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NAPLES GARDEN CLUB GRANT FUNDS NEW THERAPEUTIC GARDEN AT DAVID LAWRENCE CENTER IMMOKALEE OFFICE

Naples, FL – The David Lawrence Center, Collier County’s only comprehensive, not-for profit mental health and substance abuse treatment facility serving children, adults and families, is pleased to announce that the members of the Naples Garden Club have awarded the Center a \$10,000 grant to build a new therapeutic healing garden for mental health and substance abuse patients and staff members to enjoy at its Immokalee Satellite location.

The garden area will be designed to affect clients, staff and visitors in a positive way by creating a relaxing, soothing therapeutic environment in order to improve mental health, wellbeing and reduce or eliminate environmental stressors. The garden, which will include several fragrant and butterfly attracting plants, as well as seating and a ceramic water feature, will provide positive distractions, accommodate accompanying family members and enable social support for individuals seeking treatment. By engaging all the senses, the garden will create a serene, stress free setting for reflection and mediation that promotes wellness and recovery.

David Lawrence Center CEO Scott Burgess adds, “The Naples Garden Club partnered with us on our serenity garden at our Crossroads residential substance abuse facility in Naples and that space has experienced great success for our clients. It is our hope that this project will foster a sense of community and teamwork and will illustrate David Lawrence Center’s commitment to the Immokalee community.”

While the garden will primarily be used by clients and staff of the David Lawrence Center Immokalee Satellite office, community organizations will be invited to participate in the physical planting of the garden over several days and then in its on-going upkeep. This will include participants from the Shelter for Abused Women and Children and Pace Center for

Girls thus insuring that the Naples Garden Club's values of teamwork, camaraderie and community involvement will all be reflected in this collaborative effort.

About Naples Garden Club

The Naples Garden Club is a local education and charitable not-for-profit whose purpose is to stimulate a knowledge and love of gardening, increase interest in the artistic designing of plant material, encourage civic planting and beautification, and aid in the protection of native plants, trees and birds as well as support worldwide ecological efforts.

About David Lawrence Center

David Lawrence Center is the Southwest Florida-based, not-for-profit leading provider of behavioral health solutions dedicated to inspiring and creating life-changing wellness for every individual. The Center provides innovative, comprehensive inpatient, outpatient, residential and community based prevention and treatment services for the one in four local children and adults who experience mental health, emotional, psychological and substance abuse challenges. David Lawrence Center has seven locations in Collier County and touches the lives of more than 50,000 people each year. For more information about David Lawrence Center call 239-455-8500 or visit www.DavidLawrenceCenter.org.

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