



## Inspiration for ATG



My name is Rusty Rich, founder of a local food and clothing bank in Pinellas county called ATG or As They Gathered.

### **An Inspiration From My Mother**

My mother had a huge heart for giving and was always donating to charity. I saw that growing up and it taught me to give. In 2011 my mother was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease and it devastated me. It's been a long road and my mother is still alive. She is in Sabal Palms memory care unit in Largo. She barely recognizes anyone. She cannot speak or hear well. She can still walk but is

in late stages of the disease. My mom was an avid runner and triathlete. She just did it for the fun, health and friendship. As she was facing the effects of this disease, before anyone knew it or before she was diagnosed, she put together a 5k run herself. It had a great turnout and she was able to donate a portion of the money to a few charities that she had chosen. My mother was always a go-getter, a fighter, and I'm sure her soul is still fighting while her brain is dying. I would like to thank my mother, my rock for being a major inspiration for this charity.

Thank You,  
Rusty Rich  
Founder, ATG