## Naples Children & Education Foundation



ince 2001 the Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF) has been helping to make a difference in the lives of children in Collier County, with a mission to "support charitable programs that improve the physical, emotional and educational lives of underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County."

To ensure this is done in the most effective way possible, in 2005, NCEF's board of trustees commissioned the "Study of Child Well Being," an independent study to identify in what areas at-risk children needed the most

support. The study was the first of its kind in Collier County and took eight months to complete. It was found that there were serious gaps in service areas for at-risk children in early learning, after school care, as well as dental and medical care. This study, which

was updated in 2010, has been used by the organization as well as other non-profit groups to determine how money can be spent most effectively to benefit this crucial population.

As our community has grown, the needs have grown. The Naples Children and Education Foundation has done incredible work to help meet those needs." ~ Bob and Terry Edwards, 2013 Wine Festival Co-Chairs

It was through this research that NCEF established five strategic initiatives: early learning, medical/oral health, out-of-school programs, behavioral health and childhood hunger. Working with public and private organizations, food, medical care and educational programs



