



The Calusa Chapter has again joined forces with The Children's Network of Southwest Florida to help raise money for a great cause! Zac's Friendship House in Labelle, Florida.

Zachary Reyna was 12 years old and out riding his four-wheeler in the woods with his buddies. They were riding through mud puddles, splashing around, like you do on four wheelers. A couple days later Zac started to have some flu like symptoms so his parents took him to the doctor's office, when their worst nightmare began. Zac was diagnosed with Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM), a brain eating amoeba. "Zac fought long and hard to battle the amoeba, but after three weeks, it was God who had won and gained a great little man with lots of spunk."

The town of Labelle donated money to help out Zac's family. Zac's parents wanted to do something to keep Zac's memory alive and help the community as well. They used the funds to buy a building and started a Youth Club for kids ages 10-15. Today teens have a place to go for summer camp and after school activities. Zac's Place has a basketball court, foosball, pool tables, gaming systems, and lounge areas for the kids. It's a very cool and safe place for kids to be with their peers, avoid bad environments, learn to make better choices, and do the right things. For more info on Zac's story, visit <http://www.zacsfriendshiphouse.org/>

The Calusa Board recently met with Zac's parents, who own and run the shelter on their own, to see how we could help. Hurricane Irma did quite a bit of damage to their building inside and out. Zac's Friendship House needs a lot of work and we are going to do what we can to help. Zac's needs a new roof, lighting, ceiling tiles, porch rebuilt, and new seating for the kids, and paint. They received no help from their insurance company and are in need of our help.

We have started a "go fund me" page to help raise money for this great cause [https://www.gofundme.com/zac039s-friendship-house?sharetype=teams&member=169434&rcid=r01-152604858526-f3d51423ae424708&pc=ot\\_co\\_campmgmt\\_w](https://www.gofundme.com/zac039s-friendship-house?sharetype=teams&member=169434&rcid=r01-152604858526-f3d51423ae424708&pc=ot_co_campmgmt_w).

If you are unable to donate to this cause please help us in **SHARING THIS LINK** on any social media you may have, or any other people you may think will have an interest in helping.

Very much appreciated,  
Calusa GCSA BOD