



FiLLiNG  
iN THE  
**FUTURE** ♥

NAPLES CHILDREN & EDUCATION FOUNDATION,  
Founders of the Naples Winter Wine Festival  
Social Impact Report 2016



# THANK YOU

for your generous support of the Naples Children & Education Foundation,  
founders of the Naples Winter Wine Festival.

Since the Festival's inception in 2001, more than 40 of the most effective nonprofits in the community have received grants from NCEF, impacting over 200,000 children's lives. As the Festival continues into 2017 and beyond, those numbers will only increase. Your giving strengthens our local nonprofits' ability to achieve their missions and ours.

We are pleased to introduce the first NCEF Social Impact Report, with analysis of how funds raised at the Naples Winter Wine Festival make a critical difference in our community.

Through our annual grants and strategic partnerships, we're changing outcomes for at-risk and underprivileged children in Collier County. Research tells us where those improvements have been made, and in what areas we should invest more heavily to make an even greater difference.

## Through this important work we are striving to ensure that:

- Babies are born healthy.
- All children have access to quality early learning programs that build skills and enhance development.
- Children ages 6 weeks to 5 years receive a quality early learning experience.
- Children succeed academically throughout their schooling.
- Children are healthy and can access medical care if needed.
- Children have the social and emotional support they need to learn.



Thanks  
to your support,  
large strides have been  
made, but there is still more  
work to be done. We hope you  
will continue to support NCEF  
and our mission. Together we  
are making a greater difference  
in the lives of at-risk and  
underprivileged children  
of Collier County.

Best wishes,

Dave Gibbons  
NCEF Chairman of the Board

Maria Jimenez-Lara  
NCEF CEO

# WHO WE ARE

The Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), the founding organization of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, fills a critical void for at-risk and underprivileged children in Collier County as the largest single source of funding for their essential services.



## Our Mission

Naples Children & Education Foundation supports effective, disciplined charitable programs that significantly improve the physical, emotional and educational lives of underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County, Florida.



NAPLES CHILDREN  
**NCEF**  
& EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION



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† deceased

Operating in a county with no independent, tax-based, public financial support for children's social services, NCEF relies on the support of benevolent philanthropists who attend the Naples Winter Wine Festival and give generously to improve the children's lives.

NCEF's philanthropy aims to improve education with an innovative program that increases access to educational programs and strengthens educational outcomes for children in Collier County.

*Since its inaugural event in 2001 through 2015, the Naples Winter Wine Festival has:*



# NCEf HAS UNiTED GRouPS

into coalitions and collaborates toward common goals that improve child well-being in our community.

“There are two Collier Counties—the county of abundance and the county of poverty—without NCEF the county of poverty would be a place without hope, without food, without laughter, without opportunity, without light—a place without—a place where there is only poverty.”

Brian Holley, Executive Director  
Naples Botanical Garden

“Without NCEF, Collier County would not have the long-term perspective that is needed to sustain services for the children: first build the buildings, then train the workforce to carry out the work that meet the needs of at-risk children, and finally implement an effective and culturally appropriate system of care.”

Elena Reyes, PhD, Associate Professor & Regional Director  
Florida State University College of Medicine

“The Naples Children & Education Foundation and their strategic method of funding community organizations has changed the way in which services are provided. The change and impact has been systemic and children in need are now able to access services. This change has removed barriers for student learning. Thanks to NCEF, students receive assistance in dental health, wellness, mental health and counseling. They receive academic support through quality after-school and summer programs and now more children than before enter school ready to learn.”

Dr. Kamela Patton, Superintendent  
Collier County Public School System



# SERVICE CATEGORIES & INITIATIVES

At NCEF, we define ourselves as investors who are interested in attaining the highest possible levels of human gain for the grant dollars we have available. In doing so, we consider the cost relative to the benefit, looking for projects that increase collaboration, quality, and opportunities for replication to other organizations.

