



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

United Way of Charlotte County Reaches out to Help Families Stay Together

Port Charlotte, Fla.–The United Way of Charlotte County has announced that they will be providing \$27,000 to the Children's Network of Southwest Florida, to help relatives who are caring for abused and neglected children in their extended family. The grant will provide those relatives with basic needs assistance at the time of placement.

The Children's Network of Southwest Florida is the local not for profit in charge of foster care and adoptions here in Southwest Florida. Seeing a need to keep children with their own family, the help could not have come at a better time. "Currently, there are over 1,450 children in Southwest Florida who have suffered from abuse and neglect," said Nadereh Salim, CEO of Children's Network. "After the trauma of being removed from their parents, these children deserve a chance to stay with their natural families and with the help of the United Way of Charlotte County, more children will stay with their relatives as opposed to foster care," she added.

The United Way has been serving the Charlotte County community since 1966. For over 40 years, the generosity of donors to the annual fundraising campaign has made possible the programs that distribute basic needs and assistance, strengthen families, help kids succeed, prevent crime and violence and promote health and independence among the elderly. The United Way draws on the resources of the entire community, both human and financial, to support programs in our area.

"The United Way of Charlotte County is excited to further the partnership with Children's Network in an effort to strengthen and maintain families in Charlotte County. In these hard times, there is nothing more important than family," said Cecy Cowger Glenn, Chief Executive Officer of United Way of Charlotte County. For more information about child abuse in your community, please call 239-226-1524.

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