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Two local law enforcement agencies support resource guide for the needy

(Bradenton, FL)—Making An Impact, Inc., (MAI) received grants from both the Sarasota and the North Port Police Department’s 2021 Law Enforcement Trust Funds. The grants will help underwrite the costs of revising and printing MAI’s 2022 Community Connections Resource Guide.

The Community Connections Resource Guide is a comprehensive guide providing residents in Sarasota and Manatee counties with information to connect with more than two hundred essential service agencies, ranging from addiction treatment, to education, food pantries, immigration, mental health, utility assistance and Veteran’s services. Divided into seventeen categories and color-coded by geographic region for ease of use, the guide was developed in line with MAI’s mission to reduce disparities and unmet needs for disadvantaged people in our community. The third edition of the guide will be available in early 2022.

“The Community Connections Resource Guide has been a valuable resource for our department and the community,” said Rex Troche, Interim Sarasota Police Chief. “We are very proud to help support Making An Impact through our Law Enforcement Trust Fund grant so they can continue to provide this much needed guide to those in need of essential services in Sarasota and Manatee counties.”

“The North Port Police Department is proud to support MAI and everything they do in our community,” said North Port Police Chief Todd Garrison. “They work so hard to provide needed resources. Help for Vets and kids to housing assistance and mental health. They’re making the sure the right people are getting connected.”

“In addition to protecting our community, police officers are also on the front lines when it comes to human and social services. They are the ones who discover that a car seemingly abandoned on the side of the road is home to a family, they are trained to recognize the not so obvious signs of domestic abuse, and they serve as a vital resource for the homeless and people dealing with mental illness,” said Victoria Kasdan, MAI Board Chair. “These grants recognize the importance of community collaboration in alleviating disparities and unmet needs for people in our community. We are grateful to the Sarasota and North Port Police Departments for their partnership.”

More than 1,500 guides were distributed throughout Sarasota and Manatee counties in 2021. The spiral-bound, pocket-sized guides are in use by the American Red Cross, Sarasota Police Department, North Port Police Department, Sarasota Sheriff's Office, Longboat Key Police, Fire and Emergency Management, Tidewell Hospice, Multicultural Health Institute, Turning Points, Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County, and other organizations.

Also available online, the guide can be accessed or ordered at <https://www.Making-An-Impact.org> For more information: info@Making-An-Impact.org

Making An Impact, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) charitable nonprofit established and incorporated in April 2020.

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