Scope of Work

Title: Gargiulo Education Center (GEC) Evaluation

The Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF) was established with the goal of making a significant and lasting difference in the lives of Collier County children. The foundation established the Naples Winter Wine Festival to champion and sustain the organization's mission to support charitable programs that improve the physical, emotional, and educational lives of underprivileged and at-risk children. The festival's fundraising campaigns support an annual grants program and collaborative strategic initiatives that have impacted nearly 90 non-profit agencies and more than 300,000 children. For six years, the Gargiulo Education Center (GEC) has operated as an NCEF grantee and serves the Naples migrant community by providing academic and vocational enrichment opportunities at no cost to K-12 students whose families have low incomes, migrant status, and/or limited English proficiency. NCEF has engaged with the University of Florida's Lastinger Center for Learning to conduct a short-term evaluation for GEC.

Project Plan and Goals

The Lastinger Center will develop and execute an evaluation plan for GEC, which will include observations, interviews, an online survey, and an examination of program artifacts. The Lastinger Center will synthesize the findings in a final report and provide recommendations to refine, improve, and strengthen the quality of GEC programming, resulting in a set of guidelines for evaluating program effectiveness.

Over an 8-week period, the Lastinger Center Research and Evaluation team will work with GEC to understand and gauge the feasibility, quality, and impact of its programming and its instruction, more specifically, to achieve the following objectives:

- 1. Determine the feasibility of the center's curriculum the utility of what's being taught
- 2. Determine how the center carries out its programming-how programs are executed
- 3. Gauge the level and quality of the center's instruction (educational/vocational programming) what and how instruction is delivered and by whom
- 4. Determine the feasibility of the center's physical learning environment where and under what physical conditions are program activities delivered
- 5. Gauge the level of student engagement in the center's instruction and activities how and to what degree is programming received and applied by students
- 6. Identify what data the GEC collects/can collect to measure the impact of its programming more effectively *how programming is evaluated*

As a result of this evaluation, program administrators at NCEF and GEC will gain a deeper understanding of 1) the components required for a successful K-12 complementary educational/vocational program and GEC's relative status; 2) appropriate program measures aligned with GEC's program objectives; and 3) existing data sources to measure GEC's program effectiveness.

At the completion of the evaluation, the Lastinger Center will deliver a final report detailing the findings. The report will include recommendations to improve GEC programming and guidelines for measuring program effectiveness.