



The Paul A. & Veronica H. Gross  
**WILDLIFE CENTER**  
**OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**  
Educate Rescue Rehabilitate Release



**Contact:**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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***The Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Manatee Community Foundation for medical supplies and nutrition needed for recovering native wildlife at their hospital and rehabilitation center.***

VENICE, FLORIDA

Funding for this grant is provided by the Bill and Maryann Vinall Fund of the Manatee Community Foundation. The funds will be used to purchase medical supplies needed for the care of our native wildlife being treated for injuries or illness at the Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida.

This grant will also help provide funds for nourishment for the many different species recovering at the center as well. Many of the young or orphaned wildlife in care at the center also need species-specific formulas, which are costly but necessary for proper development. A proper diet is important to both growing baby animals and adult animals recovering from an injury or illness. By providing these funds, the Manatee Community Foundation is helping advance the mission of the Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida, helping to get every patient well for release back to the wild, where they are a crucial part of a healthy ecosystem for us all.

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**About the Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida**

Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, serving Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee counties, extends care to native wildlife, including reptiles, mammals, and birds (excluding marine animals). Their mission is to rescue sick, injured, and/or orphaned native wildlife for return to the wild once healed. They have various programs to help educate the community about the importance of wildlife to the environment and ecosystems and how humans can successfully co-exist. For more information about the Wildlife Center of Southwest Florida, visit [wildlifeswfl.org](http://wildlifeswfl.org).

**About the Manatee Community Foundation (MCF)**

Manatee Community Foundation (MCF) is a charitable organization founded in 1998. MCF partners with our citizens to **strengthen and enhance our community through philanthropy, education, and service – now and forever**. MCF is the bridge between generous donors, business leaders, our government, and nonprofit partners, who work together so that everyone can thrive because we believe that **together, we can do greater things**. MCF has invested over \$55 million dollars in the areas of health and human services, education, arts and culture, the environment, and animal welfare and is **committed to investing in its diversity, equity, inclusion, and access work**. As the only community foundation in Manatee County, **MCF is your partner in philanthropy**, a trusted steward of charitable legacies and the guide for current giving through donor-advised funds and beyond. See more information about Manatee Community Foundation at [www.manateecf.org](http://www.manateecf.org).