



**St. Lucie County  
Education Foundation, Inc.**

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**2019 Teacher of the Year**

Samantha Lamora

May 1, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam:

Keiser University is a significant community partner in St. Lucie County. The leadership team and the campus staff are intimately involved in the community.

Leslie Kristof, the Campus President is currently our Board Chair. Through her leadership the Education Foundation has developed a Business Mentor Program to help struggling high school students graduate work ready with a goal to attend college part time. This program was developed in partnership with many other community organizations and Keiser University is one of the lead sponsors.

Keiser University and Leslie Kristof are also a lead sponsor for our Teacher Grant program, which supports our classrooms and the school district. This program focuses on specific programmatic areas: literacy, STEM, low performing students, graduation rates and professional development programs within the public school district.

Keiser University staff are also volunteers for our annual dinner. They have spent many hours helping to raise donations and organizing the event. Additionally, Keiser University and Leslie Kristof are a lead sponsor for the Night of the Stars, Outstanding First Year Teacher. The Night of the Stars is a renowned event in St. Lucie County that takes place on an annual basis to recognize educators and school district staff dedicated to education.

We are pleased to have Keiser University and Leslie Kristoff at the helm of the Education Foundation. They have successfully partnered with us to ensure that we fulfill the Education Foundation's mission, *"to promote, encourage, and recognize excellence in public education."*

Respectfully,

Thom Jones  
President

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