



Grace Place Receives \$30,000 Grant from Collier Community Foundation to Support Bright Beginnings Program

Naples, FL – October 28th, 2024 – Grace Place for Children and Families is excited to announce that it has been awarded a \$30,000 grant from the Collier Community Foundation to support its Bright Beginnings program. This funding will help ensure that children and families in the Golden Gate community have access to high-quality early childhood education and resources that promote lifelong learning.

Bright Beginnings is an innovative family literacy program, in the heart of the Golden Gate community, designed to prepare children for kindergarten through a blend of early childhood education for preschoolers and robust literacy, parenting, and workforce development classes for their parents. This approach aims to extend learning beyond the classroom and into families' homes. All programs are free, ensuring accessibility for all families in the community.

"We are incredibly thankful to the Collier Community Foundation for their commitment to early childhood education," said Diane Ponton, Chief Learning Officer at Grace Place. "This grant will allow us to continue delivering high-impact, personalized learning experiences to young children and equip parents with the resources to support their child's growth at home. It's truly transformative for families in our community."

The \$30,000 funding from the Collier Community Foundation will ensure Grace Place can continue to provide students with top-tier early childhood education and equip parents with English language support, workforce readiness training, and child development courses.

ABOUT GRACE PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Grace Place for Children and Families, celebrating its 20th 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, offering the nationally recognized early learning initiative Bright Beginnings (nursery to 4 years old), which involves a parent in the early learning needed to be kindergarten ready, and comprehensive School Age Programs (grades K-12) funded by the Florida Department of Education. The organization also provides Adult Education courses and operates a Food Pantry serving hundreds of families weekly. For more information about Grace Place for Children and Families and to explore volunteer opportunities, visit www.graceplacenaples.org.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Contact: Colleen Durham,
Marketing and Events Manager
Colleen.Durham@graceplacenaples.org
239.255.7213

