

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fun Time Early Childhood Academy Receives \$30,000 Grant from the Community Foundation of Collier County

Collier County, [October 10, 2023]– Fun Time Early Childhood Academy is thrilled to announce it has received a \$30,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Collier County. This generous funding comes at an exciting time as we celebrate our expansion to three locations in 2023, allowing us to serve up to 242 children from birth to age 5. This significant milestone aligns perfectly with our mission of providing safe, quality, and affordable education and care for children and parents from low-income working families, preparing these children for kindergarten to ensure they are "ready to read and ready to learn!"

This grant aims to bolster the operational capabilities of Fun Time Early Childhood Academy and enhance our nationally accredited early learning program, aligning with our mission. The grant funds will be allocated across crucial areas essential to our mission.

Enriching Learning Resources: Acquisition of educational materials, books, and supplies that enhance our high-quality early learning program. These resources will create a dynamic, engaging environment, aligning with our mission to prepare children for kindergarten success.

Affordable Access: In line with our commitment to affordability, this grant will also help to provide tuition assistance to low-income working families, allowing them access to high-quality early childhood education.

Teacher Development: To uphold our commitment to quality, the grant will help support training for new staff members and professional development opportunities for our 45 dedicated teachers. This investment ensures they remain equipped with the latest teaching techniques, aligning with our mission of delivering quality education.

Strengthening Family Bonds: Facilitate family engagement events, fostering stronger connections between parents, children, and Fun Time. These events bolster our mission to support both children and families.

"Fun Time Early Childhood Academy expresses heartfelt gratitude to the Community Foundation of Collier County for their belief in our mission and commitment to early childhood education. This grant will profoundly impact the lives of the children and families we serve, equipping them with the tools and resources needed to thrive while expanding our reach and mission across multiple locations." Said Jessica Campbell, Executive Director of Fun Time Early Childhood Academy. "This funding will support our operational needs and expand our mission to more children and families across three locations in Collier County. We remain committed to creating nurturing and enriching environments where every child can reach their full potential."

The Collier Community Foundation awards annual grants through a competitive application and review process. Selected organizations receive grant dollars from the *Community Impact Fund*. This Fund is made up of donors who believe in the Community Foundation's ability to identify and grant to the community's most current needs.

For more information about Fun Time Early Childhood Academy, our programs, or how you can support our mission, please visit www.funtimeacademy.org or contact Jessica Campbell, Executive Director, 239-261-8284 jcampbell@funtimeacademy.org, www.funtimeacademy.org

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About Fun Time Early Childhood Academy: Fun Time Early Childhood Academy is a nationally accredited early learning center committed to providing safe, quality, and affordable education and care for children and parents from low-income working families. Our mission is to prepare these children for kindergarten, ensuring they are "ready to read and ready to learn!" Located in Collier County, our academy offers a nurturing and stimulating environment where children can develop the skills and confidence needed for success in school and in life.

About the Collier Community Foundation: The Collier Community Foundation™ is a tax-exempt, public, charitable organization established in 1985 to increase and focus on local private philanthropy. Today, the Collier Community Foundation manages more than 850 funds, works with hundreds of nonprofits, and has granted over \$328.1 million to nonprofit organizations, community programs, and scholarships. Informed giving. Powerful results.® Learn more at colliercf.org or call 239-649-5000.