

NAPLES CHILDREN

NCEF

& EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

COLLIER



Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF) Partners with Other Community Leaders to Launch Collier CARES Application for Local Families in Need

Naples, FL (November 5, 2020) – The Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), founders of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, in partnership with the Community Foundation of Collier County and Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation, today announced the “soft launch” of a specially designed application to serve the community’s most vulnerable populations.

Collier CARES (Community Application for Resources and Emergency Services) is a free and bilingual mobile and web application designed for the purpose of connecting people in need with critical resources and services available in Collier County.

Over the past year, NCEF convened community leaders, stakeholders and service providers to identify the critical needs of the local community, which influenced the design of Collier CARES. The goal of Collier CARES is to connect families immediately with relevant resources and services to meet their needs.

“NCEF is proud to partner with our fellow community leaders, stakeholders and service providers in Collier County to ensure that no family is without access to help when in need,” said NCEF Chief Executive Officer Maria Jimenez-Lara. “This program is especially important as our community continues to deal with the economic and physical impacts of the global health crisis.”

Providers will list their services, including the location, hours of operation and key elements of their service, on Collier CARES, ensuring information is accurate and updated in real time. Families in need will then be able to search for services based on 12 categories, including Education, Food, Benefits, Jobs, Crisis, Mental Health, Health/Wellness, Shelter/Housing, Transit, Legal, Substance Abuse and More.

The soft launch phase of development will invite organizations to onboard and register their services on the app. During this soft launch phase, only the web application is available, but an Android and iOS version of the app will be forthcoming.

To be listed on the app, organizations must meet certain eligibility requirements as follows:

- Accepting Non-profits, For-profits and Government Agencies
- Non-profits must be a registered 501(c)3 organization with a federal EIN
- Non-profits must have an active listing in the Community Foundation of Collier County’s Nonprofit Directory
- Must provide services in Collier County, Florida
- Must provide services at no cost or on a sliding scale
- Medical providers must accept state subsidized health insurance

For additional information on how to onboard your organization onto Collier CARES, please visit colliercares.org or email admin@colliercares.org.

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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 collaborative strategic initiatives, NCEF has impacted over 45 of the most effective nonprofits in the community, providing more than 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.

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 \$212 million, making a profound difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children.

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.