

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



VoLoFoundation

***Creating An Enduring Legacy
With Local And Global Impact***

VoLo Foundation was named from the combined last names of philanthropists David S. Vogel and Thais Lopez Vogel. The couple started VoLo in 2014 with the belief that, because they could help others, they should. They also share a passion for developing and sharing knowledge through facts and data as an impetus for positive change.

“Our six kids inspire us to work toward achieving a healthier, more educated, and sustainable future,” says Thais, who is an attorney, and manages the day-to-day efforts of the family’s private foundation.

What began with personal giving to local humanitarian efforts like the local homeless shelter has grown to global impact through grantmaking. No geographic boundary exists for VoLo’s mission, so long as it focuses on accelerating science-based climate solutions, enhancing education, and -



improving health. VoLo Foundation has advanced the efforts of nearly 100 nonprofits through their annual partnerships and grantmaking efforts. “A key to our success is finding the best organizations to support who are leading in their area of expertise, and then building mutually beneficial relationships to meet our shared goals,” says Thais.

Although VoLo Foundation is built on the heart and strengths of its founders/trustees, the Vogels have assembled a professional team to activate change and grow impact. “If we can help a nonprofit who is making a positive effect, we’ll have accomplished something worthwhile,” says VoLo Program Director Wendy Oliver.

With an office in South Florida, VoLo's team members are proud of their global and community impact. They also are strong supporters of the work of The Everglades Foundation. In fact, Thais is known for kickstarting substantial donations at The Everglades Foundation's galas by raising her "giving paddle," and exhibiting contagious enthusiasm.

When asked about being named on the list of "The 100 Most Influential Latinos Committed to Climate Action," Thais says, "This recognition inspires me to continue working to educate communities, and empower them to take action to mitigate climate change. It is no longer a remote possibility; it is happening right now."

VoLo works every day to increase awareness about the danger of human actions and the urgent need to work for the climate. "Being aware of the affects of climate change, we know it is not 'if' a crisis will hit but 'when'," adds Thais. This knowledge propelled VoLo Foundation to step up their giving to worthy organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is easy to see we are moving toward a world where businesses, governments, nonprofits, and academia are rushing to find ways to solve environmental problems by using interconnections between the financial system and nature," says David S. Vogel, a data scientist who is founder and CEO of Jupiter, Florida-based Voloridge

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Investment Management. "By scientifically interpreting relationships in data and explaining it to non-scientists, we help empower people through knowledge. We believe it helps others be part of the solution - protecting the environment, people's health, or potentially even their own lives. We want to make a positive impact in the world."

