

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Grace Place Receives \$15,000 Grant from PNC Foundation to Support Bright Beginnings Program

Naples, FL – September 25, 2024 – Grace Place for Children and Families is pleased to announce it has received a \$15,000 grant from the PNC Foundation to support its Bright Beginnings program. This generous contribution will help provide essential early childhood education services to children in the Golden Gate community, preparing them for kindergarten and future academic success.

Bright Beginnings is a comprehensive family literacy program focused on early childhood development, offering a research-based curriculum that enhances literacy, cognitive, and social skills. The program also equips parents with the knowledge and tools to be active participants in their children's learning journey, ensuring a strong foundation for future educational achievement.

"We are incredibly grateful to the PNC Foundation for supporting our Bright Beginnings program," said Diane Ponton, Director of Early Childhood Education at Grace Place. "Their investment allows us to continue delivering high-quality early childhood education and resources to the children and families who need it most. This support helps set our youngest learners on the path to success, both in school and in life."

The \$15,000 grant from PNC Foundation will strengthen the impact of Bright Beginnings by providing the resources necessary to deliver enriching educational experiences and empowering parents to foster learning at home.

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.

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