

# **Cypress Cove Landkeepers, Inc**

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# Cypress Cove Landkeepers, Inc

- Naples, FL
- https://www.gorenaturecenter.com
- (239)308-0281



View GuideStar Profile



Silver Transparency 2023 Candid.

#### **MISSION**

Our mission is to encourage the conservation of critical habitats through environmental education and nature-inspired experiences.

#### **EIN**

47-4820620

# **RULING YEAR**

2015

# IRS SUBSECTION

501(c)(3) Public Charity

# **FOUNDING YEAR**

2015

# **MAIN ADDRESS**

PO Box 110308 NAPLES, FL 34108

# **AFFILIATION TYPE**

Independent Organization

### **CONTACT**

Shane Duff, President (518) 365-7503 shane@gorenaturecenter.com

#### PRESIDENT OF BOARD

Shane Duff

# VICE PRESIDENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Reid

#### **BOARD CHAIR**

Shane Duff

#### **SUBJECT AREA**

Wetlands

Endangered species protection

Invasive plant species

Forest management

Nature education

Water resources

### **NTEE Code**

Water Resource, Wetlands Conservation and Management (C32)

Alliance/Advocacy
Organizations (B01)

Citizen Participation (W24)

# **PROGRAMS**

# 1. Gore Nature Education Center

**Population(s) served:**Families, Children and youth, Adults, People of Latin American descent

# **POPULATIONS SERVED**

- 1. Children and youth
- 2. Adults
- 3. People of Latin American descent

# **COMPLIANCE**

- ✓ IRS Pub 78 Verified as of March 2024
- ✓ IRS BMF 509(a) (1) as of March 12, 2024
- X A-133 Audit Required/Performed?
- X Conflict of Interest Policy
- X Written whistleblower policy

Section 509(a)(1) organization as referred to in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

# TRANSPARENCY MEASURES

- ✓ Board Practices Reported?
- ✓ Diversity Data Reported?
- 7 Number of Independent Board Members

# Programs & Results

#### **PROGRAMS**

**GUIDESTAR PRO REPORT** 

Source: Self-Reported by Organization, January 2024

#### **Gore Nature Education Center**

#### Population(s) Served:

Families K-12 (5-19 years)

The Gore Nature Education Center (Center) is a unique property of ten acres with an Olde Florida stilted-Cracker home that offers a rich opportunity to provide nature experiences for all age groups. Many groups with an interest in nature activity, including homeschoolers, scouts along with local schools and colleges, have encouraged us to launch a series of programs that utilize the 10-acre preserve as an outdoor classroom. We have developed partnerships with several local agencies such as Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW), Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) in order to provide meaningful programming to the community.

Along with the 10 acres of the Center, a contiguous conservation area of nearly 170 acres purchased by Collier County (as part of the Conservation Collier program) extends the potential for programming with the Center through a broader array of trails and experiences.

The programs will be offered to young people (ages 5 thru 21) from the community. Our program segments will cover a wide range of topics related to the environment and nature. Classes will be inspired by the unique seasonal offerings available on the property. Ideally, we hope to inspire the next generation of conservationists—with special efforts made to reach underserved youth in our community. A cadre of volunteer educators from STEM programs throughout the community will be providing programming.

A key measure for short-term goals for this start-up program will be evaluating how successful the activities are for increasing the participants' overall perception of improved connection with nature. This will be accomplished through a short, targeted survey that may for some ages be administered verbally vs. a written survey. Scout badges will be earned in several categories. Feedback from scout leaders will be collected for monitoring subsequent behavioral or attitudinal changes regarding environmental stewardship they may observe with the youths following an activity intervention.

Long term goals are:

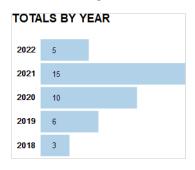
- Encouraging further participation from more community members.
- Having school field trips and internship opportunities.
- Raising funds for scholarships to help provide these important skill-building courses to all.
- Being recognized as a leader in nature education in the area as well as within highly regarded like-minded associations as identified above.
- Being recognized as a valuable community resource and trusted partner for environmental concerns and knowledge-sharing.

