



Contact:

Clay W. Cone | 239.262.8229 | cone3@earthlink.net

Naples Children & Education Foundation Invests \$15.9 Million to Support Underprivileged and At-Risk Children and Future Generations in Collier County

Over 40 local, non-profit organizations supported at annual NCEF Grant Awards Ceremony

Naples, FL (March 18, 2019) – The Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF) today invested nearly \$16 million in the future generation of Collier County. This funding included grants totaling \$12.7 million to 43 local nonprofit organizations that improve the physical, emotional and educational lives of children, including five multi-year strategic initiatives that fill fundamental gaps in children’s services, and \$3.2 million toward a fund for future projects and strategic initiatives.

The annual Grant Awards Ceremony was made possible by the highly successful Naples Winter Wine Festival (NWWF) Live Auction in January. The awards ceremony brought together Trustees and staff of NCEF, the founding organization of the NWWF, one of the world’s most prestigious charity wine auctions, along with volunteers and other invited guests at the Bay Colony Golf Club.

“We are proud to support these vital programs and organizations which benefit thousands of underprivileged and at-risk children throughout Collier County,” said Paul Hills, 2019 NCEF Grant Committee Chair. “We offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in the 2019 Naples Winter Wine Festival. Every dollar that is raised under the tent of our Live Auction goes right back into the community, helping change the lives of the county’s most vulnerable children.”

This year, the number of grant recipients grew to 35, along with eight other agencies that help fill critical needs in our community by taking part in five of NCEF’s seven multi-partner, multi-year strategic initiatives which also received funding. The Fund a Need, supporting Children’s Mental Health, received nearly \$1.4 million this year. This initiative will aim to fundamentally transform and expand mental health care for at-risk children through an innovative coalition of healthcare providers, community mental health professionals, social services and the public school system.

Under NCEF’s leadership, David Lawrence Center, Florida State University College of Medicine, Golisano Children’s Hospital, Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida and National Alliance on Mental Illness have collaborated to reduce and eliminate duplication of services, maximize resources, and increase the availability of high quality, best-practice approaches. This innovative and ground-breaking coalition has created Collier County’s first integrated care system, an organized coordination of primary and behavioral healthcare.

“By proactively engaging in strategic partnerships with local non-profits, colleges and universities, and other foundations, NCEF is filling the significant gaps in services for at-risk children and their

families in Collier County,” said NCEF CEO Maria Jimenez-Lara. “Our focus on early learning, after school, dental and medical health care will help to build a healthier community in the future.”

This year’s Wine Festival also enabled NCEF to allocate \$3.2 million into a fund for future projects and strategic initiatives. This funding will ensure NCEF has an adequate amount of funding should there be a year of additional needs and support that are not covered by the Festival proceeds.

The following is the full list of NCEF 2019 beneficiaries:

Organization	2019-2020 Award
ABLE Academy	\$180,000.00
*Avow Hospice	\$75,000.00
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast	\$100,000.00
Boys & Girls Club of Collier County	\$450,000.00
*Brighter Bites	\$81,000.00
Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation	\$175,000.00
Catholic Charities of Collier County	\$257,840.00
Champions For Learning	\$138,500.00
Collier Child Care Resources	\$152,000.00
Collier County Child Advocacy Council	\$500,000.00
Conservancy of Southwest Florida	\$35,000.00
Better Together <i>(formerly known as FlourishNow)</i>	\$130,500.00
Friends of Foster Children Forever	\$398,190.00
Fun Time Early Childhood Academy	\$159,000.00

Gargiulo Education Center, Inc.	\$85,000.00
Golisano Children's Hospital	\$35,000.00
Grace Place for Children and Families	\$379,000.00
Guadalupe Center	\$524,000.00
*Leadership Collier Foundation	\$50,000.00
Legal Aid Service of Collier County	\$514,870.00
Literacy Volunteers of Collier County	\$50,000.00
Naples Therapeutic Riding Center	\$225,000.00
Naples Music Club/Music Scores!	\$50,000.00
NCH Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition of Collier County	\$50,000.00
*One by One Leadership Foundation	\$50,000.00
*PACE Center for Girls	\$60,000.00
Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee (<i>formerly known as Immokalee Child Care Center</i>)	\$202,100.00
Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA)	\$160,000.00
Special Olympics of Collier County	\$85,250.00
St. Matthew's House	\$75,000.00
The Greater Marco Family YMCA	\$365,000.00
The Shelter for Abused Women & Children	\$270,000.00
United Arts Council of Collier County	\$50,000.00

Valerie's House	\$100,000.00
Youth Haven	\$300,000.00
Total Traditional Grant Amount	\$6,512,250.00
Strategic Initiative Partners	
Children's Early Learning Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ABLE Academy ○ Early Learning Coalition ○ ELLM (Early Literacy and Learning Model) ○ Florida SouthWestern State College ○ Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) 	\$2,060,000.00
Children's Mental Health Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ David Lawrence Center ○ Florida State University ○ Healthcare Network 	\$1,369,000.00
Children's Out-of-School Time Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boys & Girls Club of Collier County ○ Guadalupe Center ○ Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) ○ The Immokalee Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● College & Career Empowerment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boys & Girls Club of Collier County ○ The Immokalee Foundation 	\$1,663,303.00 \$389,500
Children's Oral Health Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Healthcare Network 	\$630,000.00
Children's Vision Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Florida's Vision Quest 	\$50,000.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strategic Initiative Total 	\$6,161,803.00

Total Awarded	\$12,674,053.00

**Organizations that were not previously funded by NCEF*

Total 2019 Allocations	\$12,674,053.00
Future Projects and Strategic Initiatives	\$3,247,948.00
Total Raised 2019	\$15,922,001.00

About Naples Winter Wine Festival

The Naples Winter Wine Festival, one of the world's most prestigious charity wine auctions, offers a weekend of unforgettable memories. Guests enjoy world-class food and wine during intimate dinners in private homes and are invited to bid on once-in-a-lifetime travel and wine experiences during an electrifying live auction. Since its inaugural event in 2001, the NWWF has raised more than \$191 million, making a profound difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children.

About Naples Children & Education Foundation

The Naples Children & Education Foundation, the founding organization of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, is improving the educational, emotional and health outcomes of underprivileged and at-risk children. Through its annual grants and strategic initiatives, NCEF has impacted over 45 of the most effective nonprofits in the community, providing 275,000 children with the services and resources they need to excel. NCEF's unique approach, which emphasizes collaboration between organizations and bridges public and private resources, has become a blueprint for how to transform a community, one issue at a time.

For additional information on the Naples Children & Education Foundation or the Naples Winter Wine Festival, contact Lisa Juliano at lisa@napleswinefestival.com or 239-514-2239.