

SEARCH FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



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Global HQ

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Supporting Our Industry, Together

We provide financial help for event, meetings, and catering professionals in crisis. 2023 brought a **record** number of crisis relief cases, and we are proud to report that SEARCH has funded 100% of qualified cases since its inception.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRWOMAN

Special
Event
Assistance
Relief &
Crisis
Help



The SEARCH Foundation is proud to celebrate over 25 years of assisting industry individuals in crisis. We're pleased to report that since inception 100% of qualified cases have been funded, and industry professionals in crisis were profoundly affected by the efforts of the board, committees and supporters. *In fact, we not only reached, but well surpassed our goal of over \$1,000,000 distributed to industry individuals in crisis in 2023!*

Putting a new board structure in place to help engage individuals, companies, and industry associations in continued giving programs will help SEARCH to continue its mission and create new revenue streams so no case ever gets turned away. Our flagship program, the SEARCH IOO, has reached record numbers. That said, the Foundation will continue to establish significant, sustainable new sources of funding to support the ever-rising need for help, including a new website that will better highlight supporters and sponsors - ask any board member how you can help contribute, whether individually or as a company.

Please explore the attached Annual Report to see how your contributions helped to make a difference in the lives of industry professionals and colleagues. We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming Signature Events and we thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Patay". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kate Patay, CPCE

Chairwoman, SEARCH Foundation

VP of Engagement, Terramar, a DMC Network Company

FOUNDATION PROFILE

SEARCH FOUNDATION



WHO WE ARE

The SEARCH Foundation was formed in 1997 to assist event, meetings, and catering professionals faced with a life threatening illness. Since that time it has expanded to include not only illness, but also catastrophic occurrences. The SEARCH Foundation is for event pros, by event pros.

MISSION & VISION

Distribute Donations - Our priority is to make sure event, meetings, catering, and incentive industry professionals know our industry community has their backs when they need help the most. When disaster strikes SEARCH is here to help. Please visit our Apply for Help page if you require assistance.

Raise Funds - It's in our very nature to give everything we have to our clients and their guests at each and every event...but who will be there when we need help? By donating to SEARCH, you can serve those who serve every day - just like you.

Elevate Awareness - As a volunteer organization, our reach is limited without your help. We're always looking for platforms to tell our stories to others in our industry so they can let their industry friends know that we're here when they need us.



FINANCIAL IMPACT

Over **\$276,000** Raised in 2023

Sources of Funding

Fundraising Events = **\$92K+**

SEARCH 100 = **\$110K+**

Other Programs & Donations = **\$74K**

EVENTS INCLUDED:

- Annual Signature Event at TSE/Catersource
- Local Industry Chapter Programs
- Smart Meetings Smart Woman Summit

DONATIONS:

- Corporate Giving
- Media Partnerships
- Speaker Fees
- Individual Donations
- Company Match Programs

ADDITIONAL OUTREACH:

- General Investments
- Social Media Fundraisers
- Network for Good

THE POWER OF SEARCH

SEARCH FOUNDATION

49 families and individuals helped in 2023...
\$223,000+ distributed to industry individuals in need

Words from our 2023 grant recipients...

"I am writing this with tears in my eyes and just an immense feeling of relief and gratitude. This disaster has been an emotional roller coaster and I am just longing for a sense of normalcy. Using this generous grant will allow me to rebuild some of my destroyed inventory that I need to do my job. I cannot wait to get back to taking photos and creating heirloom memories for people again. This is such a huge step for me being able to get back on my feet here on Maui. I appreciate this outpouring of love and support as we navigate through these rough waters. Big Mahalos & hugs.



"This is a big help for me and my family. We are glad that we found the SEARCH Foundation. This will help us get new equipment and hope to be back doing events. Lahaina lost lives, homes and businesses. But we are so grateful there are people and a foundation that helps the event community directly. We can't thank you enough. We are beyond grateful!"

"Receiving these funds means hope. It gives us a place to start moving forward. Instead of standing in here feeling completely overwhelmed, heartbroken, and lost, we're able to move forward in the right direction. Words will never come close to describing the gratitude we have for these funds but if we had to give it one word it would be HOPE.



"It is incredibly humbling to ask for help. Reaching out to SEARCH was really a last resort for me, but in needing to provide for my family and keep a roof over our heads, I decided to apply for help. These funds will be life changing for my family. Believe me when I say that SEARCH has blessed my family beyond measure. I've always loved our event community's generosity, but being on the receiving end like this is a feeling I've never experienced. Thank you doesn't scratch the surface of my gratitude, but thank you. THANK YOU."



JULY 19-22, 2021 | MIAMI BEACH CONVENTION CENTER



THE SEARCH 100



100%

of proceeds raised through
this flagship program
go directly into the
crisis relief fund

SEARCH
100
ONE HUNDRED

16

new individuals and
companies joined
the SEARCH 100 in
2023

The SEARCH 100 is a true testament to the commitment and support that our industry has for one another.

By donating \$100 per month or more, this group of professionals, chapters, and organizations have delivered over \$110K to the foundation in 2023 alone.