**GUIDESTAR PRO REPORT** March 19, 2024 www.guidestar.org Cypress Cove Landkeepers, Inc

```
/* Style Definitions */
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{mso-style-name:"Table Normal";
mso-tstyle-rowband-size:0;
mso-tstyle-colband-size:0;
mso-style-noshow:yes;
mso-style-priority:99;
mso-style-parent:"";
mso-padding-alt:oin 5.4pt oin 5.4pt;
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mso-para-margin-right:oin;
mso-para-margin-bottom:8.opt;
mso-para-margin-left:oin;
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font-family:"Calibri",sans-serif;}
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# **RESULTS**

# Number of students enrolled in service-learning courses



Population(s) Served: No target populations selected

Related program: Gore Nature Education Center

Notes: Statewide universities utilize our site for students to achieve service learning credits.

Hectares of land that are (or are in the process of being) organically certified as a result of the nonprofit's efforts

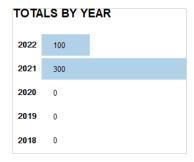


Population(s) Served: No target populations selected

#### Related program:

Notes: The goal of Cypress Cove Landkeepers is to protect critical land areas. Acquiring additional wildlands is key to our long-term success.

# **Number of students educated** through field trips

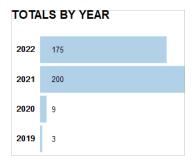


Population(s) Served: No target populations selected

Related program: Gore Nature Education Center

**Notes:** This is a new service to be offered in 2022. Groups currently developing plans are The Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Collier County School District, Boys and Girls Club of Collier County

Number of youth who demonstrate critical thinking skills (e.g., reasoning, analysis)



Population(s) Served: No target populations selected

Related program: Gore Nature Education Center

Notes: Programming has been developed for utilizing STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) within the courses.

#### **CHARTING IMPACT**

# What is the organization aiming to accomplish?

Cypress Cove Landkeepers key goal is to protect critical lands that provide endangered wildlife a corridor and roaming space. To meet a long-term objective of having an informed community, CCL will replenish native habitats and provide education that will inspire future Landkeepers.

# What are the organization's key strategies for making this happen?

Cypress Cove Landkeepers initiatives to support Sustainable Development Goals are:

- \* Acquire wildlands with ecological value for water quality, wildlife corridors, endangered or imperiled native plants, to conserve for the future.
- \* Collaborate with partners such as the University of Florida Extension for multiple programs both for healthy eating as well as preserving native Florida. Florida Fish and Wildlife for providing a safe environment for wildlife.
- \*Provide education through our partnerships with the Boys and Girl Scout associations in the area as well as with the school systems.
- \* Support and conduct research on the wildlands to gain knowledge in how better to preserve this unique land.

# What are the organization's capabilities for doing this?

CCL is fortunate to have a very engaged, volunteer board. Its growing recognition among donors who are environmentally committed has just begun to great success. The organization is looking forward to continued partnerships with the county, as well as state departments involved in environmental issues and preservation.

# What have and haven't they accomplished so far?

CCL has entered into a memorandum of understanding with Conservation Collier to integrate trails of the 10-acre site of the Gore Nature Education Center with the 170 acres purchased by Conservation Collier. This will provide access to Florida wetlands, hardwood hammocks, and Pine uplands habitats.

CCL is collaborating with the University of Floridas Family Nutrition Program (FNP) organized through their Institute for Food and Agriculture Studies to serve as a host for their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed). The goal of FNP is to reduce the risk of chronic disease, health complications, and foodborne illness and to increase food security among Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program eligible Florida residents by providing practical programming about making healthful food choices and balancing food and physical activity. The recent renovation of the center to create a demonstration kitchen supports this initiative.

Arthrex has enabled the Center to offer educational programs that can be supported with technology such as microscopes, TVs, and computers due to grant funding.

The Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida recently worked with CCL to create a new Landkeepers Badge that scouts can earn by completing our outlined curriculum. The Collier County School System has selected the GNEC as a destination for science field trips for students in all grade levels.

An accessible boardwalk takes visitors to a large deck where events will be held.

Two pollinator gardens containing native plants from this geographical area is underway with funding from the Naples Garden Club and other in-kind donors.

