

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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Cornie Thornburgh to Receive Ending Homelessness Award at 18th Annual Breakfast

[The Lord's Place](#) will host its 18th Annual [Ending Homelessness Breakfast](#), *Lift Our Voices*, Thursday, November 20, 2025, at the Kravis Center Cohen Pavilion. The Ending Homelessness Award will be presented to Cornie Thornburgh, board chair of The Lord's Place, who is serving her final year as chair and has made a profound impact on how the agency serves the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in Palm Beach County.

"We look forward to recognizing Cornie for her extraordinary dedication to breaking the cycle of homelessness. For more than a decade, she has been instrumental in transforming our agency's capacity to serve those most in need," stated Christine Frederick, CEO of The Lord's Place.

Since joining The Lord's Place board in 2012, Thornburgh has demonstrated exceptional leadership, serving 13 years as a director and trustee, including nine years as board chair. Her strategic vision came to fruition through her leadership in guiding the board through a \$20 million Home for Good campaign. She opened doors and worked in tandem with staff to build new relationships and connect donors who shared a similar vision of hope and compassion, successfully raising funds to construct a new 25,000 square foot facility, expand housing, and start the conversation of sustainability.

Frederick added, "Under Cornie's leadership, the board has grown into a well-recognized entity in the community, now viewed as the gold standard. She has consistently redirected the board to think differently, helping them transform challenging moments into strategic opportunities during organizational transitions, the COVID-19 pandemic, major construction projects, and staff changes—including, most recently, hiring and onboarding me as the new CEO."

Her generous spirit extends beyond governance, as she and her husband Dick have been faithful donors to The Lord's Place since 2013. As a fierce advocate for people living on society's margins, Thornburgh has become a stronger voice than ever before for clients, working to change community minds about supporting those who are marginalized while maintaining the organization's financial stability and mission focus.

According to Frederick, “Cornie’s combination of strategic acumen, board leadership, heartfelt compassion, and steadfast advocacy makes her a clear choice for the Ending Homelessness Award.”

The breakfast takes place during [Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week](#) and aims to spread both community and national awareness and generate support to raise \$250,000 toward breaking the cycle of homelessness. In the face of the shutdown of key agencies and federal funding cuts, The Lord’s Place seeks increased community support now more than ever as they risk losing one-third of their \$16.5M budget that is essential to successfully serving Palm Beach County’s most vulnerable neighbors.

Jayne and Chris Malfitano, long-time supporters and friends of The Lord’s Place, are honorary chairs. The impactful event will feature thematic speeches and real-life stories to provide attendees with a deep understanding of The Lord’s Place mission in action and the many ways we can lift our voices to advocate for ourselves and on behalf of others.

GL Homes is the Ending Homelessness Breakfast premier sponsor and has graciously and continuously supported the breakfast as a top sponsor for the last 11 years.

Tickets are \$100-\$150/person and sponsorships start at \$2,500. For information regarding ticket purchases and sponsorship opportunities, visit: thelordsplace.org/ending-homelessness-breakfast.

About The Lord’s Place

For 45 years, The Lord’s Place, a non-sectarian agency, has been working to break the cycle of homelessness for men, women, and children in Palm Beach County, FL, through innovative, compassionate and effective services. The Fortin Family Campus in West Palm Beach provides training and support services including: the operation of Café Joshua; job training and placement services; clinical and care coordination; community engagement services; and a reentry program helping men and women transitioning from incarceration. The agency also owns or rents 15 supportive and graduate housing locations, as well as 82 scattered site apartments, to help house about 300 individuals every night. For more information, visit thelordsplace.org.

Photo IDs:

[001](#) and [002](#): Previous Ending Homelessness Breakfasts at The Kravis Center. Photo credit: David Scarola Photography

[003](#): Ending Homelessness Award Recipient Cornelia Thornburgh. Photo credit: Tracey Benson Photography

[005](#): CEO of The Lord’s Place Christine Frederick with Ending Homelessness Award Recipient Cornelia Thornburgh. Photo credit: Capehart Photography.

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