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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The William G. and Marie Selby Foundation has recently awarded Community Haven with a “capping grant” of \$225,000 to construct a new 7,500 square foot Haven Industries facility on its 32-acre campus. Groundbreaking is anticipated for July of this year.

The current Haven Industries operation has grown out of space. It now has 200 clients with disabilities in various stages of training, working on paid employment contracts. These workers have completed over 856,000 pieces for Sun Hydraulics, one of Haven Industries’ major partners. Another referral resulted in a contract with a Cape Coral company to package 44,000 pounds of aquatic planting media regularly. New contracts with United Natural Foods, Ecological Laboratories, the Sarasota Department of Transportation and others are providing valuable off site job settings for clients.

The objective of this \$1.1 million project is to complete a program expansion that will offer a model training and employment center on the campus, providing Haven Industries with opportunities to greatly expand its vocational training, and create hundreds of future opportunities for local students and clients on Florida’s agencies for persons with disabilities waiting list. These jobs contribute to our local economy, while preparing people with disabilities for inclusion in the broader society.

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Our Mission

Through the support of the community and the generosity of its donors, Community Haven empowers independence and inclusion in all aspects of society for children, teenagers, and adults with disabilities by meeting their needs for education, housing, vocational training, job placement, recreation and socialization. Community Haven is a 501c3.