



WELCOME TO THE

Newsletter

I'm so glad you're here!**Life is not scripted.**

If it were, we would all choose serenity and peace. But life unfolds with responsibility, challenge, and moments that test who we are. There are defining moments when we are reminded that while we cannot control everything, we can choose how we respond. And that choice, followed by action, shapes not only our own lives, but the lives of others.

When my family's story changed, I knew I could not rewrite what had occurred. But I could influence what happened next. With God's direction, I chose to advocate for safer roads, working alongside lawmakers, community leaders, and families to pursue meaningful reform.

Our collective work led to the passage of the Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Act, a milestone that demonstrated what is possible when persistence, faith, and partnership align. Through camaraderie and shared purpose, we proved that lasting change is never created alone.

That same calling led to the creation of The Mark Wandall Foundation. While we cannot take away a child's grief, we can change the support they receive.

Each of our programs build resilience, fosters connection, and reminds children they are not alone. The isolation barrier is broken.

Life is full of responsibility. By trial and error, I have learned we are not called to change everything, as that would be to our mental and physical detriment. We are called to change what we can. A policy. A partnership. A program. A life.

I am grateful to continue this work, alongside so many dedicated partners and supporters - changing what we can, when we can, together, one step at a time.

Melissa Wandall

A Simple Snack That Keeps Me Going

MACROBAR

My go-to quick fix snack is the MacroBar Banana Almond Butter Bar. Whether I'm about to step on stage, heading to equine therapy with our foundation kids, or juggling a busy day, a few bites help keep me satisfied and energized.



Moments That Move Us Forward

Through our partnership with Smart with Heart, our equine program gives children the opportunity to build trust, confidence, and meaningful connections in a powerful way. I invite you to watch this special moment and see the impact for yourself.

[👉 Watch the Video](#)

