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St. John's Episcopal Church to match donations for children's grief and loss support

Giving begins in January to benefit the Avow Kids program

NAPLES, Fla. (Dec. 29, 2023) – Starting Jan. 1, Avow will launch a donation campaign with St. John's Episcopal Church to match dollar-for-dollar up to $17,350 for children's grief and loss support through Avow Kids. This matching gift provides donors with an opportunity to double their impact with their donation and ensure that children and their families who are grieving will receive the care they need. The donation campaign runs now through Feb. 1.

Support and companionship are available for children ages 5-17 through the Avow Kids program, which assists children in learning and implementing effective coping skills to help them navigate their feelings of grief or loss. Loss can stem from a variety of circumstances in life, not just from the death of a loved one. To meet the numerous needs of children in the community, Avow Kids provides grief and loss support for the death of a family member, divorce, military deployment, the loss of a friend, instability in the foster care system and more.

In-person sessions, workshops and camps are offered to children and teens in Southwest Florida, and online groups are open to children and teens worldwide. Children who participate in Avow Kids are encouraged to express their emotions through art, music, movement, and group discussion, allowing them to better understand their grief and grow through their process of healing. The dedicated team of Avow Kids staff includes board-certified music therapists and

highly credentialed child bereavement counselors, who use their expertise in the field to provide children with a wide range of programs, events, camps, and workshops.

Avow Kids relies on donor funding to maintain and grow the array of programs and services offered to the community. Avow believes there should never be a cost for support through grief and is committed to keeping its bereavement programs at no cost to all participants. The funds raised through St. John's Episcopal Church's matching campaign ensures that the delivery of bereavement support through Avow Kids will remain uninterrupted and available to all children and their families in Collier County.

Donors can participate in the campaign and donate online by visiting www.bit.ly/StJohnsforAvowKids or by contacting the Avow Foundation at 239-649-3683.

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, 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 St. John's Episcopal Church:

St. John's Episcopal Church offers in-person and live stream sermons every Sunday, as well as small groups throughout the week. St. John's Outreach Committee is responsible for researching and interviewing charities, and awards grants based on detailed criteria. All funds distributed through grants were generated by purchases made at St. John's Shoppe, one of the parishes' largest ministries. Learn more at www.stjohnsnaples.com.

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