

Swing Fore The Future

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**The First Tee - Naples/Collier
Learning Center**



first tee
naples/collier

239.825.4851

firstteenaplescollier.org

501(c)(3) organization since 1997



Campaign Goal | \$10 million

WHY NOW?

The First Tee - Naples/Collier Learning Center Opening 2023

In 2021, after years of searching for a "home-base" for the First Tee Naples/Collier, the Collier County Commissioners approached Executive Director, Cindy Darland and the Board with an incredible opportunity. Collier County, BigShots Golf and Club Corp are collaborating to develop a public golf venue on the former site of the Golden Gate Country Club. It will combine a BigShots Driving Range venue, a 12-hole Nicklaus Design golf course and the First Tee - Naples/ Collier Learning Center. As Golden Gate CC was First Tee - N/C's primary

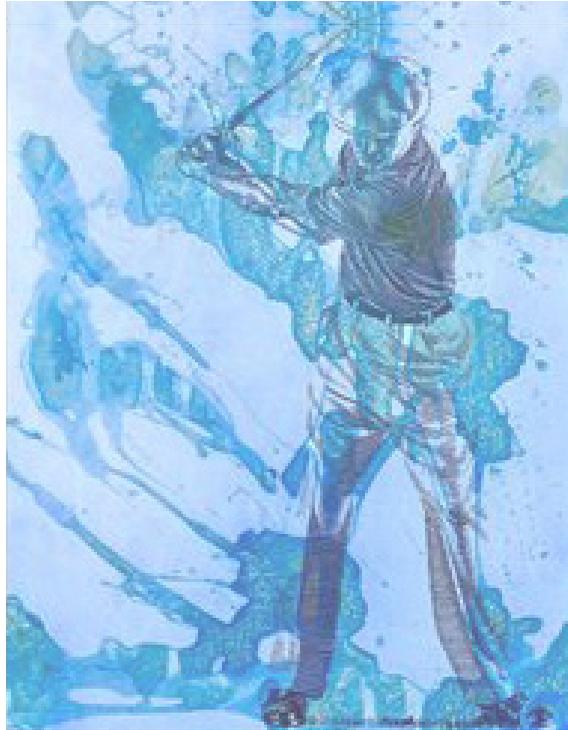
HUB before it closed in 2019, Cindy and the Board know it is the perfect location for First Tee - N/C's permanent learning center. The Commissioners required BigShots to provide a long-term sub-lease on the land to First Tee - N/C at the cost of \$1/year. This lease has been executed, architectural and design services have been donated, the Learning Center building has been designed and construction is scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2022. We have launched our Swing Fore the Future Capital Campaign to fund the project.

YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

To build the next generation of Naples/Collier community leaders, we are seeking support and advocacy from the Naples community, parents, businesses

and charitable organizations. Your tax-deductible contribution will ensure the timely completion of this much-needed resource for our young people. All

gifts over \$10,000 will be permanently recognized on a donor wall in the First Tee Naples/Collier Learning Center.



Learning Center's **IMPACT**

Reach More Youth

- Our goal is to double the number of youth served from 1,000 today to over 2,000 in two years
- First Tee-N/C's growth will help fill the GAP in out-of-school programming in Collier County
- Currently, First Tee-N/C is on track with the national average in diversity however the goal is to continue to grow the number of at-risk youth exponentially

Consistent Programming

The Learning Center will provide:

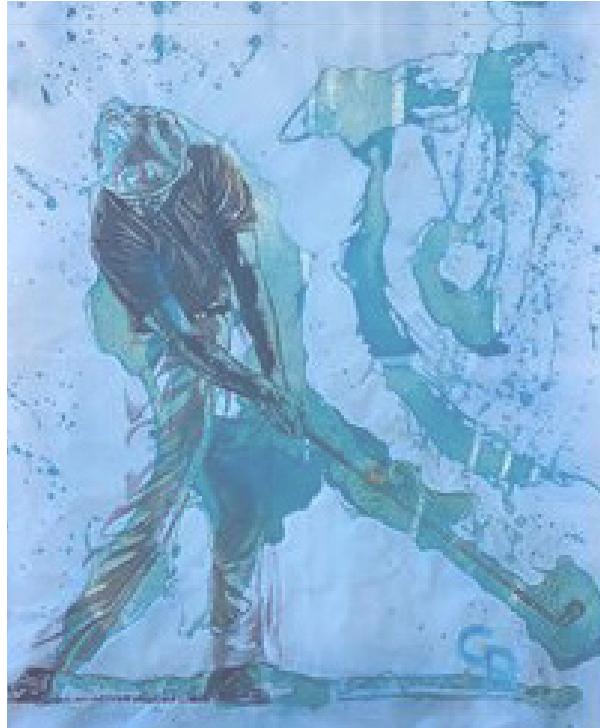
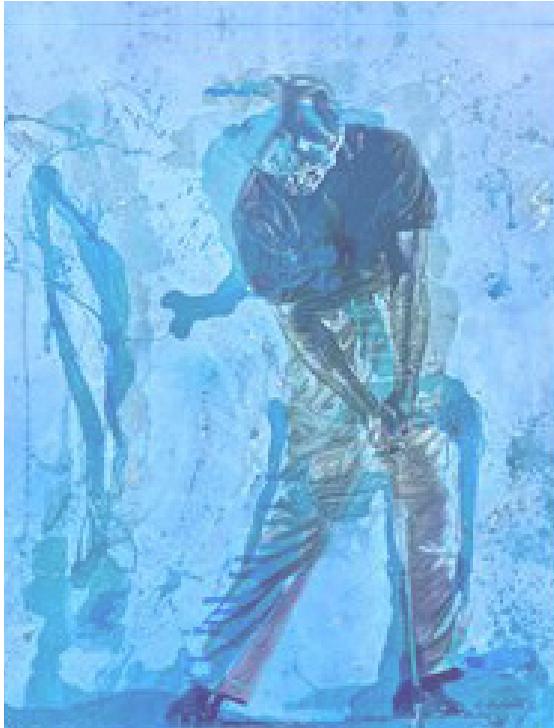
- Much needed indoor and outdoor golf practice areas and dedicated classroom space
- Space for coaches to consistently integrate the game of golf with First Tee-N/C Life Skills Curriculum and the Nine Core Values
- A safe place for First Tee youth to gather
- Permanent office space for the dedicated First Tee staff and create a home-base from which to manage 10 additional programs and 30 Collier County in-school programs
- A place to host parent-child gatherings, Board meetings and Ambassador events

Greater Outreach

- The Golden Gate location puts the program in the epicenter of an underserved community
- First Tee-N/C will be able to increase its outreach to Title 1 schools in Golden Gate, Manatee, East Naples, and River Park
- First Tee-N/C will re-establish programming with non-profits like:
 - Boys and Girls Club of Collier County
 - Grace Place
- The New Outreach Coordinator will focus on at-risk youth and help them stay in the program from primary school to high school.

Improved Access

- The Learning Center will be within walking distance of a new 12-hole Jack Nicklaus Design golf course, with guaranteed access during programming hours
- First Tee-N/C will have hitting bays and dedicated driving range space adjacent to the BigShots driving range



A Lifelong Game "The more you play, the more you learn." Through the Life Skills program participants learn to strengthen their character with skills they use every day of their life.

- Understanding and managing emotions
- Resolving conflicts
- Setting step-by-step goals
- Planning for the future
- Appreciating diversity



Ranked #1 in Program Participation
Top Chapter throughout the First Tee
Network.



Ranked #1 in Network Involvement
Top Chapter throughout the First Tee
Network.



Nine Core Values

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Honesty | 6. Responsibility |
| 2. Integrity | 7. Perseverance |
| 3. Sportsmanship | 8. Courtesy |
| 4. Respect | 9. Judgment |
| 5. Confidence | |



109 Coaches of all levels
helping the participants on
and off the course



First Tee-Naples/Collier

HISTORY

1997

The First Tee was founded as an initiative of the World Golf Foundation with the support of the PGA Tour, LPGA, PGA, USGA and The Masters, for the purpose of teaching the values inherent in the game of golf to children, especially economically disadvantaged children, who wouldn't otherwise be exposed to the game and its positive values.

2007

The First Tee-N/C chapter was founded by current Executive Director, Cindy Darland with the support of co-founding sponsors Arthrex and Collier Enterprises.

First Tee-N/C opened its doors with no golf course facility to call home. Golden Gate CC - public, and The Moorings Golf Club - private offered Use Agreements to the program,

First Tee-N/C grew from serving 30 youth in 2007 to 1,000 certified participants by 2011.

2011

Between 2011 and 2019 the golf industry experienced a significant decline, allowing First Tee-N/C access to several private clubs.

Unfortunately, most required the First Tee-N/C's programming to end by 5PM and limited the number of kids. These limitations restricted program growth and impact.

Golden Gate CC continued to be First Tee-N/C's hub with no restrictions. Programming was held there 5 days a week and hosted most of the golf tournaments.

2018

In 2018, Golden Gate CC was put up for sale. The Collier County Commissioners planned to purchase the land to build a park, affordable housing and a veteran's care facility. Their plan did not include a golf course and thus the course would no longer be available to First Tee-N/C.

