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Avow and St. Vincent de Paul Partner to Provide Meals for Hospice Patients

NAPLES, Fla., (October 5, 2021) – Avow Hospice and St. Vincent de Paul Society, Naples District Council (SVdP Naples) will work together to provide nutritious meals for patients in Avow’s hospice house while the facility undergoes renovation of its kitchen. Under the agreement, SVdP Naples’ Meals on Wheels will deliver three meals per day for each patient. Terms of the agreement offer pricing to Avow that complements both charities’ commitment to faithful donor stewardship.

“As part of our ongoing renovations to the 18-year-old Frances Georgeson Hospice House,” says Avow President & CEO Jaysen Roa, “we are replacing the building’s industrial kitchen with a family-oriented café for our patients’ families and friends. During construction, the partnership with SVdP Naples will allow us to continue serving appealing, nutritious meals to our patients. We are grateful to SVdP Naples for helping us care for our patients in the same way they support so many seniors in our community.”

SVdP Naples is also working with Avow to educate the families of Avow patients about the Meals on Wheels program. Many spouses or partners of patients are elderly and find it difficult to shop and cook, particularly while tending to the needs of their loved one. “At the core of our mission is a commitment to resolving food insecurity in seniors,” says Carl Monticelli, director of development for SVdP Naples. “We look

forward to working with Avow to welcome those patient families that we can help with wholesome and easy-to-prepare meals. Hopefully, that will make life a little bit easier during a very challenging time.”

Construction of the new family café at Avow’s hospice house is expected to begin in August.

About SVdP Naples

Each year, SVdP Naples delivers over 50,000 Meals on Wheels to low-income, homebound seniors, provides over \$1 million in financial, food and furniture assistance and Life Skills classes to Collier County families in need, and operates thrift stores in Naples and Bonita Springs, all of which is made possible by dedicated volunteers, the Grace of God, and generous private donors.

Thanks to outstanding community support during COVID-19, SVdP Naples provided uninterrupted delivery of Meals on Wheels and Financial, Food & Furniture Assistance to Collier County seniors, families and individuals, while safeguarding the health of its 800+ volunteers.

With inflation, economic uncertainty and the reauthorization of rental evictions, SVdP Naples expects a spike in assistance requests from Collier County’s low-income families. SVdP Naples Meals on Wheels is funded solely through donations from individuals, businesses, foundations and community groups, and receives no ongoing funding from the Catholic Church or local/state/federal government.

In 2021, SVdP Naples launched its 4-year, HONORING SENIORS...*Guiding Families* initiative to address food and financial insecurity among Collier County’s low-income seniors, individuals and families. For information, please contact Carl Monticelli, Director of Development at 239-355-0440 or cmonticelli@SVdPNaples.org.

About Avow

Avow was founded in 1983 as Collier County's original, nonprofit hospice. Today, Avow's nonprofit companies provide palliative care consultations for adults facing chronic or serious illness and hospice care and bereavement support services for children and adults.

To learn more about the scope of services provided by Avow, call 239-261-4404 or visit www.avowcares.org.

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