



**For Immediate Release**

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**The Able Trust Awards \$35K Grant to Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center**

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – The Able Trust today awarded the Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center (ECCAC) a \$35,000 grant to assist them in accomplishing their organizational goals and mission. The grant represents donations from three Ability Funds that The Able Trust administers. ECCAC received \$15,000 from the Gladys M. Thomas Ability Fund, \$15,000 from the Donald F. Gallimore Endowment Fund and \$5,000 from the John R. Pettengill Ability Fund. The Able Trust began supporting the ECCAC in 2011 and has donated over \$130,000 during this time period. The Able Trust supports programs that are designed to assist people with needs, including children, teens and adults. One avenue in which The Able Trust accomplishes this mission is through opportunities in its grant giving program.



*Pictured left to right)*

*Bill Fletcher, Nancy Kline, Dr. Susanne Homant, Julie Porterfield, Katrina Puri and Major Audie Rowell.*

ECCAC provides services for children in Okaloosa and Walton Counties that have been abused, neglected or assaulted. ECCACs in Niceville and DeFuniak Springs bring together partners needed to assist children and their families from the investigation process through healing and restoring their childhood. No longer do children have to go from place to place as the process progresses.

(MORE)

“This grant will help the Emerald Coast Children’s Advocacy Center continue to provide its vital services,” said Dr. Susanne Homant, president and CEO of The Able Trust. “Making sure programs are available to help and protect children is of the utmost importance. Supporting organizations like the Emerald Coast Children’s Advocacy Center helps guarantee vital service are available when they are needed.”

“It is through acts of generosity and kindness that we are able to continue to care for and protect the children of our community exposed to child abuse,” commented Emerald Coast Children’s Advocacy Center board president, Tammy Pierce. “We so appreciate and treasure The Able Trust’s generous support of ECCAC.”

ECCAC’s mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect, protect children, and restore the lives and futures of impacted children. The Centers in Walton and Okaloosa Counties house a multidisciplinary team of child protection personnel, prosecutors, law enforcement, Department of Children and Families, therapists, staff and volunteers. Services are provided at no cost by the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

The Able Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1990 by the Florida Legislature, and is funded through a combination of public and private dollars. Its mission is to be a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment. The Able Trust supports numerous diverse projects, including the High School High Tech program, youth leadership training, work experience training and technical assistance, transportation assistance, career development training, employment and career path direction and assistance to businesses as they seek the employment of people with disabilities. Since its beginnings, The Able Trust has worked with community organizations in every county in Florida to put thousands of people with disabilities to work. To learn more about The Able Trust, please visit [AbleTrust.org](http://AbleTrust.org) and follow [@AbleTrust](https://www.instagram.com/AbleTrust).

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