Invasive plants such as the Brazilian pepper tree and air potato vine are being removed mechanically to avoid any pollution to the surficial aquifer the Center rests on.

# Financials

FISCAL YEAR START: 01/01 FISCAL YEAR END: 12/31

# **Financial Trends Analysis**

# **Business Model Indicators**

Created in Partnership with



Profitability	2020	2021	2022
Unrestricted surplus (deficit) before depreciation	\$258,485	\$178,831	\$13,042
As a % of expenses	370.2%	215.2%	30.4%
Unrestricted surplus (deficit) after depreciation	\$254,674	\$168,393	\$1,933
As a % of expenses	345.9%	180.0%	3.6%
Revenue Composition			
Total revenue (unrestricted & restricted)	\$328,306	\$261,943	\$55,938
Total revenue, % change over prior year	0.0%	-20.2%	-78.6%
Program services revenue	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Membership dues	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Investment income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Government grants	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
All other grants and contributions	100.0%	100.0%	99.4%
Other revenue	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%
Expense Composition			
Total expenses before depreciation	\$69,821	\$83,112	\$42,896
Total expenses, % change over prior year	0.0%	19.0%	-48.4%
Personnel	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional Fees	17.9%	15.7%	20.8%
Occupancy	73.7%	63.8%	49.8%
Interest	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Pass-Through	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
All other expenses	8.4%	20.4%	29.5%

# **Financial Trends Analysis, continued**

# **Moving Toward Full Cost Coverage**

Full Cost Components (estimated)	2020	2021	2022
Total Expenses (after depreciation)	\$73,632	\$93,550	\$54,005
One Month of Savings	\$5,818	\$6,926	\$3,575
Debt Principal Repayment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fixed Asset Additions	\$0	\$287,928	\$0
Total Full Costs (estimated)	\$79,450	\$388,404	\$57,580

# **Capital Structure Indicators**

Liquidity			
Months of cash	18.4	11.7	25.4
Months of cash and investments	18.4	11.7	25.4
Months of estimated liquid unrestricted net assets	32.6	11.7	25.4
Balance Sheet Composition			
Cash	\$106,860	\$80,734	\$90,676
Investments	\$0	\$0	\$0
Receivables	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gross land, buildings, and equipment (LBE)	\$209,209	\$497,137	\$500,237
Accumulated depreciation (% of LBE)	3.1%	3.4%	5.6%
Liabilities (as % of assets)	27.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Unrestricted net assets	\$392,565	\$560,958	\$562,891
Temporarily restricted net assets	N/A	N/A	N/A
Permanently restricted net assets	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total restricted net assets	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total net assets	\$392,565	\$560,958	\$562,891

# **Key Data Checks**

Material Data Errors	2020	2021	2022
	No	No	No

Note: This issue is relevant to a small number of organizations: The nonprofit subject(s) of this report may have affiliates. The Form 990 data may not include information about any or all potential affiliates. If an organization does have affiliates and these affiliates have substantial financial activity, the financial data in this report may not present a comprehensive picture of the nonprofit's financial condition. Please consult the 990s of any potentially related affiliates for additional information.

- ☑ <u>'Key Revenue & Expense Data from Form 990'</u>
- 'Key Balance Sheet Data from Form 990'

# Operations

Source: Self-Reported by Organization, January 2024

# PRESIDENT OF BOARD

# Shane Duff

**GUIDESTAR PRO REPORT** 

# ☑ LinkedIn profile

Shane Duff is the President of Cypress Cove Landkeepers, and also oversees the Wildlife Monitoring program at the Gore Nature Education Center. Shane and his wife relocated to Florida from upstate New York in December of 2017. They fell in love with the ecosystems and abundant wildlife in Southwest Florida, and immediately began volunteering with multiple conservation and research groups across the area. Upon learning of Cypress Cove Landkeepers' mission to conserve and protect the land and wildlife that call it home, while educating the younger generation about the importance of good environmental stewardship, he got actively involved and joined the board.

He currently owns Refined Strategies, a business strategy consulting firm, and is the Director of Market Development for Alair Homes, a first-of-its-kind custom home building and renovation company with over 110 offices across the US and Canada.

# VICE PRESIDENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

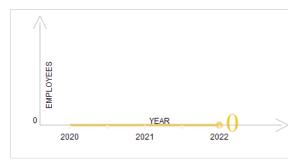
# Jennifer Reid

Jennifer Reid joined the board of Cypress Cove Landkeepers after founding and serving for 16 years as co-chair of Lyme Connection, a non-profit organization based in Ridgefield, Connecticut. In this capacity, Jennifer was responsible for community partnerships, education, communications, programs/ events, fundraising/grant writing, and research. Prior to founding Lyme Connection, Jennifer held senior-level positions for communications in several large corporations.

