

From Mansions to Missions: Palm Beach County's Philanthropic Real Estate Luminary

In Palm Beach County, amidst a backdrop of luxurious mansions and pristine beaches, one man's journey from real estate success to selfless missions stands as an inspiring testament to the power of giving back. Raised in Jupiter, Florida, Rob Thomson credits his achievements to the community that shaped him. As a second-generation realtor, his mother, Joan, instilled in him not only the principles of real estate but also a profound sense of philanthropy.

While Joan's legacy includes founding Waterfront Properties and Club Communities—a leading real estate brokerage in Palm Beach County, later passed down to Rob—her greatest gift to her son was an altruistic mindset, one that prioritizes the stewardship of wealth for the betterment of the community. It's a philosophy Rob has wholeheartedly embraced.

Though his real estate accolades are impressive—a lifetime sales record exceeding \$3 billion, becoming the youngest agent to enter the Billionaires Club, and a roster of celebrity clients—Rob Thomson's mission extends far beyond these achievements. His unwavering commitment to the people of Palm Beach County lies at the heart of his story and legacy. “Opportunities to help others present themselves to you, and then you take them,” Thomson says. “That’s how I see these—as opportunities.” With positivity and dedication, he seizes each chance to give back to his community.

Changing Lives One Paw at a Time

One of Thomson's most passionate causes is Big Dog Ranch Rescue, where he serves as Vice President on the Board of Directors, actively supporting fundraising, networking, and marketing efforts. In July 2023, he generously underwrote \$10,000 in adoption fees during the Christmas in July Adoption Event, benefiting local military and first responders. In 2019, he made a substantial \$50,000 donation to the building fund. Most recently, Thomson took on the role of Presenting Sponsor for the 2024 Tico Torres Celebrity Golf & Tennis Classic, an event where 100% of the proceeds support Big Dog Ranch Rescue.

Natalie Rubino, Director of Marketing at Big Dog Ranch Rescue, expresses her gratitude: “We are so honored by all the support Rob gives us here at Big Dog Ranch. His help doubles our impact, allowing us to save even more dogs.”

Spreading Joy During the Holidays

Rob Thomson's philanthropic spirit shines brightly each holiday season. In 2004, he established Charities for Children, an organization dedicated to delivering holiday presents to underprivileged children throughout Palm Beach and Martin Counties. Thomson and his volunteers distribute thousands of toys to churches and schools during the holiday season, up to 1,000 Easter baskets each spring, and hundreds of brand-new bicycles every December to children in Riviera Beach, Florida. Bishop Thomas Masters, former mayor of Riviera Beach, commends Thomson's generosity, noting, "Local children look forward each year to Rob's generous donation."

Investing in Education and Accessibility

Thomson's commitment to making a difference extends to education. In 2020, he led fundraising efforts and matched community donations dollar-for-dollar to provide special needs students at Jupiter High School with a much-needed ADA-compliant school bus, significantly improving their transportation experience and benefiting the Exceptional Student Education Program. Currently, Thomson is spearheading efforts to deliver another ADA-compliant school bus for special needs students at Dwyer High School, with delivery anticipated for January 2025.

Honoring Community Heroes

Rob Thomson's appreciation for first responders is unwavering. In 2021, he built two state-of-the-art workout facilities for the Juno Beach and Tequesta Police Departments, earning him the Community Partnership Award, a key to the city from the Juno Beach Police Department, and the Special Recognition Award from the Tequesta Police Department. In 2023, he was recognized as a Platinum Sponsor by the First Responders Appreciation Foundation for his \$7,500 donation.

Supporting Youth Battling Addiction

Thomson's generosity also reaches young individuals facing addiction challenges. In honor of his late son, Bradley Boyer, he donated \$100,000 to The Hanley Foundation, an organization providing scholarships for rehabilitation programs. His nomination to the Hanley Foundation Board in 2023 reflects his ongoing commitment to supporting youth in need. Current Chairman Chip James praised Thomson's nomination, stating, "Rob has been a fixture in the community for years. He puts his heart into each organization he supports, and I know he will have a positive impact serving on the board."

Empowering Local Children and Families

Place of Hope, a child welfare organization dedicated to ending cycles of abuse, neglect, homelessness, and poverty for children, youth, and families, holds a special place in Rob's heart. During COVID-19, Thomson donated \$20,000 to their Cruise for Kids initiative, providing suitcases filled with vacation goodies and organizing fun-filled days for the children. Charles Bender, CEO of Place of Hope, speaks highly of Thomson's commitment: "Every time I ask him to be a part of something, he says yes. He's not only willing but enthusiastic to help when the children need assistance."

Investing in Healthcare

In 2024, Thomson demonstrated his support for local healthcare with a \$25,000 donation to Jupiter Medical Center, committing to contribute an additional \$75,000 over the next three years. His goal is to enhance the center's services, reach more individuals in need, and provide excellent medical care to patients, reflecting his dedication to improving community healthcare.

A Community Leader with a Heart for Palm Beach County

In the world of luxury real estate, where the pursuit of capital often takes center stage, Rob Thomson stands as a beacon of hope and compassion. He attributes his success to the community that raised him and considers it his duty to give back. Thomson hopes this philosophy resonates through generations, just as Joan passed her altruistic mindset to him. He now instills these values in his own children, particularly his son, Jack, who joins him at Waterfront Properties and Club Communities.

As Thomson continues to champion charitable causes and inspire others through his social media presence, he leaves a lasting mark on Palm Beach County. His legacy is a testament to the power of philanthropy and a reminder of the impact one can make by giving back. "If you can give back, give back to the people," Thomson says. "It feels good to give."

To schedule an interview with Rob Thomson or learn more about his philanthropic initiatives, contact him at rt@wfpcc.com or call (561) 346-1881. You can also connect with him on Instagram [@robthomsonwaterfront](https://www.instagram.com/robthomsonwaterfront).

Supporting Links:

[Rob Thomson Named to Hanley Foundation Board](#)

[100 Bicycles Donated on Christmas Eve](#)

[Community raises money for students at Jupiter High School](#)