

NAPLES CHILDREN
NCEF
 & EDUCATION
 FOUNDATION

FOR:**Naples Children & Education Foundation**

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www.napleswinefestival.com**FROM:****Jarvis Communications**

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(NAPLES, Fla.; February 28, 2014)—Jim Swanson, the new CEO of the Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF) has promoted three staff employees within the foundation.

Events Director **Debra Weaver** will now also oversee the NCEF's program of institutional sustainment and continuity. "Debra's new role is absolutely crucial to the long-term viability and future success of this great foundation," said Swanson. "She'll build and lead a comprehensive program designed to guarantee that the NCEF will continue to be able to draw upon its single most important asset: a truly remarkable collection of extraordinary trustees dedicated to our vital philanthropic mission."



Debra Weaver, Events Director; Barrett Farmer, Director of the Naples Winter Wine Festival; Lisa Juliano, Deputy Director

Barrett Farmer, who has played an integral role in the Naples Winter Wine Festival since 2004, has been named Director of the Naples Winter Wine Festival. **Lisa Juliano**, who joined the NCEF in 2010, will now be the festival's new Deputy Director. "Going forward, Barrett and Lisa will oversee literally all aspects of staff support for the Naples Winter Wine Festival. Their goal is audacious and together they plan to make sure future festivals are even more successful than their spectacular predecessors."

The NCEF was founded in 2000 to improve the lives of underprivileged and at-risk children in Southwest Florida's Collier County through strategic initiatives, as well as to provide annual grants to over 30 local non-profit agencies. It also hosts the annual Naples Winter Wine Festival, which has raised more than \$123 million for the NCEF over its 14-year history.

Festival events span three days, starting with Meet the Kids Day, when guests witness charitable dollars at work and interact with children from NCEF-supported charities. Guests also enjoy wine tastings throughout the weekend and attend intimate dinners prepared by famous chefs at the private homes of NCEF trustees and other supporters, with wines selected and poured by esteemed vintners. A culinary showcase and live auction of more than 60 lots takes place at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, which is a founding sponsor of the festival. The festivities also comprise a post-auction wine-down party and brunch the next day.

Naples Winter Wine Festival proceeds have had a profound impact on the lives of underprivileged and at-risk children through grants to 38 children's charities and long-term strategic initiatives that help fill gaps in children's services: early learning, healthcare, hunger, mental health, oral health, and out of school and vision.

Festival dates for 2015 are January 23-25. For information about the NCEF and the Naples Winter Wine Festival, visit www.napleswinefestival.com or call 888-837-4919.

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