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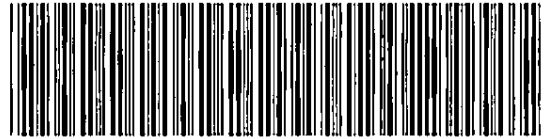
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## COVER LETTER

Department of State  
Division of Corporations  
P. O. Box 6327  
Tallahassee, FL 32314

**SUBJECT:** COMMUNITY UNITED SERVICES, Inc.

(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME – MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

Enclosed is an original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation and a check for :

☐ \$70.00  
Filing Fee

☒ \$78.75  
Filing Fee &  
Certificate of  
Status

☐ \$78.75  
Filing Fee  
& Certified Copy

☐ \$87.50  
Filing Fee,  
Certified Copy  
& Certificate

**ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED**

**FROM:** ANNA CALLWOOD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Printed or typed)

P O BOX 510748

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

PUNTA GORDA FL 33951-0748

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State & Zip

(941) 661-7332

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Telephone number

communityunitedpg@gmail.com

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

**NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.**

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**  
for  
**COMMUNITY UNITED SERVICES, INC.**

This is to certify that the initial Board of Directors as defined in Article V do hereby associate themselves together under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Florida set forth in the Florida Not for Profit Corporation Act, Chapter 617 of Florida Statutes for the sole purpose of organizing a non-profit corporation on a non-stock basis and to that end do hereby set forth the following:

**ARTICLE I**

The name of the not for profit corporation is:  
Community United Services, Inc.

**ARTICLE II**

The principal address of the not for profit corporation is 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950.

The mailing address of the not for profit corporation is P. O. Box 510748, Punta Gorda, FL 33951.

**ARTICLE III**

The effective date of the not for profit corporation shall be December 4, 2023.

**ARTICLE IV**

This not for profit corporation shall have no members. All legal actions for this not for profit corporation shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE V**

The names of the initial Board of Directors of the not for profit corporation are

Co-President	Demetrius Thomas 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Co-President	Karen McElhaney 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Vice President	Merritt Brown 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Treasurer	Anissa Barksdale 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Secretary	Graciela Carthy 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Directors	Joseph Angelini 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
	Cathy Bivins 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
	Ellison Haddock 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
	Paul Hibner 605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

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PUNTA GORDA, FL

Terrel Sylver  
605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
NaShara Tyson  
605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
Mike Williams  
605 Mary Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

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#### ARTICLE VI

- A) This not for profit corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States tax code.
- B) This not for profit corporation shall further function and operate as a Florida not for profit corporation specifically for the following purposes and with the following objectives:
1. To provide collaborative services that benefit the community it serves by providing self-empowerment tools that will produce beneficial outcomes to the maximum extent possible.
  2. To engage, inform, connect and coordinate community-focused activities, programs and services.
  3. To offer programs and services to all regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or religious affiliation that will increase self-worth and enrich the lives of youth, families and seniors.
  4. To provide recreational, life-skills and social activities to those served via help with academics and experiential learning, job readiness training, financial literacy, and communication and team-building sports.
  5. To provide a caring and safe gathering place for youth and those served.
  6. To provide such other services for youth, family and seniors as the not for profit corporation may from time to time deem appropriate.
  7. To listen to the community in order to take care of the needs of the community.
- C) No substantial part of the activities of this not for profit corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the not for profit corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
- D) This not for profit corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a not for profit corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States tax code.
- E) This not for profit corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section

501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provisions of any future United States tax code.

- F) No part of the net earnings of this not for profit corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the not for profit corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

No officer or member of the Board of Directors of this not for profit corporation shall receive any pecuniary profit from the operation of the not for profit corporation, except for reimbursement of actual expenses to or on behalf of such not for profit corporation, in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein, as authorized by the Board of Directors. Additionally, the Board of Directors may fix the amount of compensation to be paid to any employees of the not for profit corporation.

This not for profit corporation shall exist perpetually or exist until dissolved by due process of the law. Upon the dissolution of the not for profit corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future United States tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the County in which the principal office of the not for profit corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purpose.

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

Term. The manner in which the Directors are elected or appointed is as provided for in the By-Laws.

Powers. The Board of Directors of the not for profit corporation shall have the power to alter, amend or repeal the By-Laws by a majority of those voting, at any regular or special meeting, duly convened after notice to the Directors of such purpose.

Notice. Thirty (30) days notice to Directors of the meeting in which an amendment is to be approved must be given and the notice is required to state that the purpose or one of the purposes of the meeting is to consider a proposed amendment to the By-Laws and contains or is accompanied by a copy or summary of the amendment or states the general nature of the amendment.

#### **ARTICLE IX**

Additional Directors shall be elected by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors taken in accordance with the By-Laws. Officers shall be elected according to the individual's character and ability to provide oversight relative to his/her role on the Board of

Directors, loyalty to the purpose and to those served, and involvement in the community.

50% of the Board members presented in person and/or online virtual constitutes a quorum at any Board meeting.

The number of Directors shall not be less than five (5) but may be five (5) or any number in excess thereof. Family members and/or relatives cannot serve on the Board of Directors during the same term. However, family members and/or relatives can serve on Committees formed by the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE X**

No Board of Directors officer or member shall be personally liable for debts, liabilities and other obligations of the not for profit corporation.

#### **ARTICLE XI**

The not for profit corporation shall keep as permanent records minutes of all meetings of its Board of Directors, a record of all actions taken by the directors without a meeting, and a record of all actions taken by committees of the Board of Directors. The not for profit corporation shall also maintain accounting and grant funded records, copy of applicable filed IRS 990 form, copy of filed solicitation of contributions form, and accurate and current record of its Board members.

All records of the not for profit corporation including books, accounts, records, minutes, letters, memoranda, documents, checks, vouchers, articles, By-Laws and any and all other records that may be deemed necessary in the operation of the not for profit corporation shall be available for review or copying to the Attorney General of Florida or to a duly designated representative of the federal or local government upon written request from the investigating entity to the President or to the Chairman of the Board.

The Articles of Incorporation and all amendments to them currently in effect, resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors relating to characteristics, qualifications, right limitations, and obligations of Board members, the minutes of all meetings of the Board and a record of all actions approved by the Board for the past three years, all written communications to the Board within the past three years, including the financial statements for the past three years and the most recent report of each type required to be filed by the not for profit corporation with the Secretary of State shall be maintained as permanent records of the not for profit corporation at its principal office.

Records of this not for profit corporation that must be available to the public either under federal or state law during normal office hours shall be held at the not for profit corporation's principal office.

#### **ARTICLE XII**

The fiscal year of this not for profit corporation is the calendar year.

### ARTICLE XIII

Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters not covered by the By-Laws and Board Governance of this not for profit corporation.

### ARTICLE XIV

All services and programs provided by this not for profit corporation shall be offered in the State of Florida, primarily for the benefit of the residents of Charlotte County.

### ARTICLE XV

The Registered Agent and address for this Florida not for profit corporation shall be:

A. Jill C. McCrory  
McCrory Law Firm  
309 Tamiami Trail,  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Having been named as Registered Agent to accept service of process for the above stated not for profit corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Registered Agent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*A. Jill C. McCrory*

Signed this 5th day of December, 2023

### ARTICLE XVI

The name and address of the Incorporator is:

Anna Callwood  
605 Mary Street  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for in s.817.155, F.S.

Incorporator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Signature]*

Signed this 5th day of December, 2023

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TALLAHASSEE FL  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE