



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Maurie Dugger

Director, Amelia Island Foundation

(904) 556-7444

mdugger@ameliaislandfoundation.com

Amelia Island Foundation Ceases Operations

Amelia Island, Florida, April 8, 2021– The Amelia Island Foundation has concluded its six-month pilot program and as a result has announced it is ceasing operations, due in part to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19. Among the impacts cited is the shortage of hospitality industry workers and the stresses it places on customer service with limited staff.

“Although we anticipated generating significant funds for projects and charities on Amelia Island, we learned in our pilot program that adding another process to the retail experience was slowing down operations – especially in tourist generated high traffic establishments. We appreciate the businesses that participated in this trial program,” said Maurie Dugger, Foundation Director.

“The return of a vibrant tourism industry is great for business, but the shortage of workers makes it difficult to add additional training and service duties while maintaining a high level of satisfaction,” said Cason Zylinski, Slider’s General Manager. “We were happy to be the pilot site for the Foundation and thankful for the opportunity”.

Dugger noted that 15 tourism facing businesses had signed up for the program launch and have been notified of the decision to close the Foundation. There are no plans to reactivate the organization. Any revenues generated in the test program will be distributed to local non-profits as outlined in the corporate Bylaws.