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Securing Florida's Future



FLORIDA PROSPERITY INITIATIVE

## The Prosperity Initiative Relaunch

Florida has 870,505 children living in poverty; that's 21.3 percent of all of Florida's under-18 population. Because of COVID-19, that number is expected to rise dramatically. Fortunately, the Florida Chamber Foundation already had in place a long-term \$2.5 million plan to help these children build lives of prosperity. That plan is the [Florida Prosperity Initiative](#).

While no one anticipated a scenario like the one we've all experienced for the last few months, it's clear the launch of the Prosperity Initiative could not have been more providential. Our work has not slowed down, it's accelerated to meet the projected increase in children living in poverty due to the economic turmoil created by COVID-19. Many of the working poor rely on Florida's tourism, travel and hospitality industries for survival. As those industries effectively closed for months and are just now relaunching, many Floridians are left with few immediate options and face an uncertain future as to when and if their jobs come back.

As we view the world that has changed around us, it's time for a **Relaunch**, not just of the Prosperity Initiative, but of the entire state of Florida. We invite you to be a part of this critical mission.

### Florida Prosperity Digital Summer Series

Last week, the Business Leader's Summit on Prosperity and Economic Opportunity would have taken place. While it's disappointing to not be able to gather together to share ideas, it's important that the conversation continues. That's why this summer, the Florida Chamber Foundation's Prosperity Initiative will move the Prosperity Summit online by hosting a series of four digital events that will focus on how business leaders can play a critical role in reducing Florida's childhood poverty rate to less than 10 percent.

Focus Areas, Panelists, and Registration will be announced in the next few weeks.

### Businesses Giving Back

Thank you to our partners who are answering the call on COVID-19 Relief for vulnerable communities.



### **Weatherford Capital**

Will Weatherford, Managing Partner of Weatherford Capital, is spearheading a \$1 million fundraising campaign for Metropolitan Ministries, a Tampa based non-profit who provides food, rent, and utility assistance for people in need. Financial donations can be made by visiting the [Emergency Impact Fund](#).

One million  
pounds of produce.  
Doing good,  
together.



### **Publix**

Publix is partnering with Feeding Florida to bring relief to farmers, food banks, and families in need. Publix has donated more than 1 million pounds of produce and 100,000 gallons of milk from Florida farmers. These donations will be contributed to Feeding America. Click [here](#) to learn more.

## **Stay Engaged**

Help change the lives of children living in poverty in your zip code. Email [mwilliams@flfoundation.org](mailto:mwilliams@flfoundation.org) to get involved.

The Florida Chamber Foundation's Prosperity Initiative is uniting the business community for good in a time when coming together is even more important. Some of Florida's top employers are going the extra mile for their community and we want to highlight their efforts. Please visit our [COVID-19 Resource Page](#) for more information.

**Visit ProsperityFL.org Today!**