The First Tee-N/C Board offered to purchase the golf course from the Collier County Commissioners but the offer was rejected.

2019

In June, the Collier County Commissioners finalized the purchase of the property for \$29MM and closed the golf course.

Losing the Golden Gate CC was a huge setback for First Tee-N/C's programming. In response, the Board decided to begin a search for a new place to call "home" and a golf course.

The Board reviewed one potential property but ultimately passed on it due to the operating risks related to running a public golf course.

2021

The Collier County Commissioners signed an agreement with BigShots Golf to build one of their golf entertainment facilities on the former Golden Gate CC property.

The Collier County Commissioners invited First Tee-N/C to join this new "Golf Community," which will include a 12-hole Jack Nicklaus Design golf course.

First Tee-N/C accepted the Collier County Commissioner's agreement for land adjacent to BigShots and signed a long-term sublease with BigShots for \$1 per year!

2022

The beautiful new Learning Center takes shape.

- MHK Architecture and Planning donated their design services.
- FreeStyle Interiors donated their interior design services.

The First Tee-N/C launched a \$10MM Capital Campaign.

- \$7MM to build and outfit the Learning Center
- \$3MM to create an endowment to sustain the facility's operations and maintenance.



ALUMNI



Rene Kelly Engineer and FTNC Alumni

"The First Tee Program has upgraded my life for the better in many ways. Going through the program as a young child instilled in me confidence, courage, discipline, and characteristics to become not only a great golfer, but a great leader as well! Now, as a coach for the First Tee years later, I strive to be that positive motivational person who students can look up to.



Vivian Guite College Student and FTNC Alumni

"Receiving a scholarship from the First Tee - Naples/Collier has enabled my future education in biomedical sciences and this scholarship reflects the passion I have for golf. The First Tee - Naples/Collier has taught me to set goals and see them through with confidence, which will allow me to pursue my goal of becoming a doctor."



Gerardo Lugo PGA Head Golf Professional and FTNC Alumni

"I cannot say enough good things about The First Tee program. The First Tee has allowed me the opportunity to play a sport I would have never imagined playing and loving so much. I am forever grateful for the great staff and volunteers that have been a part of the First Tee of Naples/Collier. "



First Tee-Naples/Collier TESTIMONIALS

"We are so grateful for First Tee. I really don't know what I would have done without your support throughout divorce and caretaking of my parents- I always knew Viv was safe, happy, learning, and supported. Thank you so much." - **Sarah Guite, Parent**

"The First Tee - Naples/Collier offers Collier County students an opportunity to experience a life-long sport, while learning core values, important life lessons and healthy habits during the all-important out-of-school hours. First Tee has collaborated with over 30 Collier County schools and their outreach in Immokalee has been excellent. The new First Tee Learning Center in Golden Gate will be a game changer for the schools in Golden Gate, East Naples and Manatee." - **Dr. Kamela Patton, Superintendent of Collier County Public Schools**

"First Tee is a vital part of our community as it provides the opportunity for many children to learn the game and life skills associated with the game of golf in a fun manner and without having the financial means that have been needed in the past to be involved in the game." - **Michele and Bob Baker, Parents**

"Immokalee HS students have an opportunity to learn an individualized game while at the same time build leadership qualities. With the First Tee Character Building Program, our students are learning how to have self-confidence, build resilience and persevere while playing the game of golf. The exposure to the game of golf is the hook. The personal growth is the valuable lesson for our students." - **Clara Calderon, E.D. S. Immokalee High School, Principal**

"First Tee is a vital part of our community because it provides an opportunity for kids, particularly minorities and kids of color, to learn the fundamentals while participating in the game of golf. A vast majority of these young people would not have otherwise had the opportunity to learn the fundamentals and play some of the great courses in our community." - **Terry Lee, Golden Gate Middle and High School Golf Coach**

"Thanks to community partners like First Tee, students at Collier County Public Schools aren't chasing dreams. They are catching them." - **Erick Carter, Member, Board of Education Collier County Public Schools**

"First Tee - Naples/Collier is an exponentially vital program within our community. With access to highly qualified staff and strategic life-skills programming, the mentorship opportunities provided can lead to life changing moments in our students lives. It truly is a game changer." - **Jessica Babineau, Golden Gate Middle School, Physical Education Teacher**

"The First Tee provides an opportunity for students to disconnect from their devices and normal day to day school demands by actively engaging them in learning about the game of golf. Students engage in meaningful lessons that teach them the basics about the game of golf and embedded in these lessons are life skills. Students are challenged to learn through trial and error to problem solve, work with others and show respect." - **Abel Jaimes, Director, School Leadership, Collier County Public Schools**