

OFFICIAL MEDIA RELEASE

Release Contact: Lucy Nicandri, Executive Director
(941) 706-3795 / lucy.nicandri@suncoastcc.org

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Suncoast Charities for Children Announces Summer Fest Events & Ron Foxworthy Memorial Children's Scholarship Fund

Suncoast Charities for Children, organizer of Suncoast Summer Fest, officially announced several event fundraisers scheduled during the upcoming summer season. Each of these events helps sustain fundraising efforts, during a typically slower time of the year, for local children, teens, and adults with special needs and their families. Events scheduled to take place include:

7th Annual Bob Rizi Memorial Golf Classic – June 23

The “Friendliest Catch” Fishing Tournament – June 28

**Private event for clients with intellectual & developmental disabilities.*

“Waves & Wheels” Kickoff Party – June 30

“Waves & Wheels” Fun Run (Boats, Motorcycles, & Cars) – July 1

July 4th Bayfront Fireworks Spectacular – July 4

Casino Night – August 26

A Casino Night event was added to this year's lineup with net proceeds benefitting a new children's therapy scholarship fund established in memory of Ron Foxworthy. Foxworthy was a former Suncoast Charities Board Member and one of the original founders of the Sarasota Powerboat Grand Prix Festival. Suncoast Charities for Children Executive Director, Lucy Nicandri, stated: “Mr. Foxworthy was dedicated to raising money to help local children with special needs. He was passionate about making sure they received the necessary therapies they needed whether it be speech, occupational, physical, aquatic, feeding, or mental health. With many families currently needing financial assistance, so their children can continue receiving therapy services, it was the perfect time to honor his legacy by establishing a children's scholarship fund in his memory.” Seed money for the scholarship fund was made possible thanks to the generosity of the James M. Doss Charitable Foundation. The festival's “Waves & Wheels” Fun Run is also being held in memory of Noel Speranza, former Board Member with Suncoast Charities for Children.

Suncoast Charities for Children provides financial support to six local non-profits offering critical programs and services to children, teens, and adults with special needs throughout the Sarasota, Manatee, DeSoto, and Charlotte County areas. Funding support is also provided to the Suncoast Foundation to assist with necessary maintenance and capital improvements at several of these agencies so that their program/service budget is not impacted. Funding is made possible thanks to Suncoast Summer Fest and the Thunder By The Bay Music & Motorcycle Festival. Last year, Suncoast Summer Fest raised \$154,000 for Suncoast Charities for Children.

For more information, tickets, and sponsorship opportunities visit: suncoastsummerfest.org