

Donations target those in need

VENICE – The Gulf Coast Community Foundation has provided nearly \$1 million to area nonprofits through more than 20 grants to help support families and individuals devastated by Hurricane Ian.

The grants not only supported families and individuals in the community, but also the staff of nonprofit partners who are working tirelessly to further their mission while recovering from the disaster themselves.

“It is gratifying to see our region come together to help those in desperate need after this horrible hurricane,” said Mark Pritchett, president and CEO of the Gulf Coast Community Foundation. “The impact of these grants can be felt all the way down the Gulf Coast.”

Many nonprofits requested grants for gift cards to provide to their staff and clients for basic needs such as gas, food, clothing, and diapers. One of the first grants awarded was \$50,000 to All Faiths Food Bank to provide food and water to southern Sarasota County and to support expanded hunger relief efforts to Charlotte County. The Tidewell Foundation received a \$10,000 grant to meet the basic needs of their staff.

“We are providing immediate humanitarian relief to those who need it



Valerie's House received a \$25,000 grant through the Gulf Coast Community Foundation to support families in North Port and Charlotte County.

PROVIDED BY VALERIE'S HOUSE

most,” Pritchett said.

Also, Gulf Coast has provided a \$15,000 grant to Tri-County Counseling to support mental health and substance abuse counseling in their North Port office; Centerstone received a \$10,000 grant to meet the emergency needs of patients; and Valerie's House

received a \$25,000 grant to support families in North Port and Charlotte County.

This small snapshot of support sheds light on the strong nonprofit community who support the region in times of need.

Submitted by Rachel Denton