*NCEF invests in organizations that serve children within the following service categories. NCEF provides:*



Child Advocacy



Medical/Healthcare



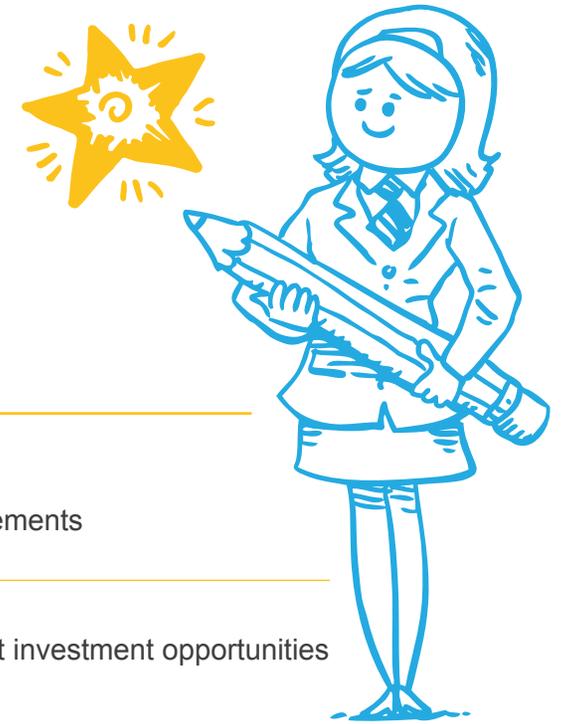
Early Learning



Out-of-School Time Programs

# NCEF TRADITIONAL GRANTS

All charities that apply for annual grants go through a rigorous vetting process and are monitored to ensure that the grants are being effectively administered. A major tenet of NCEF grant making is to encourage collaboration among charities to fill gaps in services. NCEF also takes a holistic approach to our grant-vetting process, addressing the needs of the whole child.



## Annual Grant Process

### Organizations Apply

- ★ Applications consist of programmatic requests, financial statements and intended outcome measurements

### Grant Committee Scores & Evaluates

- ★ An objective approach is taken to determine the best investment opportunities

### Grants are Awarded

- ★ Grant funds are distributed quarterly
- ★ Grantees provide quarterly operating and financial reports

### NCEF Tracks

- ★ Conducts formal and informal site visits
- ★ Reviews all expenditures
- ★ Makes adjustments to award if required

# CHILD ADVOCACY

NCEF has advocated for over

47,000   
children

Child advocacy refers to a range of individuals, professionals and organizations that speak for and protect our community's most vulnerable children. These agencies provide children in need with a voice, shelter, crisis counseling, mentorship, and basic essentials to help them get through the challenges they face.

**66** Without the support of NCEF, thousands of foster children who are removed from their homes and sometimes moved from home to home would have to survive this tragic heartrending ordeal alone. NCEF support has ensured they know there is someone in their corner, fighting to give them the best chance not just to survive - but to thrive! With NCEF support, these children benefit from personalized educational and enrichment opportunities that, despite overwhelming odds, give each child the opportunity to realize their potential.

**99**

Jane Billings, Executive Director  
Friends of Foster Children

## Partnering Organizations:

- Angels Undercover
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Children's Home Society
- Friends of Foster Children Forever
- Legal Aid
- Make-A-Wish Foundation
- PACE Center for Girls
- St. Matthew's House
- The Shelter for Abused Women & Children
- Youth Haven



# EARLY LEARNING

NCEF has educated nearly  
**36,800**   
children through high-quality  
early childhood education programs

Quality early childhood education refers to warm, nurturing, and enriched learning experiences designed to stimulate a child's growth in all key developmental areas. A well-educated and caring staff, high program standards, and a curriculum based on a child's developmental needs are among the most important components of a high-quality early learning environment. Such an environment, especially for at-risk youth, paves the way for a child to be successful in life. Simply put, a child's early years lay the foundation for all that is to come.

**66** Someone once said, 'If nothing ever changed there would be no butterflies.' NCEF has transformed the lives of the children of Collier County by giving these children, who otherwise would not have an opportunity, the chance to grow and soar to their highest potential. **99**

Valarie Bostic, Executive Director  
Immokalee Child Care Center

## Partnering Organizations:

- Collier Child Care Resources
- Early Literacy & Learning Model (ELLM)
- First Book-Collier County
- Fun Time Early Childhood Academy
- Greater Naples YMCA
- Guadalupe Center
- Immokalee Child Care Center
- Immokalee Housing & Family Services
- MusicScores!
- Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA)



# MEDICAL/ HEALTHCARE

NCEF has promoted healthy living by providing medical and healthcare services to

**37,000**   
children county wide

NCEF grants provide children in need with essential medical and healthcare services that have measurable outcomes and a life-changing impact. Therapeutic intervention modalities include applied behavioral analysis, counseling, equine therapy, speech and language therapy, and therapeutic recreation.

