



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Ashlea Heck  
Director of Marketing and Communications  
239.255.7211  
ashlea@graceplacenaples.org

## **Grace Place for Children and Families Receives \$50,000 Grant from United Way of Collier County**

Naples, FL – October 14, 2019 – Grace Place for Children and Families received a \$50,000 grant from the United Way of Collier County to support its Bright Beginnings Program.

“We are so grateful for the generous support from our partners, the United Way of Collier County,” says Dr. Tim Ferguson, CEO of Grace Place. “This grant will have a direct impact on our families and students and will help us provide them with the support and tools they need to be successful.”

Grace Place provides pathways out of poverty by educating children and families in Golden Gate, Florida. Grace Place’s innovative and multigenerational Bright Beginnings program, a Grace Place Family Literacy Model<sup>®</sup>, combines parenting education and literacy training for adults with high-quality early childhood education for preschool students, and opportunities for parents and children to practice learning together.

“The Bright Beginnings program is the perfect style of fully utilizing a two-generational approach,” says Spencer Smith, Director of Programs of United Way of Collier County. “The parents need to be equipped to support their children’s education and this program gives the tools to both parties to ensure a bright future for everyone.”

For more information about Grace Place for Children and Families, visit [www.graceplacenaples.org](http://www.graceplacenaples.org)

### **About Grace Place for Children and Families**

Grace Place for Children and Families is a nonprofit family literacy center committed to providing pathways out of poverty by educating children and



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

families. Grace Place currently enrolls over 1100 individuals in its education programs. Its nationally recognized Bright Beginnings program, a Grace Place Family Literacy Model<sup>®</sup>, serves preschool children and their parents. Grace Place School Age Programs provide afterschool and college access programming to youth. The Adult Education program at Grace Place offers English language, literacy, computer literacy, and citizenship courses. Helping families throughout Collier County combat food insecurity, the Food Pantry at Grace Place serves over 250 families each week. Grace Place works extensively with community partners to provide medical and mental health screenings, referrals for other services, and financial literacy classes to the Golden Gate community. Grace Place offers many volunteer opportunities in its literacy programs, mentoring, adult education, and other areas. Visit [www.graceplacenaples.org](http://www.graceplacenaples.org) to learn more.

###