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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grace Place Receives \$15,000 Grant from PNC Foundation to Support Early Learning Program

Naples, Fla. – Grace Place for Children and Families has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the PNC Foundation to support its Bright Beginnings program, a two-generation family literacy model that prepares young children for school while helping parents build the skills to support their success.

Bright Beginnings focuses on the critical early years of development, serving children from infancy through age four alongside their parents. Through this approach, children build the foundational skills they need to enter kindergarten ready to learn, while parents strengthen English literacy, gain confidence, and become active partners in their child's education.

"At Grace Place, we see that when families learn together, children are more likely to stay on track academically from the very beginning," said Larā Fisher, CEO of Grace Place. "We are grateful to the PNC Foundation for investing in this work and helping create long-term opportunities for the families we serve."

The grant will support classroom instruction, parent education, and the continued delivery of high-quality early childhood programming designed to build strong foundations for learning. Research shows that children who enter kindergarten prepared are more likely to maintain academic progress throughout their school years.

Through Bright Beginnings, Grace Place helps families create a culture of education at home, reinforcing the importance of reading, language development, and consistent engagement in learning. At the same time, parents gain the skills needed to navigate school systems, support their children's growth, and pursue expanded opportunities for their families.

The PNC Foundation is committed to supporting early childhood education initiatives that improve school readiness and long-term outcomes for children.

For more information about Grace Place and its programs, visit graceplacenaples.org.

ABOUT GRACE PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Grace Place for Children and Families is a nonprofit organization in Naples, Florida, dedicated to removing barriers to opportunity by providing free, family-centered English literacy programs. By supporting every member of the family, from infants through adults, Grace Place strengthens English skills, academic achievement, and pathways to college and careers, enrolling more than 1,300 students annually. Discover more at graceplacenaples.org, follow @graceplacenaples on social, or schedule a campus tour to see the impact in action.

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