

## TIFFANY SAWYER, EXECUTIVE DIR. MIACC

# MIACC Foundation has New Blood

*There is new blood in the MIACC Foundation and exciting plans are underway to give back to our local community.*

**T**he MIACC Foundation is the charitable branch of the Marine Industries Association of Collier County. The Foundation was established to develop, produce, and support programs related to recreational boating and our marine environment with a focus on children and the less fortunate.

For 25 years the Foundation has organized the Christmas Boat Parade on Naples Bay, the proceeds of which are donated to a local charity. The Foundation also organizes the annual Kids Fishing Clinic at the Naples Pier with Florida Fish and Wildlife.

MIACC Foundation programs depend entirely on the kindness of individuals for tax-deductible donations.

Donations make it possible for Collier County's youth to learn responsible angler skills through the annual Kid's Fishing Clinic; to build a boat with the CCSO's Build-A-Boat Program; to learn to sail with Naples Community Sailing Center; to Keep Kids Afloat through the Life Jacket Loaner Program. Donations will also teach boaters to be stewards of our precious marine environment through the support of Rookery Bay's TEAM Ocean program. Thank a wounded veteran or put a smile on the face of a sick child, as donations support therapeutic boat outings with Freedom Waters Foundation. These are just a few of the many ways donations to the MIACC Foundation can make a difference.

When Foundation President Valerie Pike of Collier Enterprises and Vice President Steve Sprigg of Galati Yacht Sales joined the Board of Directors a year ago, they had big plans for the organization. After a year of organizing ideas, the board realized the need to hire an Executive Director to implement these great ideas.

The board recognized the perfect fit for this position in Tiffany Sawyer, the Executive Director of the MIACC (the business branch of the non-profit

organization.) Ms. Sawyer has served as the Executive Director of the MIACC for two and a half years. She has organized the Association's first Downtown Naples Boat Show and is currently planning the second annual show. She has grown the Naples Boat Show at the Florida Sports Park and has exciting new plans for the 2016 show. Tiffany has proven herself ready for the challenges of fundraising for the Foundation. First on her agenda is a fundraising campaign to raise capital funds in order to organize a new event in the community. *In April/May 2016 she will organize a Live/Silent Auction Gala coinciding with a Nautical Flea Market Festival at the Florida Sports Park.*

"I am excited for this new opportunity to reach out to the community" says Sawyer. "I get to organize fun events in my current position but now I get to organize fun events and support programs that actually make a difference in the lives of our future generation."

Tiffany Sawyer is excited to work with the Foundation Board of Directors: Valerie Pike, Steve Sprigg, Laura Almand (Naples Harbour), Frank Perrucci (Naples Boat Club), Kit Sawyer (Sawyer's Outboard), Henry Lowe (Lowe's Marine Sales), and Duke Turner and help restore this admirable non-profit once again.

To become a Corporate or Event sponsor contact Tiffany Sawyer at (239) 682-0900 Email: Foundation@MIACC.org. To make a donation send checks payable to "MIACC Foundation" to PO Box 9887 Naples, FL 34101. For your convenience donations can also be made online at FundMe.com.

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