NEW BLOG POST

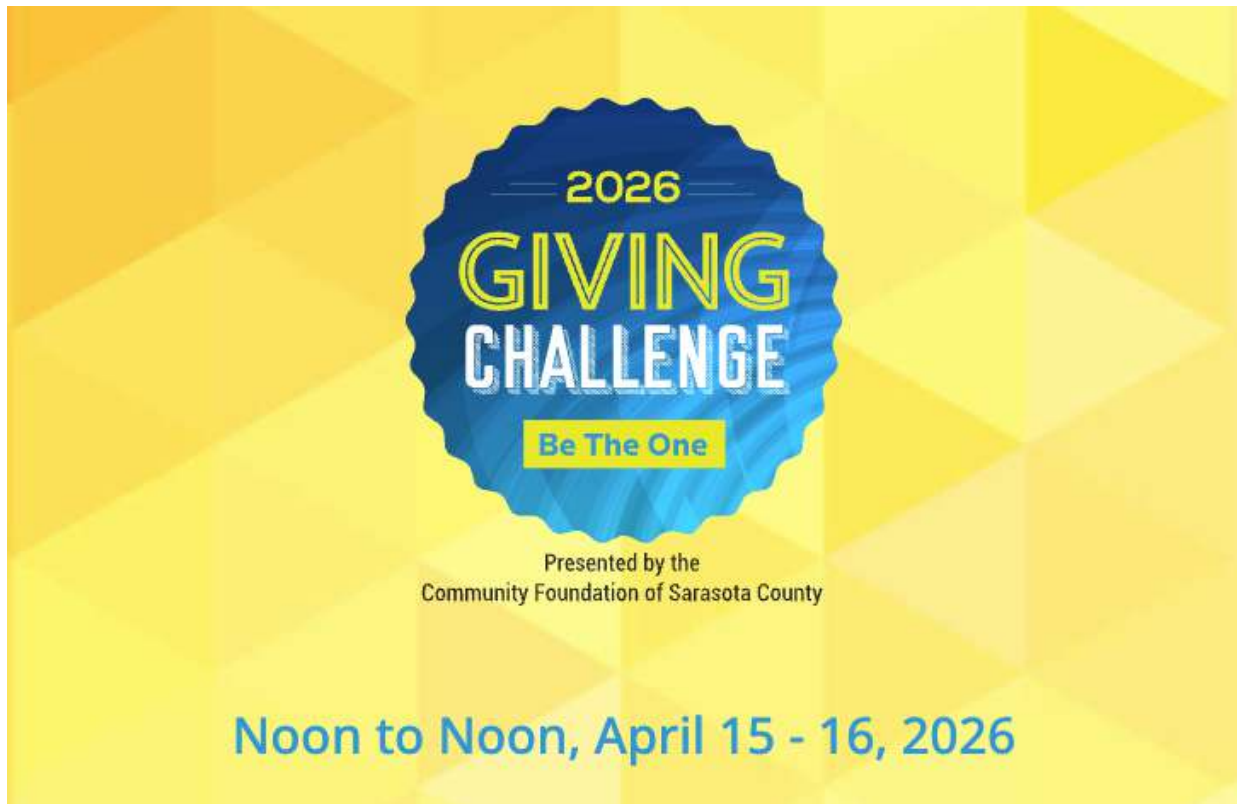
SMALL BUT MIGHTY: 22 YEARS OF YOUTH GRIEF PROGRAMS OFFERING HOPE AND HEALING



[READ MORE](#)

For more than two decades, we've remained committed to walking alongside grieving children and families—providing programs that foster resilience, connection, and hope.

[Read the Full Blog →](#)



As we prepare for The Giving Challenge, your support helps us continue providing life-changing programs at no cost to the children and families we serve.

Our “why” is simple and steadfast; we walk alongside children and families navigating grief after the death of a loved one, ensuring they are supported, seen, and never alone in their journey.

We invite you to consider participating this year as we come together to make a meaningful and truly impactful difference.

Every gift. Every partnership. Every act of generosity makes a difference, and together, we are changing what we can.

Our link won't be live until April 15, so please, SAVE our donation link:
<https://www.givingchallenge.org/organizations/the-mark-wandall-foundation-inc>

And on April 15–16 from Noon to Noon, you have the opportunity to make a donation and be the one!

To help spread the message, we've created free downloadable social graphics you can share with your community.

[Download Free Resources →](#)

Distracted Driving Awareness Month



DRIVING SAFETY

Eyes Up. Phones Down.
Lives Depend On It.

- ✓ Don't use your phone.
- ✓ Avoid eating or drinking.
- ✓ Stay alert of traffic around you.

www.ncsrsafety.org

April Is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Awareness is where change begins, and the choices we make behind the wheel matter more than we realize. We've created a free resource to help you and your community stay informed and take action. Join us in spreading the message to never drive distracted this April and help protect every life on the road.

Use #DistractedDriving and tag [NCSR on Facebook](#). We would love to participate with you!

[Download Free Resource](#)



Growing Around Grief

I recently had the honor of speaking at Growing Around Grief at the University of South Florida, hosted by the incredible students of Care for Company at USF. These students are creating a meaningful space where conversations around grief, connection, and support can take place openly, and their commitment to serving others continues to inspire.

If your organization, campus, or community group is looking for a speaker on grief, resilience, and supporting children after the death of a parent, guardian, or sibling, I'd love to connect.

Contact Me!

upcoming Speaking Engagements

APR
20

WORKSHOP

9:30-10:45 AM

Lifesavers Conference on Roadway Safety
Baltimore, Maryland

APR
21

PLENARY SPEAKER

12:00 PM

Kansas Transportation Safety Conference
Manhattan, Kansas

MAY
18

KEYNOTE

9:30 AM

IPTM Symposium on Traffic Safety
Lake Buena Vista, Florida



Book Melissa Wandall: Empowering Audiences with Resilience, Faith, and Action

One-to-One Mentoring Opportunities

If you're feeling overwhelmed or unsure where to begin, I am opening a limited number of one-to-one mentoring opportunities. Together, we will clarify YOUR purpose, strengthen your strategy, and turn your passion into meaningful progress.

If this speaks to you, I invite you to take the next step. Email me with the subject line "Mentoring," and include a brief note about your goals.

[Contact Me!](#)

WWW.MELISSAWANDALLADVOCATE.COM



M3 Motivational Concepts | PO Box 21333 | Bradenton, FL 34204 US

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