

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **CEO of The Lord's Place Receives First-Ever Cara Malave Legacy Award**

*Christine Frederick honored for her leadership, compassion, and impact serving youth.*

[The Lord's Place](#) CEO Christine Frederick received the first-ever Cara Malave Legacy Award as part of the [FLITE Center](#)'s 8th Annual Heroes Luncheon on April 17. The event recognized unsung heroes who support and dedicate their lives to ensuring no youth travels the road alone to adulthood.

"This year we launched an award in Cara Malave's honor, the Cara Malave Legacy Award. This is meant to be awarded to someone who holds the same spirit of leadership, compassion, and impact Cara had during her time serving our youth. Christine, our inaugural recipient, has dedicated more than two decades to youth transitioning to independence—she broke barriers, influenced systemic change, and created lasting opportunities for youth to succeed throughout our community," stated Kristina DaSilva, FLITE Center chief executive officer.

Malave served FLITE Center for eight years, as director of programs then chief program officer, before her unexpected death in August 2025. She devoted her life to uplifting and empowering young people, especially those navigating the transition to independence, leaving behind a legacy defined by compassion, strength, and unwavering commitment.

Her co-workers describe her as one who "would give the shirt off her back for anyone...the most incredible person, with a smile and laugh that would light up an entire room. She spent her life putting others first and fighting for those who needed her most."

Frederick's legacy, similar to Malave's, is one of service, passion, and advocacy: seen both in the programs they built and the lives they changed.

Frederick has always had a passion for helping individuals most in need. Her experience includes more than 20 years of progressive leadership in nonprofit and social impact organizations. In May 2025, Frederick joined The Lord's Place as chief executive officer to continue to grow and inspire the agency's 45-year mission of breaking the cycle of homelessness for men, women, and children in Palm Beach County. Previously, she served as

CEO of FLITE Center from 2017-2025 and 12 years on the frontlines and on the executive management team of [HANDY](#).

At FLITE Center, Frederick coordinated the Transitional Independent Living System of Care; grew its budget from under \$600,000 to more than \$10 million; expanded the headquarters from 3,000 square feet to more than 16,000 square feet; increased staff from eight to more than 60; and extended its service area to include 12 counties in Florida. At HANDY, she led an elite team in program development—assisting with the agency’s capacity building efforts through grant writing and grant management and maintaining both quality services and outcomes with foster youth in relative and nonrelative care.

“For over 22 years, I’ve had the privilege of being part of building something for our youth that was incredibly special...this work has never been easy—but it has always been worth it, because of them—because of who we serve...But the truth is—none of it was ever mine alone. It was built on collective love and sacrifice, and it was built on the back of someone extraordinary—Cara Malave. This award carries the name of someone who was not just my colleague, but my friend and my family. She was my right hand, my partner in every sense of the word, and truly one of the most giving human beings I have ever known,” said Frederick in her acceptance speech.

Malave and Frederick, together, created the Heroes Luncheon to celebrate the people who go unseen; to celebrate what happens when people put competition and egos down and choose to lift each other up; to show the power and impact of the whole is far greater than that of one singular person or agency.

Frederick described Malave as “the person who stayed when things got hard. The one who showed up without hesitation. The one who didn’t just believe in the mission—she lived it, every single day, in the way she loved people. She was the one who never saw a ‘case,’ only a human being who deserved more.”

Honored to be the first recipient of the Cara Malave Legacy Award, Frederick expressed how her dear friend’s legacy continues, “I still feel her in this work. It’s in the way we show up. In the way we fight for people who deserve more. Her legacy isn’t just remembered—it’s still alive in every life that is changed because of what she helped create. So, while my name may be attached to this award as a recipient, it will always belong to Cara and to every person who receives it after who helped build a legacy that was bigger than themselves.”

Other Heroes Luncheon honorees included: Broward Sheriff’s Office, Mark and Tiffany Dhooge, Ladies Fish Off, Cara Malave (posthumous), Mavericks Host Committee, and Joel Smith.

### **About The Lord’s Place**

*For more than 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 14 supportive and graduate housing locations, as well as 85 scattered site apartments, to help house about 300 individuals every night. For more information, visit [thelordsplace.org](http://thelordsplace.org).*

**PHOTO ID:**

[001](#): Christine Frederick accepting the Cara Malave Legacy Award at FLITE Center's 8th Annual Heroes Luncheon

[002](#): Cristina Lucier, Christine Frederick, Calvin Philips, Molly Franzone, Brett Larsen

[003](#): Christina Malave, Christine Frederick, Hilary Malave

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