By Cindy Kent

Children’s Foundation doles out $800K

As the novel coronavirus continues to impact the economy and businesses and at-risk children, Boca West Children’s Foundation is providing $800,000 in top partner charities that provide essential services for local children.

The foundation recently granted $800,000 of its 25 partner charities that care for thousands of children each day. Funds distributed include:

- Education Foundation of Palm Beach County: $16,000 to help provide computers for the underserved children who now need and will need to be home-schooled for the foreseeable future.
- Faulk Center for Counseling: $10,000 to this organization that provides low-cost, or no-cost mental health services to those in need.
- Children’s Villages and Homestead: $62,500 to these organizations that have direct care responsibility for more than 1,000 at-risk children within the dependency system.
- Florence Fuller Child Development Center, American Association for Caring: $43,500 to these organizations that are providing direct financial aid, food, and emotional support for those out of work and caring for younger ones.
- American Association for Care of Children’s Villages: $3,150 to this organization that provides computers for the underserved children who now need and will need to be home-schooled for the foreseeable future.
- Palm Beach County: $50,000 to this organization that provides low-cost, or no-cost mental health services to those in need.

The funds were raised during the foundation’s 10th Anniversary Gala that took place March 1 at Boca West Country Club, where 900 guests gathered to honor Arthur Adler, the foundation’s founder and chairman, for his decade of service to the organization and to the children in Palm Beach County.

The organization will announce more distributions in the future. Visit bocawestcc.org. Contact the organization at 561-488-6980 or email foundation@bocawestcc.org.

Miami Heat opens Learn & Play Center

By Sherry Smiley

The Miami Heat and Florida Blue health insurance opened a newly designed Learn & Play Center at HANDY Inc.’s (Helping Abused Neglected Disadvantaged Youth) new campus and office headquarters in Fort Lauderdale.

HANDY hosted a ribbon-cutting on March 10 at its new campus and head- quarters, 1717 N. Andrews Ave., to un- veil the upgrades to the public. The Miami Heat and HANDY’s LIFE Room for its after-school programming by reimagining the area with new paint, wall graphics, tables, furniture and two 60-inch televisions, which were donated by Acuity Brands.

A press conference took place before the ceremony with HANDY CEO Kirk Brown, HANDY’s Board of Directors Chairman Dan Young, Miami Heat television host Jeme Jackson, and former Miami Heat player Glen Rice.

Sponsors and local apprentices particip- ate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony follow- ing the press conference and were able to interact with the children from HANDY’s Learn & Play Centers in the South Florida area, including now its first in Broward County.

The floor plan features a LIFE room that works as a large, open educational class- room and event space. There are also three classrooms with new and advanced inno- vative technology that includes the Heat Buy Tech Tool Center, which offers digital media, robotics, virtual reality, and 3D printing. The Cal will serve as a safe space for youth to disconnect, relax and gain access to coding classes and more, according to HANDY.

The Miami Heat have opened 20 Learn & Play Centers in the South Florida area, including now its first in Broward County. Visit handyinc.org.

BROWARD COUNTY

From The Breakers to the food bank: Donations pour in

By Sherry Smiley

In efforts to help put food on the table for those affected by the coronavirus pandemic, Old School Bakery in Delray Beach and The Breakers Palm Beach came together to give food to the Palm Beach County Food Bank in Lavallette.

The bakery donated truckloads of bread while the bakery staff contributed several truckloads of food as well.

“The wide range of food and beverage products helps support the food banks and purchasing team’s goal to distribute 21,209 pounds of food to the Palm Beach County Food Bank;” said Geoffrey Tanguy. The Breakers’ assistant director of Purchasing & Materials Man- agement, and a statement. “This amounted to these truckloads full of unused and perishable perishables, such as breads, frozen dinners, ready-to-eat, and ready-to-cook foods, which were transported to palm-grown truckloads to the food bank in 24 hours. We are proud to partner with the food bank, especially in times of uncertainty, and are always committed to supporting our community by contributing time, energy and resources to our neighbors in need.”

With the coronavirus crisis causing so many businesses to close their doors, there are over 200,000 hungry residents in Palm Beach County and the situation is only expected to worsen in the coming weeks.

There is an increased need for non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables, pasta, eggs, and bread, which the food bank and local non-profits can help people during this time of uncertainty when residents will likely rely on their services even more. 

For more information on how to donate or receive support from the Palm Beach County Food Bank, visit pitchealdfoundation.org. 

PALM BEACH COUNTY

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