



Meet the Team-Gaby LaJeunesse

By Megan Phillips

Continuing our *Meet the Team* series, let's meet Industry Relations Coordinator and Florida's Sports Coast Film Commissioner, Gaby LaJeunesse. Since joining the Sports Coast team three years ago, Gaby has made a huge impact on the Sports Coast community. Gaby's day to day involves working with film production companies helping them find locations for their projects as well as assisting with obtaining necessary permits. She also works closely with industry partners to strengthen their working relationship with the destination marketing organization, keeping them abreast on special opportunities to partner on marketing and public relation projects. Gaby really enjoys being a part of the DMO and how it enables her to help local businesses be able to get their name and brand out to the public and community.

Gaby is also the head of the Human Trafficking Foundation for Florida's Sports Coast. She contacts businesses within a certain area of high trafficked roadways to encourage them to take training in order to identify human trafficking and help stop the spread of this illegal enterprise within the destination. The education she provides to Sports Coast industry partners in turn helps save lives. Gaby is doing all she can to help others in need and is setting a great example for others to follow.

When it comes to Gaby herself, she can best be described as a ball of sunshine. She has a very outgoing personality and a contagious smile, even under a mask. She also has some special talents that include being fully bilingual as a fluent Spanish speaker and is a good cook.

When asked where her favorite place to eat is she asked if it could be a country. Being from Venezuela, her favorite food is anything from her hometown. She said she isn't picky when it comes to food, she loves a little bit of everything. But let's dive in to get to know Gaby a little more!

Q: "What is your favorite place to visit on Florida's Sports Coast?"

A: "Anclote Key Preserve State Park, it is so beautiful, it makes you feel like you are in the Caribbean. The white sand is like sugar. It is like a little escape".

Q: "If you had a theme song what would it be?"

A: "Either 'Someday My Prince Will Come' from *Snow White* or 'Once Upon a Dream' from *Sleeping Beauty*".

Q: "If you had to give your fifteen-year-old self-one piece of advice what would it be?"

A: "Get your degree first before getting married and do things on your bucket list before having kids".

Q: "If you could have any superpower what would it be and why?"

A: "The ability to save human trafficking victims and maybe guide young girls into a promising future and help keep them away from trouble".