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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Grace Place Hosts First Annual Dodge for a Cause: Adult Co-Ed Dodgeball Tournament**

Naples, Fla. – August 13, 2024 – Grace Place for Children and Families is excited to announce the successful completion of its first annual Dodge for a Cause, an exhilarating adult co-ed dodgeball tournament that took place on August 9th. Hosted by the Grace Place Board of Ambassadors, this two-hour event brought together community members for fast-paced action, friendly competition, and a meaningful cause.

Held on the Grace Place campus, Dodge for a Cause featured 16 enthusiastic teams, with participants encouraged to dress in creative uniforms and costumes. The Suffolk Dodgers claimed the championship title, while the Schwab-Bees won the prize for best dressed. In total, the event raised an impressive \$4,000, all of which will support Grace Place's mission to provide pathways out of poverty through education for children and families in the Golden Gate community.

"It's exciting to bring people to our campus and raise awareness about Grace Place," said Lara Fisher, CEO of Grace Place for Children and Families. "Events like Dodge for a Cause are crucial for deepening community understanding and support for our mission to create pathways out of poverty."

Participants also had the opportunity to learn about Grace Place, gaining insight into the impactful education programs they offer and how they support the Golden Gate community.

In addition to the dodgeball matches, attendees enjoyed gourmet treats from the Sweet Cheesus food truck, which added to the festive atmosphere. The event also featured additional competitions and contests, providing participants more ways to engage and support Grace Place's impactful programs.

Dallas Clarke, Vice Chair of the Grace Place Board of Ambassadors, said, "As an Ambassador, I'm thrilled to see the community come together like this. It's inspiring to see how our work and support for Grace Place's mission are making a real impact."

Grace Place is grateful for the support of all participants, sponsors, and volunteers who made this event possible. For those interested in learning more about Grace Place's programs or exploring volunteer opportunities, please visit [www.graceplacenaples.org](http://www.graceplacenaples.org).

## **ABOUT GRACE PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Grace Place for Children and Families, celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year, is a nonprofit family literacy center committed to providing pathways out of poverty by educating children and families. Grace Place enrolls over 1,200 individuals in its education programs each year. Its nationally recognized Bright Beginnings program, a Grace Place Family Literacy Model®, serves preschool children and their parents. Grace Place School Age Programs, funded by the Florida Department of Education, provides afterschool, summer, and college access programming to K-12 youth. The Adult Education program at Grace Place offers English language, literacy,

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computer literacy, and citizenship courses. Additionally, the Food Pantry at Grace Place serves over 300 families each week. Collaborating with community partners, we offer medical and mental health screenings, referrals, and financial literacy classes in Golden Gate. Explore volunteer opportunities in literacy, mentoring, adult education, and more at [www.graceplacenaples.org](http://www.graceplacenaples.org).

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