**66** Without NCEF, the manifold issues that can adversely impact the health, safety and academic performance of Collier County youth would continue to be largely unaddressed. Without NCEF, existing community agencies would struggle to provide even a modicum of dental, visual, mental, nutritional, and educational services for the 80,000 children who call Collier County home. NCEF has provided an exemplary vehicle for pinpointing the plights faced by local youth, investing responsibly in agencies best equipped to administer to those plights, and insuring tangible progress is being made to reverse the impact of these plights on our children and economy. **99**

Dr. Todd Vedder, Board Member  
Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition

## Partnering Organizations:

- ABLE Academy
- Bonita Springs Lions Eye Clinic
- Catholic Charities
- David Lawrence Center
- Eden
- Florida's Vision Quest
- Golisano Children's Hospital (formerly Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida)
- Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida (formerly Collier Health Services)
- John Maxwell Biasco Foundation
- Marco "Eye-Land" Foundation
- Naples Equestrian Challenge
- Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition
- Special Olympics
- The Ricky King Children's Fund



# OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAMS

NCEF has improved the lives of nearly

68,000 

children with enriching after-school  
and summer programs

Out-of-school time programs, consisting of programs that operate during after-school, holiday, and summertime hours, improve engagement in learning by helping young people build stronger relationships with adults, foster better work habits, and increase feelings of personal efficacy.

**66** NCEF is a change agent, simply put. Their ability to garner world-class support for areas of desperate need in Collier County that have been unaddressed in the past, has impacted thousands of lives in today's generation and subsequent generations. It is unimaginable to think about what Collier County would be without the generosity of NCEF. **99**

Barbara Evans, Director of Development  
Grace Place for Children and Families

## Partnering Organizations:

- Boys & Girls Club of Collier County
- Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation
- Conservancy of Southwest Florida
- Gargiulo Education Center
- Golisano Children's Museum of Naples
- Grace Place for Children and Families
- Greater Marco Family YMCA
- Holocaust Museum of Southwest Florida
- Learning Connection of Naples
- Naples Botanical Garden
- South Florida National Parks Trust
- Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board
- The Immokalee Foundation
- United Arts Council of Collier County



# STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Starting in 2006, NCEF began developing strategic, long-term, community-based initiatives to fill fundamental gaps in children's services. Each Strategic Initiative engages multiple partners, all of whom share similar objectives aimed at creating systematic changes in the way children's services are delivered in Collier County.

Working creatively with other private or public charitable entities, NCEF has established seven major Strategic Initiatives.



The following is a breakdown of each initiative.



## CHILDREN'S EARLY LEARNING

This multi-faceted Strategic Initiative for children from birth to 5 years old enhances teacher quality, access, and affordability of education-focused care – components that research deemed deficient in Collier County.

**Established: 2008**

**Total funding to date: \$5,300,000**

**Partners: Collier Child Care Resources, Inc., Early Learning Coalition, Early Literacy & Learning Model (ELLM), Florida SouthWestern State College, Guadalupe Center, Immokalee Child Care Center, and Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA)**

Children Served Since Inception:

**1,250** ★

**FACT**

**40%**

of children in Collier County who need subsidized learning placement do not receive it due to lack of funding.



## CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE

Through strategic partnerships, an NCEF investment, and matching dollars provided by Florida State University College of Medicine, NCEF spearheaded the renovation of a primary care clinic at Immokalee's Isabel Collier Read Medical Campus to ensure the medical needs of the community's farm workers and other underserved residents are met.

**Established: 2006**

**Total funding to date: \$3,000,000**

**Partners: Florida State University College of Medicine and Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida**

Pediatric Visits Since Inception:

**107,150** ★

FACT

**16%**

of children in Collier County lack health insurance compared to the national average of 7.6%.



## CHILDREN'S HUNGER

This initiative provides nutritious food to children and their families who struggle with food insecurity—the fear of not knowing where their next meal will come from.

**Established: 2011**

**Total funding to date: \$3,030,000**

**Partners: Harry Chapin Food Bank of SWFL and Meals of Hope**

### FACT

**16,350**

children in Collier County do not know where their next meal will come from.

