



For Immediate Release

**Community Foundation of Collier County Kicked off 35th Year
with \$35 Million in Grants**

Naples, FL (July 16, 2020) – The Community Foundation of Collier County, now entering its 35th year, has distributed over \$35 million in grants in the 2019-20 fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, to nonprofit agencies and scholarships for secondary education and specialized training. The final total of \$35,422,855 represents a whopping 87% increase over the last fiscal year and a record amount of distributions for the Foundation on its 35th anniversary.

Grant areas of distribution include Arts, Education and Scholarships, Environment, Health, Human Services, International, Community Impact, and Religion. The substantial increase this year was primarily due funding in the areas of Education and Scholarships, Health, Give Where You Live Collier with a record \$5.65 million in grants, and Human Services with \$1.1 million in COVID-19 relief. CFCC Donor Advised Funds continue to be an exceptional charitable giving tool accounting for \$19,297,224 of funding.

The Community Foundation of Collier County has been connecting people who care to causes that matter, growing charitable legacies, and funding nonprofit organizations to improve the quality of life in Collier County for 35 years. The Foundation, first founded in July 1985, gave out its first grants to the Shelter for Abused Women & Children and the Cambier Park Bandshell. Today, CFCC manages more than 750 funds, collaborates with hundreds of nonprofits, holds \$214 million in assets and has distributed over \$184 million in grants to nonprofit organizations and community programs.

“At the Community Foundation, we believe that working together makes all the difference for Collier County. We rely on the passion of those who live here to give here,” said Eileen Connolly-Keesler, Community Foundation President & CEO. “Thanks to our donors who take ownership of making a difference in our community, we will continue to provide leadership and support— when and where it is needed most.”

The Community Foundation of Collier County awards annual grants through a competitive application and review process. Selected organizations receive grant dollars from the Changing Needs Fund. This Fund consists of donors who believe in the Community Foundation’s ability to identify and grant to the most community’s most current needs.

2019-20 Distributions

Grant Program Area	Distribution Amount
Arts	\$1,599,982
Education and Scholarships	\$10,631,881
Environment	\$1,620,443
Health	\$11,643,241

Human Services	\$7,898,506
International	\$505,153
Community Impact	\$592,080
Religion	\$931,099
Other	\$500.00
Total	\$35,422,855

About the Community Foundation of Collier County

The Community Foundation of Collier County, now entering its 35th year, is a tax-exempt, public, charitable organization established in 1985 to increase and focus on local private philanthropy. Today, the Community Foundation of Collier County manages more than 750 funds, collaborates with hundreds of nonprofits, holds \$214 million in assets and has distributed over \$184 million in grants to nonprofit organizations and community programs. The Community Foundation of Collier County is one of Florida's fastest-growing community foundations. For good. Forever. Learn more at cfcollier.org or call 239-649-5000.