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Naples Children & Education Foundation Invests Over \$22.6 Million in Local Organizations Supporting Underprivileged and At-Risk Children in Collier County

Naples, FL (March 14, 2022) – The Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), the founding organization of Naples Winter Wine Festival (NWWF), has invested over \$22.6 million in close to 50 non-profit agencies supporting underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County.

This tremendous investment in future generations includes funding traditional grants of \$5.6 million and \$11.7 million for NCEF multi-year strategic initiatives that fill fundamental gaps in local children’s services, plus another \$5.3 million in funding for future grants and strategic initiatives.

“The 2022 NWWF was an amazing success as we welcomed everyone back under the big tent for an in-person celebration and raised the highest proceeds ever,” said John Walter, 2022 NCEF Grant Committee Chair. “We are pleased that every dollar raised in our live auction goes right back into the community, improving the lives of the most vulnerable children in Collier County.”

This year, the number of organizations receiving traditional grants totaled 34, plus 15 other agencies that help fill critical needs in the community by taking part in NCEF’s multi-partner, multi-year strategic initiatives focusing on the well-being of the whole child. Initiatives receiving funding this year include early learning, hunger, mental health, oral health, out-of-school time and vision.

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. Each NCEF beneficiary is fully vetted and many utilize that process as a “Good Housekeeping Stamp of Approval.” The Blueprint Partner program builds upon that process.

“Each NCEF Initiative organization and Blueprint Partner exemplifies the highest levels of efficacy and accountability,” said NCEF Chief Executive Officer Maria Jimenez-Lara. “These private and public charitable organizations collaborate to optimize funding, avoid duplication and develop innovative programs to deliver high-quality programs and services to children in our community.”

The following is a list of NCEF 2022-2023 traditional beneficiaries and dollar amounts:

Organization	2022-2023 Award
ABLE Academy	\$ 170,000
Avow Hospice	\$ 85,000

Better Together	\$ 150,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast	\$ 90,000
Boys & Girls Club of Collier County	\$ 450,000
Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation	\$ 75,000
Catholic Charities	\$ 286,047
Champions For Learning	\$ 150,000
Child's Path	\$ 150,000
Children's Advocacy Center	\$ 500,000
Conservancy of Southwest Florida	\$ 105,000
Friends of Foster Children Forever	\$ 377,000
Fun Time Early Childhood Academy	\$ 140,000
Gargiulo Education Center	\$ 80,000
Grace Place for Children and Families	\$ 360,000
Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida*	\$ 40,000
Leadership Collier Foundation	\$ 50,000
Legal Aid Service of Collier County	\$ 500,000
Literacy Volunteers of Collier County	\$ 60,000
MusicScores	\$ 50,000
Naples Therapeutic Riding Center	\$ 249,000
NCH Healthcare System*	\$ 85,440
NCH Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition	\$ 50,000
PACE Center for Girls	\$ 59,000
Pan-Florida Challenge*	\$ 50,000
Special Olympics	\$ 75,000
St. Matthew's House	\$ 75,000
STARability Foundation*	\$ 30,000
Taste the Impact	\$ 70,000
The Shelter for Abused Women & Children	\$ 150,000
United Arts Council of Collier County	\$ 40,000
Valerie's House	\$ 125,000
YMCA of South Collier	\$ 375,000
Youth Haven	\$ 300,000
Total Traditional Grant Funding	\$ 5,601,487

*New NCEF Beneficiary

NCEF Initiative Organizations and Blueprint Partners		
Initiative	Organization	2022-2023 Funding
Early Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABL Academy • Early Learning Coalition of SWFL • Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation - ELLM • Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation - NCEF Early Childhood Development Center • Guadalupe Center 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee • Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) 	
	Total Funding	\$ 2,555,000
Hunger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brighter Bites 	\$ 100,000
Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare Network of SWFL • David Lawrence Centers • Lee Memorial Health System Foundation - Golisano Children's Hospital • NAMI Collier County 	
	Total Funding	\$ 3,176,309
Oral Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare Network of SWFL • University of Florida Foundation 	
	Total Funding	\$ 2,091,000
Out-of-School Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys & Girls Club of Collier County • Guadalupe Center • Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) • The Immokalee Foundation 	
	Total Funding	\$ 1,996,000
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bascom Palmer Eye Institute • Florida Lions Eye Clinic • Lighthouse of Collier 	
	Total Funding	\$ 1,790,771.62
	Total Initiative Funding	\$ 11,709,080.62

Traditional Funding	\$ 5,601,487.00
Initiative Funding	\$ 11,709,080.62
Total 2022-2023 Funding	\$ 17,310,567.62
Funding for Future Grants & Initiatives	\$ 5,307,852.38
2022 Festival	\$ 22,618,420.00

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 nearly \$245 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 more than 50 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.

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.