According to Feeding America



## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

Through the integration of primary care and behavioral health services, this Strategic Initiative aids in identifying and preventing children's mental health issues.

**Established: 2007**

**Total funding to date: \$6,500,000**

Through the "Beautiful Minds Initiative," NCEF has brought together key community providers to shift children's mental health services to an integrated primary care model. Innovative and ground breaking, the coalition includes healthcare providers, community mental health professionals, social services, and the public school system. Transforming and expanding mental health care for at-risk children, "Beautiful Minds" also broadens access to culturally competent licensed mental healthcare professionals.

**Partners: David Lawrence Center, Florida State University College of Medicine, Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, and NAMI of Collier County**

### FACT

**1 iN 5**

children under the age of  
18 has a diagnosable  
mental health disorder.



## CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH

This Strategic Initiative provides dental care to at-risk and underprivileged children of Collier County through the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center in conjunction with a mobile sealant program.

Established: 2006

Total funding to date: \$8,500,000

Partners: Florida SouthWestern State College, Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, and University of Florida College of Dentistry

Visits to the Pediatric Dental Center:

94,000 

Children Screened through Mobile Unit:

3,000

FACT

65%

of third grade students in Collier County experience tooth decay.

# CHILDREN'S OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME

This Strategic Initiative was developed to provide innovative, groundbreaking programming to close gaps in education during after-school, holiday, and summertime hours.

**Established: 2012**

**Total funding to date: \$6,160,000**

**Partners: Boys & Girls Club of Collier County, Collier County Public School System, Guadalupe Center, Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA), Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board, The Immokalee Foundation, and United Arts Council of Collier County**



Children Impacted Since Inception:

**8,000** 

## FACT

On school days, the peak hours for juvenile crime are between

**3-6 P.M.**



## CHILDREN'S VISION

This Strategic Initiative ensures children in Collier County's Title I schools and high-need early childhood centers receive vision screenings by eye professionals, and when medically appropriate, children also receive full eye exams and two pairs of eyeglasses—one for home and school.

**Established: 2012**

**Total funding to date: \$3,250,000**

**Partners: Bonita Springs Lions Eye Clinic, Florida's Vision Quest, and Lighthouse of Collier**

Children Screened for Vision Problems:

**20,000** 

Glasses Distributed to Children in Need:

**7,000**

FACT

**90%**

of children who need eyeglasses don't have them.

# IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY (2010-2015):

In order to most effectively serve the needs of the community, NCEF has commissioned third-party studies to thoroughly analyze services in Collier County. These studies were conducted in 2005, 2010, and 2015.

**Findings from the studies revealed that in the last five years:**

The graduation rate for at-risk youth has improved by **20%**

School suspension rates have decreased by **65%**

Math proficiency by 8th grade improved by **17%**

Number of children entering kindergarten “on grade level” has increased by **42%**

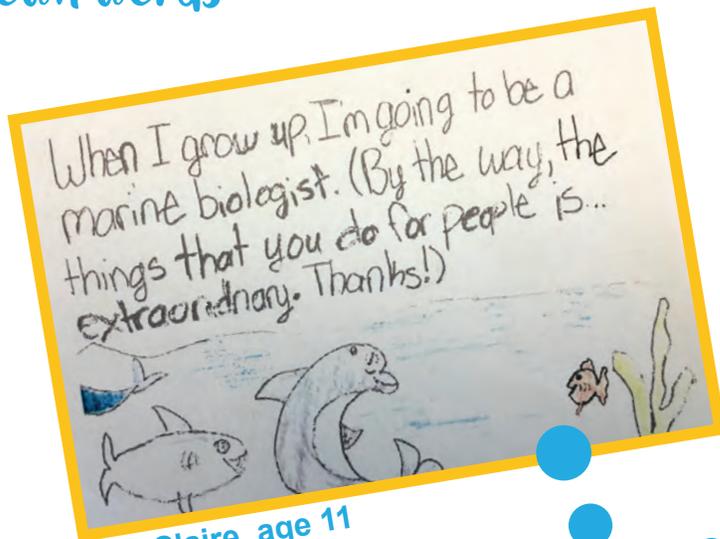
Juvenile arrests in Collier County have been reduced by **62%**

NCEF funding of early learning and after-school programs allows for parents to work full time and support their families.

