Sarah Karon, Dr. Joseph Rush and Michael Paonessa & Rob Iles Honored during Tampa Bay Philanthropy Week

Major supporters of WUSF Public Media recognized at ceremony
November 18 in downtown St. Petersburg

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. – Nov. 23, 2021 –WUSF Public Media is pleased to honor Sarah Karon of Sarasota, Dr. Joseph Rush of Melrose and Michael Paonessa and Rob Iles of St. Petersburg for their support of public broadcasting, as part of the annual Tampa Bay Philanthropy Week celebration, hosted by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), Tampa Bay and sponsored by the Community Foundation Tampa Bay. Karon, Rush, Paonessa and Iles were recognized along with eleven others last week during a celebration held at the James Museum of Western & Wildlife Art in St. Petersburg.

“WUSF Public Media celebrates the generosity of our donors whose giving enables us to encourage philanthropic support from others, to fund student internships and to plan for the future of public media,” said WUSF Public Media General Manager JoAnn Urofsky. “Donors such as these help WUSF fulfill the mission of informing, entertaining and connecting the residents of Florida for our common good.”

Additional information about Tampa Bay Philanthropy Week can be found at the event website, www.PhilanthropyTampaBay.org, which provides a hub for inspiring stories that profile the acts of philanthropists, ethical fundraisers, and compassionate organizations that shaped positive outcomes throughout the Tampa Bay community.

National Philanthropy Day® (NPD), first celebrated on Nov. 15, 1986, by proclamation of President Ronald Reagan, is set aside to recognize and pay tribute to the great contributions that philanthropy has made to our lives, our communities, and our world. For more information, visit www.NPDLove.org.

For more information about AFP Tampa Bay, visit www.AFPSuncoast.org.
For more information about **Community Foundation Tampa Bay**, visit [www.cftampabay.org](http://www.cftampabay.org).

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**About WUSF Public Media**
WUSF Public Media is a comprehensive media organization that serves the community and businesses through public broadcasting, digital resources and multi-media production services. Licensed to the University of South Florida, WUSF Public Media has been serving the public interest through programming, educational engagement and community partnerships for 58 years. For more information, visit [www.wusf.org](http://www.wusf.org).