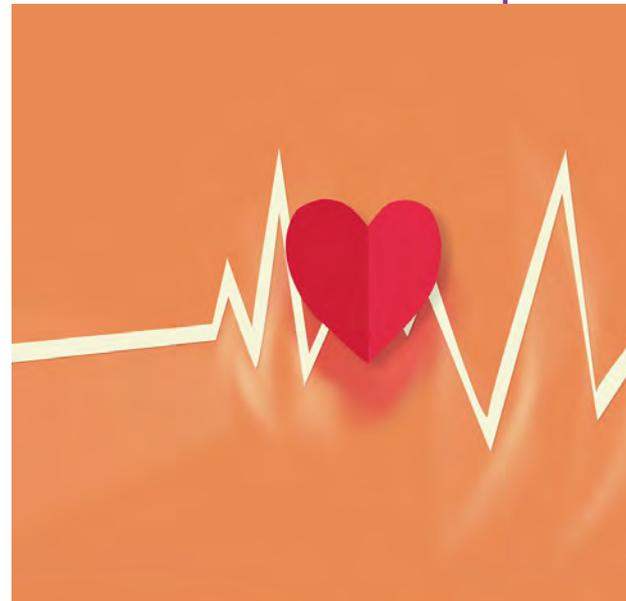
OUR GOALS FOR 2023

To expand the global reach and partnerships throughout the industry to increase annual giving

CHAPTER & ORGANIZATION FUNDRAISING

Whether part of an association, an organization, a corporation or a solopreneur YOU can help support SEARCH Foundation in a variety of ways. The online **Fundraising Toolkit** is designed to give you ideas on ways to incorporate SEARCH into your next event. If you have questions, additional ideas or would like more information please **contact us!**

Our organization is governed by a **Board of Directors**, which uses policy governance to envision the future and to ensure operations are aligned with our mission statement and meet the evolving needs of the event industry.



OUR 2023 LEADERSHIP

2023 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson

Kate Patay, CPCE

Terramar, a DMC Network Company
Phone: 775.343.6551
kate@katepatay.com

1st Vice Chairperson

David Lombardo

Lombardo's Hospitality
Phone: 781-815-1254
david@lombardos.com

Crisis Committee Chair

Patrick McMichael, CSEP

Denon & Doyle Entertainment
Phone: 800.944.9585
patrick@djay.com

Treasurer

Frank Puleo

Framboise Catering
Phone: 718.448.4252
frankpuleo7@aol.com

Secretary

Michele Polci, CMP, CPCE

Caesars Entertainment
Phone: 702.777.7871
mpolci@caesars.com

Immediate Past Chairperson

Rick Turner

Forward Hospitality Group
Phone: 216.577.4158
rick@forwardhg.com

Executive Advisor

Joann Roth-Oseary

Someone's in the Kitchen
Phone: 818.343.5151 x102
joann@sitk.com

2023 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thuy Diep - Director of Engagement

CWT Meetings & Events
Phone: 413.230.8099
TDiep@cwt-me.com

Bobby Dutton - Director of Marketing

GBM6
Phone: 781.820.6176
bdutton@gbm6.com

Stephanie Jayko, CSEP - Director of Finance

Knock Out Productions
Phone: 214.856.6909
stephanie@koproevents.com

Jolie Oree-Bailey - Director of Outreach

Low Country Quisine
Phone: 972.386.4555
jolie@lowcountryquisine.com

India Rhodes, CSEP - Director of Outreach & Events

Wilkinson Rhodes
Phone: 210.387.5687
india@wilkinsonrhodes.com

Thomas Whelan - Director of Social Media

Levy Cultural Attractions
Phone: 857.234.2738
whelanjr.thomas@gmail.com

JC York - Director of Crisis Relief

Classic Entertainment/Wise Guys
InterACTIVE
Phone: 407.854.2184 ext. 228
jc@classicentertainment.com

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

Corinne Z. Dudine

SEARCH Foundation
Office: 480.538.7912
corinne@searchfoundation.org

2023 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Advisory Committee

Tony Conway,
Legendary Events
Mara Routh,
MKB Productions
Lenny Talarico,
Lenny Talarico Events
Sally Webb,
The Special Event Company
Steve Kemble,
Steve Kemble Event Design
Debbie Meyers,
Bravo! Entertainment
Larry Green,
International Event Products
Danny Bergold,
About Entertainment

Events Committee

Danny Trujillo,
Imagine Events
Jeniffer Bello,
JB Experiences
Evan Carbotti,
Carbotti Experiences
Mark Catuogno,
MC Event Consulting
Amy McDonough,
Port of Seattle-SeaTac Airport
Blair Mitcham,
Boston Convention Center
Barbara West,
Informa Markets

Marketing Committee

Scott Frankel,
Animatic Media
Jaclyn Zendrian,
Cure PSP
Haily Fadden,
Degy Entertainment
Jodi Gold,
Siagel Productions

Outreach Committee

Gary Bordman,
AE & ES
Lindsay Schattenstein,
NFL Players Association
Jennifer Veselko,
Maritz Global Events

