr. Faffer’s leadership, the organization has grown to over 1,400 members, ages 60 to 103, and engages 200 volunteers, making a difference in the lives of seniors, and those who care for them, each day.

## Gift of Care Provider of the Year

Recognizing those who ensure access to care for the needy through the provision of services.



### Golden Gate Senior Center

Tatiana Fortune  
Director

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Honored nominees:

- Parkinson’s Association of Southwest Florida
- Doctor’s Hearing
- PANIRA Healthcare Clinic

In 2013, the Board of County Commissioners of Collier County granted approval to Collier Senior Resources to utilize the former Golden Gate library facility as a senior center. Thus began the outreach efforts to positively impact the quality of life of some of our county’s most vulnerable and at-risk seniors.

The Golden Gate Senior Center opened in November 2014, and through collaboration with area agencies, is providing free programming and services that empower seniors to maintain independent and meaningful lives. Outreach tied to the provision of services to our most needy include:

- *Direct Assistance Program for Needy Seniors*, providing one-time financial support to seniors to meet the most basic of human needs, filling in the gap for those most at-risk. To date, 115 seniors have been helped related to rent, utility shut-off notices, medical prescriptions & more.
- *Meals of Hope* provides a weekly food pantry for all in need, reaching 780 families weekly. The Collier County nutrition program provides hot lunches; 1200 meals served to seniors monthly.
- *Experience Works*, the *AARP Foundation*, and charitable community organizations sponsored by the State of Florida focus on meeting the training and employment needs of low income seniors.

The team at GGSC is to be commended for providing care and services to our most vulnerable residents in Collier County.



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## About The Leadership Coalition on Aging (LCA)

Sponsored by Collier Senior Resources (CSR), the Leadership Coalition on Aging was established in 2012 as a means for local health and human service providers to collaborate toward enriching the lives of Collier County seniors and their caregivers. The coalition seeks to foster a community environment that promotes well-being through resource sharing, education, advocacy and community outreach.

The coalition is comprised of over 50 organizations including private sector, nonprofit and governmental agencies. The coalition meets monthly to share resources, advance advocacy agendas, educate members, and plan outreach initiatives. Signature events include:

- Annual Conference on Aging for Professionals
- LODESTAR Awards, recognizing leadership in the senior sector
- Empowerment Series for Seniors

For more information about Leadership Coalition on Aging: membership, resources & upcoming educational sessions, visit us on our webpage: [collierseniorresources.org/leadership-coalition-on-aging](http://collierseniorresources.org/leadership-coalition-on-aging) or, on Facebook at: Leadership Coalition on Aging - Collier County.