



For Immediate Release
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Over \$25,000 Donated to the Challenger School

August 2008 – Stuart – Members and friends of the Willoughby Golf Club recently held a letter writing campaign on behalf of the Education Foundation of Martin County to raise funds for the students of the Challenger School. The fundraising drive raised over \$25,000 for the acquisition of much needed equipment benefiting the students attending this specialized school. The effort raised enough money for the purchase of all the items on the school's initial wish list including an automated external defibrillator (AED), laminator, book binder, wheelchair scale, modified power wheelchair, a heavy-duty sewing machine, gait trainer and chair, and other adaptive rehab products to help the students achieve their goals.

These items are outside the funding ability of the school district and the school would not have been able to provide these resources without community support. "We would like to extend a big thank you to the ladies who single-handedly led the charge: Silvia Bonaccorso, Mary Lou Huffman, Barbara Crays, and Pam Dukas," stated Lisa Rhodes, executive director of the Education Foundation of Martin County. "It was truly a remarkable community effort and one that will have a significant impact on the students, parents, and teachers at the Challenger School."



Attached photo: Immediate past president of the Education Foundation, Bill West presents recently retired principal of the Challenger School, Susan Burrows, with a check for over \$25,000.