

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Naples Winter Wine Festival creators award \$1 million special grant to
Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida**

NAPLES, Fla. (April 10, 2013) – Trustees of Naples Children & Education Foundation, creators of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, presented a \$1 million special grant award to the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. Thanks to a \$20 million matching-grant challenge by Naples resident Thomas Golisano, the NCEF award brings a total of \$2 million in funding to expand the children's hospital. With this grant, NCEF also becomes a top-five donor.

"NCEF trustees are very pleased to contribute to the expansion of the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida," said Karen Scott, NCEF grant chair. Scott presented the \$1 million check to Lee Memorial Health System President Jim Nathan.

In recognition of the grant, a community room for meetings and other gatherings in the new hospital will be named for NCEF. "NCEF trustees place high priority on collaborating with others to achieve the maximum benefit for children in need," Scott said. "A community room devoted to bringing people together for the sake of children is both a practical and symbolic match with what NCEF and the Golisano Children's Hospital seek to accomplish."

NCEF's support of Collier County children who are served by the children's hospital began in 2007 when the foundation awarded a grant to help purchase a state-of-the-art neonatal intensive care unit ambulance to transport high-risk newborn babies to the hospital's regional peri-natal intensive care unit – one of only nine in Florida. Past support also includes an NCEF grant for the hospitals' Children's Health Advocacy Abuse Injury and Prevention Program to bring parenting classes, passenger safety seat checks, and its health-in-education series to underprivileged children enrolled in Collier County's Title One schools.

Naples Winter Wine Festival proceeds have helped 150,000 underprivileged and at-risk children since 2001 through grants to 38 children's charities and collaborative funding of major initiatives including a pediatric dental center and early learning center.

For information about Naples Children & Education Foundation and the Naples Winter Wine Festival, visit www.NaplesWineFestival.com or call 888-837-4919.

The new Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida will be built on the grounds of HealthPark Medical Center in south Lee County. The state-of-the-art pediatric medical facility will provide new and expanded specialty and sub-specialty health care services for children in Collier, Lee and surrounding counties. For more information, visit www.childrenshospitalgoal.org, or call 239-343-6950.

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Golisano
Children's Hospital
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