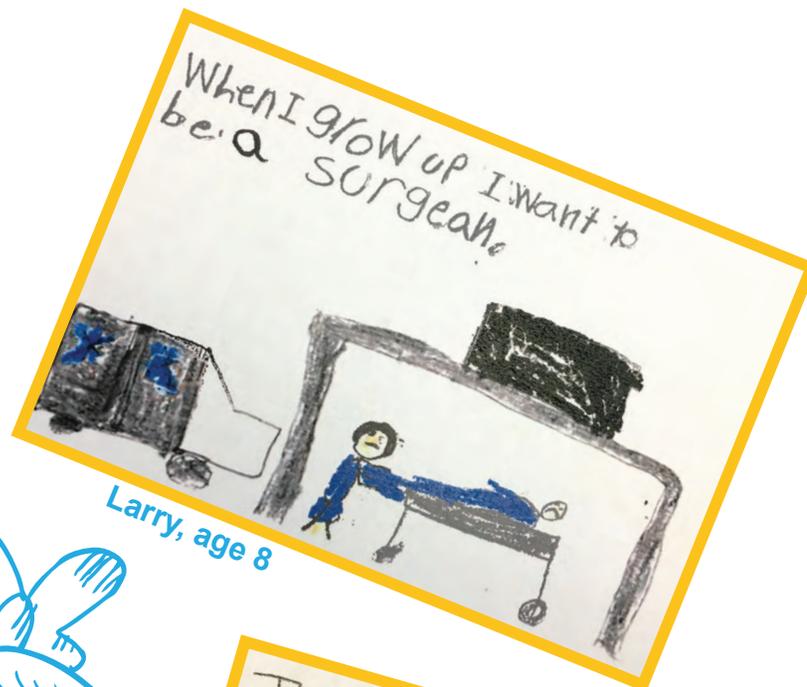


# A SPECIAL THANKS ♥

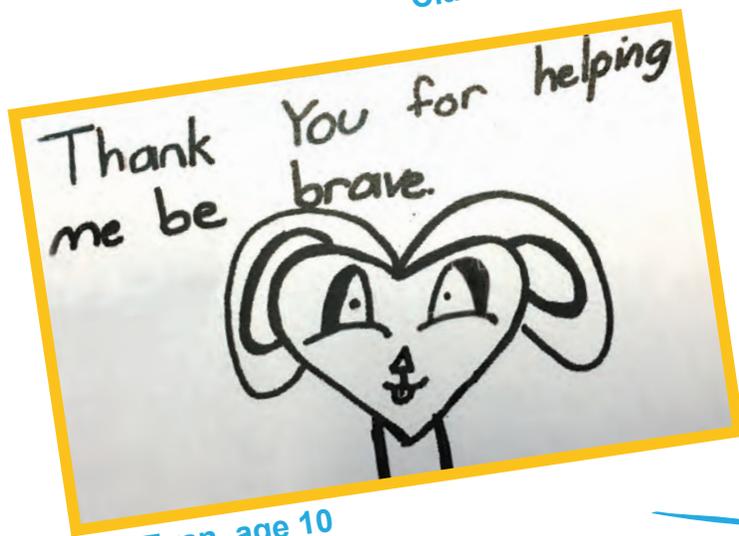
in their own words



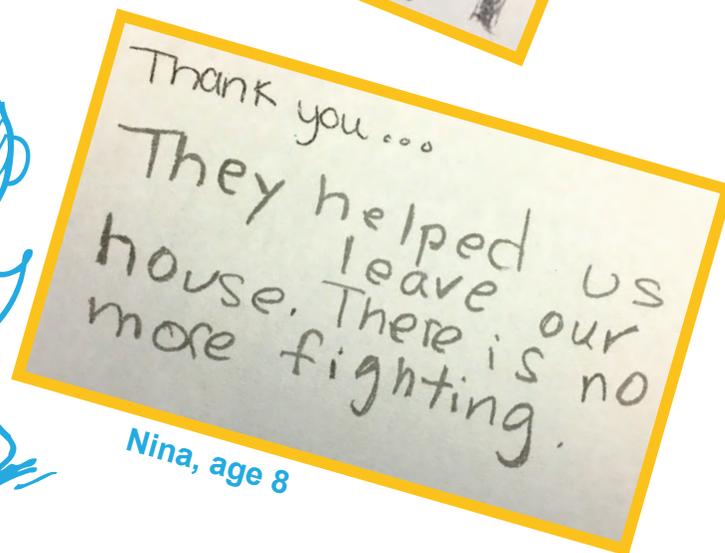
Claire, age 11



Larry, age 8



Evan, age 10



Nina, age 8



Data confirms that the greatest challenges facing our country—from school dropout rates, to crime, to rising health-care costs, to the necessity of competing in the global marketplace—can only be met by focusing on the development of all our children, beginning at birth.

