



Collier County Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

40th Anniversary of Federal Grant Program Marked by Positive Impact in Collier County Communities

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides grants to address critical and unmet community needs including those for housing rehabilitation, public facilities, infrastructure, economic development, public services and more. Since 1974, it has invested \$144 billion in communities nationwide to improve the quality of life, principally for persons of low and moderate income.

Collier County Housing and Human Services (HHS) serves Collier County's low to moderate income residents by providing senior and healthcare assistance as well as grant funding for community and housing development. Accordingly, HHS utilizes federal and state grants to build safe, livable and healthy communities. HHS have utilized CDBG money to make a positive impact for Collier communities in various ways over the years. Some notable projects are:

- Immokalee Community Park - \$775,436 to build the community/recreation center at Immokalee South Park. The center is used for summer camp programs, afterschool programs and other recreational programming for low and moderate households in the area
- Able Academy - \$515,000 to purchase the facility at 5860 Golden Gate Parkway. Able Academy provides applied behavior analysis services to children with developmental disabilities.
- Naples Equestrian - \$520,000 to purchase 2.15 acre parcel at 182 Ridge Drive. Naples Equestrian Center provides equine assisted activities and therapy to citizens with special needs.
- Legal Aid of Collier County - \$72,100 to provide legal aide. Legal Aid of Collier County provides legal services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, child abuse and other abuses.

“What matters most is the knowledge that people have been positively impacted by the CDBG funds in our community. Our entire county is strengthened by the use of these funds to meet otherwise unmet needs, and every resident and visitor benefits in some way.” said Director of Housing and Human Services Kim Grant.

For more information about this promotion, call Daniel Christenbury, Public Information Coordinator at 239-252-6956.