



For Immediate Release

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Council Initiative launches 26 "Great Ideas" in Palm Beach County

For the second year, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County sought out unique, creative, forward-thinking solutions that benefit the children and families in our community. The result? Twenty-six great ideas funded with more than \$615,000.

Some of this year's Great Ideas Initiative recipients include: Boca Raton Philharmonic Symphonia, Spady Museum, **Girls on the Run Palm Beach**, Grandma's Place, Hope 4 Mobility, Police Athletic League of West Palm Beach and South Florida Hunger Coalition.

The Great Ideas Initiative, started by the Council in 2016, provides grants of up to \$25,000 to nonprofits with proposals that enhance the lives of Palm Beach County's children. To qualify, the nonprofit must have an annual operating budget of \$1 million dollars or less and been in business for at least two consecutive years.

The grants were available in four categories: essential services, supplies/equipment, community outreach/engagement and capacity building. This year, the council received a total of 77 eligible submissions.

"We're thrilled to continue to encourage and support local nonprofits with this initiative," said Lisa Williams-Taylor, the Council's CEO. "To see their ideas take flight inspires the believer in all of us."

Some of this year's projects provide necessary services and basic needs, like emergency rental assistance to farm workers, respite for families of children with disabilities or weekend "Fuel Up Packs" for children who are homeless. Other projects spark creativity, such interactive pop-up galleries for underserved communities or musical instrument classes for 7 and 8 year olds. Still other funded ideas fuel children's curious spirit by encouraging exploration of the Everglades and career mentorship to girls and young women. For a complete list of 2017 Great Ideas Initiative grant recipients, see the website.

About Children's Services Council:

Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County – a special-purpose government established by Palm Beach County voters in 1986 and reauthorized in 2014 – provides leadership, funding, services and research on behalf of the county's children so they grow up healthy, safe and strong. For more information, visit www.cscpb.org or contact Shana Cooper, Public Information Officer, at 561.374.7570 or shana.cooper@cscpb.org.