

Tammy Carey

Executive Director

What do you do for the Foundation?

I've had the pleasure of leading the Foundation for 17 years as the Executive Director. While I wear many "hats" my favorite one is to meet new people and hear their story. I always tell people I have the best job in the county!

Why are you passionate about your work?

When we moved to Oceana County 28 years ago, we made a conscious decision to work in the community. We wanted to live, work, enjoy life and raise our family of eventually 4 sons in a small town. When I first came onto the Foundation board as a trustee, I was incredibly impressed by the impact of philanthropy. I was new to the sector, but when offered the position a year later—it was a match.

What is something most people don't know about you?

I have traveled to Honduras six times to work on various construction projects, with a team from Shelby Rotary Club and New Era Reformed Church. I have fallen in love with the people and someday I'll learn to speak Spanish. It's hard work, but I feel so blessed to help the people in need.

Where is your favorite place to go in Oceana County?

I vacationed at Silver Lake in my childhood and met my husband Sean there while in college. We own rental cabins there and spend lots of family time enjoying the dunes, by boat or foot. Now in the empty nester life, I find myself visiting other spots too —like Gales Pond for quiet reflection, walking along Lake Michigan for exercise, frightening myself at Peter Pan Land (ask me) or bike riding everywhere.

