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**For Immediate Release**

**Florida's Natural Growers Foundation Surpasses \$1 Million in Grants**

The Florida's Natural Growers Foundation awarded \$244,700 to 80 local organizations on Thursday, November 5th, at the Grove House Visitor Center in Lake Wales, Florida. Grants awarded to charities support the Foundation's mission and focus on health, education and youth. Three special awards were given to Meals on Wheels, The Lake Wales Care Center, and Circle of Friends for 2015.

Highlights from the reception include:

- Record giving and the renewal of the Corporate Matching Program.
- Recognition of Walt Lincer's service to the Foundation as he retires as the President.
- Nikki Hayde was elected as President of the Foundation Board.

Giving back to the community is an important part of the Cooperative's efforts. Creating the Florida's Natural Growers Foundation in 2008 has provided over \$1 Million to Central Florida area charities.

Below are the organizations receiving grants for 2015 from the Florida's Natural Growers Foundation.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AgainstAllOdds</li> <li>• All Saints Academy</li> <li>• American Red Cross</li> <li>• Anchor House Ministries Inc.</li> <li>• Best Buddies Chapter @ LWHS</li> <li>• Bok Tower Gardens</li> <li>• Central FL Speech &amp; Hearing Center</li> <li>• Choices Pregnancy Care Center</li> <li>• Circle of Friends</li> <li>• Citrus Center Boys &amp; Girls - Winter Haven</li> <li>• Citrus Center Boys &amp; Girls Club Haines City Unit</li> <li>• Citrus Center Boys &amp; Girls Club Lake Wales Unit</li> <li>• Edward W. Bok Academy</li> <li>• Explorations V Children's Museum</li> <li>• Family Literacy Academy at Lake Wales</li> <li>• Florida Baptist Children's Homes</li> <li>• Florida Specialty Crop Foundation</li> <li>• Friends of FL State Forests</li> <li>• Friends of the Parks Foundation</li> <li>• Frostproof Art League</li> <li>• Frostproof Care Center</li> <li>• Ft. Meade Middle/High School</li> <li>• Girl Scouts of West Central Florida</li> <li>• Good Shepherd Hospice - Camp Braveheart</li> <li>• Green and Gold Foundation of Lake Wales</li> <li>• Habitat for Humanity/East Polk County</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy Start Coalition</li> <li>• Heartland Food Reservoir Inc.</li> <li>• Heartland for Children</li> <li>• HELP of Ft. Meade, Inc.</li> <li>• Humane Society of Polk County</li> <li>• InnerAct Alliance</li> <li>• Jimspace</li> <li>• Junior League of Greater Lakeland</li> <li>• Junior League of Greater Winter Haven</li> <li>• Keep Polk County Beautiful</li> <li>• Kidspack</li> <li>• Kiwanis Foundation of Lake Wales</li> <li>• Lake Wales Area Foundation, Inc.</li> <li>• Lake Wales Arts Council</li> <li>• Lake Wales Breakfast Rotary</li> <li>• Lake Wales Care Center</li> <li>• Lake Wales Charter Schools Foundation, Inc.</li> <li>• Lake Wales Family YMCA</li> <li>• Lake Wales Library Association - Friends of the Library</li> <li>• Lake Wales Literacy Council</li> <li>• Lake Wales Ministerial Alliance Inc.</li> <li>• Lake Wales Soccer Club, Inc.</li> <li>• Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine</li> <li>• Leadership Hendry &amp; Glades Counties</li> <li>• Mason G. Smoak Foundation</li> <li>• Meals on Wheels of Polk County, Inc.</li> <li>• New Concepts by Visions, Inc.</li> <li>• NU-HOPE Elder Care Services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Children's Academy</li> <li>• Peace River Center</li> <li>• Polk County Agri-fest/Polk County Farm Bureau</li> <li>• Polk State College Foundation</li> <li>• Polk Training Center, Inc.</li> <li>• Professional Opportunities Program for Students Inc.</li> <li>• Project Love of Eloise, Inc.</li> <li>• READ Lakeland, Inc.</li> <li>• READ Polk, Inc.</li> <li>• Redlands Christian Migrant Association</li> <li>• Restaurants Against Hunger, LLC.</li> <li>• Roosevelt Academy - Roosevelt Farms</li> <li>• Samaritan's Touch Care Center</li> <li>• Scholarship Recognition, Inc.</li> <li>• Seed Starters for Young Harvesters, Inc.</li> <li>• Sertoma Camp Endeavor</li> <li>• The WAY Center, Inc.</li> <li>• Umatilla Kiwanis Club</li> <li>• United Way / Family Fundamentals</li> <li>• United Way of Central FL Success by 6</li> <li>• Valleyview Elementary</li> <li>• Vanguard School</li> <li>• Warner University</li> <li>• Webber International University</li> <li>• Women's Care Center of Bartow</li> </ul> |
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**About Florida's Natural Growers**

First formed in 1933, Florida's Natural Growers, a division of Citrus World, Inc, is a cooperative of fourteen grower organizations representing nearly 1,000 individual growers owning almost 60,000 acres of citrus in Florida. Its flagship Brand, not from concentrate Florida's Natural® Brand, may be found worldwide and uses oranges from Florida and only Florida. The Cooperative currently operates a processing plant in Lake Wales, Florida and a juice packaging plant in Umatilla, Florida.