FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHOTOS: DOWNLOAD LINK

Avow receives a $5,000 grant from Suncoast Credit Union Foundation

The grant is for art therapy groups and camps for children and youth experiencing loss

NAPLES, Fla. (Dec.8, 2022) – Avow Hospice has received a $5,000 grant from Suncoast Credit Union Foundation to provide art therapy groups and camps through Avow Kids for children and youth experiencing loss.

The program is run by a board-certified art therapist and entails groups and camps allowing children who have experienced loss to express themselves in ways they may not have the words for. Children process loss differently, so different modalities need to accommodate them.

"Art therapy is a great way for children to express their emotions while grieving the loss of someone they care about," said Avow's Chief Philanthropy Officer Annalise Smith. "What they cannot always put into words, can be more easily expressed when the imagination gets to play with paints, brushes, and some fresh canvas. However, art therapy, music therapy, day and overnight camps and one-on-one bereavement counseling are not reimbursed by insurance.

Through grants from Suncoast Credit Union Foundation and community support, we can offer our services to children and teens in the community at no cost."

Avow's board-certified art therapist holds weekly virtual and in-person sessions with children ages 5 to 17 who have endured losses from death, divorce, family separation, suicide, incarceration and other circumstances. Avow art therapy is also incorporated into workshops and special activities offered by Avow to children, often in conjunction with music therapy.

Avow Kids groups and activities are open to children locally through in-person sessions, workshops and camps in Southwest Florida. Avow has supported children through loss since 1983, delivering care with a team of professionals experienced in children's loss. For more information on the scope of services provided by Avow, call 239-261-4404 or visit avowkids.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.

About Suncoast Credit Union

Suncoast Credit Union, chartered in 1934 is now the largest credit union in the state of Florida, the ninth largest in the United States based on membership, and the 10th largest in the United States based on its $12.6 billion in assets. Since its founding in 1990, the Suncoast Credit Union Foundation has raised and donated more than $32 million to organizations and initiatives that support the health, education and emotional well-being of children in the communities that the credit union serves. For more information, visit: suncoastcreditunion.com.

-END-

Media Contacts:

Holly Boldrin, APR, CPRC, Priority Marketing, Holly@PriorityMarketing.com, 239-267-2638 or 239-887-9335 (cell)

Kathy Becker, Priority Marketing, kathyb@prioritymarketing.com, 239-267-2638 or 239-470-2681 (cell)