Leading an organization focused on preventing Zoonotic Diseases and supporting patients inspired Jennifer to focus her new life in Naples on projects that encourage community health and protect the environment. She was immediately drawn to the "Body, Mind and Spirt" wellness opportunities Cypress Cove envisions for visitors enjoying its Blue Zones Project designated trails, nature education programs, and artistic gatherings.

#### NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

Source: IRS Form 990



#### **BOARD CHAIR**

# Shane Duff

Term: 2020 - 2023

#### **BOARD CO-CHAIR**

# Jennifer Reid

Retired

Term: 2020 - 2022

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

#### Shane Duff

Shane started his first company at 17 years old and has since led and helped build companies in multiple industries, from automotive repair and restoration to natural wellness spas.

#### **Jennifer Reid**

Jennifer joins the board of Cypress Cove Conservancy after founding and serving for 16 years as co-chair of Lyme Connection, a non-profit organization based in Ridgefield, Connecticut.

#### Kathy Reno

Dr. Kathy Reno joined the Cypress Cove Landkeepers, Inc. board in 2020. Prior to joining the board, she served as Development Committee Chair, Grant Coordinator and Golf Event Organizer.

# Cheryl Guerrette

Tom McKibban

Rebecca Edelbrock

# OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, TRUSTEES, AND KEY EMPLOYEES

Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
Shane Duff	PRESIDENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
Jennifer Reid	VICE PRESIDE	\$0	\$0	\$0
Karen Reno	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Diane Aronson	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Tom McKibban	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Katharina Shoemaker	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cheryl Guerette	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0

# OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, TRUSTEES, AND KEY EMPLOYEES

Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
Shane Duff	PRESIDENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
Jennifer Reid	VICE PRESIDE	\$0	\$0	\$0
Karen Reno	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Arlene Cluff	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Bobbie Lee Davenport	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Susan Flowers	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vera Jaye	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0

# OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, TRUSTEES, AND KEY EMPLOYEES

Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
Shane Duff	PRESIDENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
Jennifer Reid	VICE PRESIDE	\$0	\$0	\$0
Karen Reno	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Arlene Cluff	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Bobbie Lee Davenport	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Susan Flowers	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vera Jaye	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0

# Officers Directors, Trustees, Key Employees

Name	Title	Compensation	Benefits/Deferred Compensation	Expense Account, Other
Shane Duff	PRESIDENT TR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Jennifer Reid	VICE PRESIDE	\$0	\$0	\$0
Bobbie Lee Davenport	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Susan Flowers	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Arlene Cluff	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0

# Officers Directors, Trustees, Key Employees

Name	Title	Compensation	Benefits/Deferred Compensation	Expense Account, Other
Bobbie Lee Davenport	PRESIDENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
Patty Whitehead	VICE PRESIDENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
Janet Weisberg	EDUCATION COORDINATOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Amy H Taylor	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Terrie Kleinberger	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Joann Vaccarino	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Georgia Stamp	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Thomas J Mooney	DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0

# **Paid Preparers**

FISCAL YEAR 2022

Firm Name	Firm EIN	Firm Address	Firm Phone
DAVIS & ASSOCIATES CPA	263876245	28901 TRAILS EDGE BLVD STE 205, BONITA SPRINGS FL 34134	2394445945

# **Paid Preparers**

FISCAL YEAR 2021

Firm Name	Firm EIN	Firm Address	Firm Phone
DAVIS & ASSOCIATES CPA	263876245	28901 TRAILS EDGE BLVD STE 205, BONITA SPRINGS FL 34134	2394445945

# **Paid Preparers**

Firm Name	Firm EIN	Firm Address	Firm Phone
DAVIS & ASSOCIATES CPA	26-3876245	28901 TRAILS EDGE BLVD STE 205, BONITA SPRINGS FL 34134 USA	239-444-5945

# **BOARD LEADERSHIP PRACTICES**

GuideStar worked with BoardSource, the national leader in nonprofit board leadership and governance, to create this section, which enables organizations and donors to transparently share information about essential board leadership practices.

#### **BOARD ORIENTATION & EDUCATION**

Does the board conduct a formal orientation for new board members and require all board members to sign a written agreement regarding their roles, responsibilities, and expectations?

Yes

