



The SKY Family YMCA Receives Grant From Gulf Coast Community Foundation and Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation Through their COVID-19 Response Initiative.

The SKY Family YMCA receives a \$50,000 grant to provide childcare during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gulf Coast Community Foundation and Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation have partnered with The SKY Family YMCA to provide childcare to first responders and other essential personnel during the COVID-19 crisis.

Childcare for essential employees during the pandemic has become an immediate need throughout our local communities as the demand for their roles in combatting the virus increases daily and school closures have left no place for children during the day. These challenges make childcare one of the greatest needs for these families, employers and our community. This grant will help The SKY Family YMCA transition its focus to offering All-day Youth Relief Care to be able to provide this imperative service.

Currently, the SKY Family YMCA is offering childcare at eight locations in Southwest Florida through our early learning centers and school-age care program, Camp Heroes. As the need continues to grow, the Y will expand its childcare sites and is working closely with local hospitals and other essential organization to ensure this need is met.

“Through our partnership with Gulf Coast Community Foundation and Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation, the YMCA will be able to provide All-day Youth Relief Care to the children of first responders and essential employees within our communities,” said Gene Jones, President and CEO. “Childcare is one of the largest challenges these professionals are facing, so it is imperative that the YMCA transition our focus to meet this need. Fighting this virus is a community effort and those on the frontlines cannot play their roles if we don’t play ours. Thank you to Gulf Coast and the Barancik Foundation and their COVID-19 Response Initiative for making this possible.”

To learn more about The SKY Family YMCA’s All-day Youth Relief Care program, please visit our website at <https://www.swflymca.org/main/heroes-camp-and-early-learning-centers>.