To NCEF, the “achievement gap” is not a metaphor. It is a social outcome that we can see and measure. Research shows that the achievement gap appears long before children reach kindergarten—in fact, it can become evident as early as nine months old.

*These at-risk children who don't receive intervention and support services are:*



more likely to drop out of school.



more likely to be placed in special education.



more likely to be arrested for a violent crime.



more likely to become a teen parent.



more likely to never attend college.

NCEF invests in programs that are the most cost-effective way to ensure the healthy development of children in poverty and offer the greatest returns to society.

# CURRENT NEED

But there is still work to do; here are some of the current needs within the community.

Collier County is the 3rd largest county of uninsured children in Florida.

64% of students in Collier County are on Free/Reduced Lunch Programs.

Collier County does not receive any county funding for children's social services.

Early Childhood Education continues to be a major area of need with over 4,000 children in need of access to Early Learning Centers.





“I continue to believe that if children are given the necessary tools to succeed,

**THEY WILL  
SUCCEED**

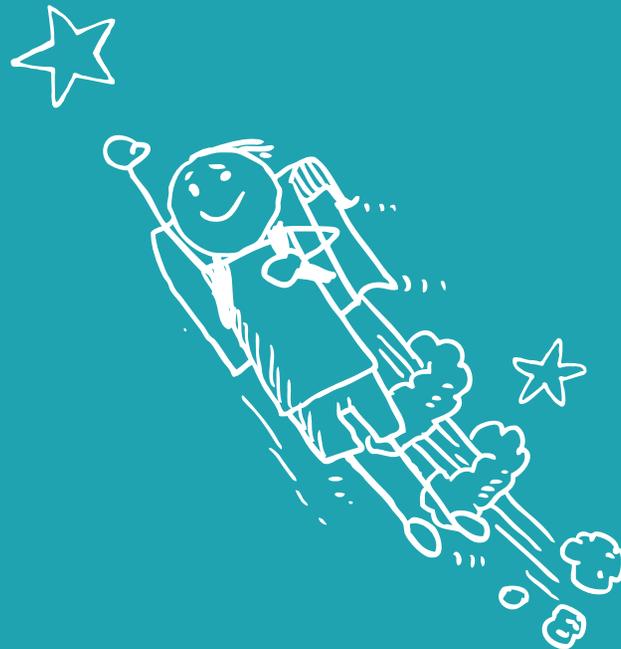
beyond their  
wildest dreams!”

— David Vitter

# HOW YOU CAN HELP!

- \* **Become a patron** by attending the Naples Winter Wine Festival and bidding generously. Every dollar raised under the tent goes to help the kids.
- \* **Become a sponsor** by underwriting the Festival, or by contributing in-kind services.
- \* **Donate an auction lot** by sharing an exclusive one-of-a-kind travel package, jewelry piece, or wine lot.
- \* **Volunteer** by being among the more than 400 people behind the scenes who help make the Festival successful.
- \* **Become a Friend of the Foundation** by joining this committee of next generation philanthropists who are dedicated to broadening awareness of NCEF and generating funding for its work.
- \* **Wine Down, Bid Up:** the 2017 Naples Winter Wine Festival will include an online auction—an exciting opportunity for all supporters to join in the fun and actively participate in the Festival’s critically important philanthropic mission.





NAPLES CHILDREN  
**NCEF**  
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FOUNDATION

### OUR MISSION

Naples Children & Education Foundation supports effective, disciplined charitable programs that significantly improve the physical, emotional and educational lives of underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County, Florida.

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4305 Exchange Avenue

Naples, Florida 34104

239.514.2239 / 888.837.4919

[info@napleswinefestival.com](mailto:info@napleswinefestival.com) / [www.napleswinefestival.com](http://www.napleswinefestival.com)