#### **CEO OVERSIGHT**

Has the board conducted a formal, written assessment of the chief executive within the past year?

Not Applicable

#### **ETHICS & TRANSPARENCY**

Have the board and senior staff reviewed the conflict-of-interest policy and completed and signed disclosure statements in the past year?

Not Applicable

#### **BOARD COMPOSITION**

Does the board ensure an inclusive board member recruitment process that results in diversity of thought and leadership?

Yes

# **BOARD PERFORMANCE**

Has the board conducted a formal, written self-assessment of its performance within the past three years?

No

# **Organizational Demographics**

**Board Members** 

Who works and leads organizations that serve our diverse communities? This organization has voluntarily shared information to answer this important question and to support sector-wide learning. GuideStar partnered on this section with CHANGE Philanthropy and Equity in the Center.

# Leadership The organization's co-leader identifies as: The organization's other co-leader identifies as: **Race & Ethnicity** White/Caucasian/European **Race & Ethnicity** White/Caucasian/European **Gender Identity Gender Identity** Male Female **Sexual Orientation** Decline to state **Sexual Orientation** Decline to state **Disability Status** Person without a disability **Disability Status** Person without a disability **Race & Ethnicity** No data **Gender Identity** Board Members 71% 29% 0% Female Male Non-binary Non-binary People who prefer to identify with another gender identity Unknown or decline to state Board Members 0% **Transgender Identity Sexual Orientation** No data Disability Board Members Person with a disability Person without a disability Unknown or decline to state

# Appendix

Key Documents	
IRS Forms 990	
	2 <u>021 990</u>
	2 <u>020 990</u>
	2 <u>019 990</u>
	Z <u>2018 990</u>
IRS Forms 990T	Not Available
Audited Financial Statements	2021 Audited Financial Statement
Key Organization Documents	☑ 'Key Revenue & Expense Data from Form 990'
	☑ 'Key Balance Sheet Data from Form 990'

# GuideStar Charity Check

# Cypress Cove Landkeepers, Inc

PO Box 110308 Naples, FL 34108 ✓ Foundation Status Code: PC\*

✓ Public charity described in section 509(a)(1) or (2)

# IRS Publication 78 Details

IRS Pub 78 verified

Organization name Location Most recent IRS Publication 78

Cypress Cove Conservancy Inc. Naples, FL March 2024

EIN <u>Deductibility status description</u> Verified with most recent Internal Revenue Bulletin

47-4820620 A public charity (50% deductibility limitation). March 18, 2024

# IRS Business Master File Details

IRS BMF 509(a)(1)

Organization name Most recent IRS BMF Reason for Non-Private Foundation Status

CYPRESS COVE CONSERVANCY INC March 12 2024 Section 509(a)(1) organization as referred to in Section

170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

EIN IRS subsection Ruling date
47-4820620 This organization is a 501(c)(3) Public Charity 12/2015

This organization was not included in the Office of Foreign Assets Control Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list.

On September 8, 2011, the IRS issued  $\underline{regulations}$  which eliminated the advance ruling process for a section 501(c)(3) organization.  $\underline{Learn more}$ 

\* The Foundation Status Code is the code that foundations are required to provide for each grantee annually on part XV of Form 990PF. Note that this code cannot be derived in some cases (e.g., supporting organizations for which 'type' can't be determined).

<u>IRS Revenue Procedure 2011-33</u> allows grantors to rely on third-party resources, such as GuideStar Charity Check, to obtain required Business Master File (BMF) data concerning a potential grantee's public charity classification under section 509 (a) (1), (2) or (3).

### GuideStar Charity Check Data Sources

-GuideStar acquires all IRS data directly from the Internal Revenue Service.

-IRS <u>Publication 78 (Cumulative List of Organizations)</u> lists organizations that have been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions.

- -The <u>IRS Internal Revenue Bulletin</u> (IRB) lists changes in charitable status since the last Publication 78 release. Between the release of IRS Publication 78 and the subsequent IRS Internal Revenue Bulletin, the IRB date will reflect the most recent release date of IRS Publication 78.
- -The <u>IRS Business Master File</u> lists approximately 1.7 million nonprofits registered with the IRS as tax-exempt organizations.
- -The I<u>RS Automatic Revocation of Exemption List</u> contains organizations that have had their federal tax-exempt status automatically revoked for failing to file an annual return or notice with the IRS for three consecutive years
- -The Foundation Status Code is a value derived by mapping the codes found on the <u>990PF filing instructions</u> to the corresponding codes in the IRS BMF. Note that not all codes are able to be mapped due to insufficient data.
- -The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) <u>Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list</u> organizations that are owned or controlled by targeted individuals, groups, and entities, such as terrorists or narcotics traffickers. Their assets are blocked and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from dealing with them.