



January 17, 2008

**TELFORD FOUNDATION GRANT SUPPORTS DAVID LAWRENCE CENTER
CHILDREN'S PROGRAM**

The David Lawrence Foundation is pleased to announce that The Telford Foundation has donated nearly \$80,000 to support the educational components of the David Lawrence Center's Bridges Program, a residential psychiatric treatment program for children.

The donation is made possible through the generosity of the late Robert L. Telford, who created and funded the Foundation to administer annual gifts to certain charitable and educational organizations. The Foundation has generously supported the programs and services at the David Lawrence Center since the inception of the Foundation. David Schimmel, David Lawrence Center Chief Executive Officer, stated, "We are extremely honored and grateful to once again be a recipient of this charitable funding from The Telford Foundation. This money will allow us to continue to restore and rebuild the lives of children in need."

Bridges is the only inpatient psychiatric treatment program for children in District 8. The program treats children ages 5-17 who are often victims of abuse and neglect that have been diagnosed with severe psychological and behavioral problems. Throughout the average four to six month stay, these children receive diagnostic and therapeutic treatment through intensive individual, family and group therapy. Bridges clients are also able to remain in public school while receiving treatment by attending the newly named Telford Sunshine School, a Collier County alternative school that is onsite at the David Lawrence Center. The school was renamed last year in honor of The Telford Foundation's generous support. The funds received will help support the educational components and renovations to the building that the school resides in on the Center's main campus.

David Lawrence Foundation raises funds to support the programs and services of David Lawrence Center, a not-for-profit, community mental health center that provides affordable mental health and substance abuse services in Southwest Florida. In addition to helping children with behavioral, emotional and substance abuse challenges, the Center provides counseling and rehabilitative services to adults in crisis and individuals with persistent mental illness. David Lawrence Center has nine locations in Collier County and touches the lives of nearly 16,000 clients a year. It is David Lawrence Center's mission to restore and rebuild the lives of all of those in need. More information about David Lawrence Center can be found online at davidlawrencecenter.org.

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