**For Immediate Release**

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**Drug Court Celebrates “National Drug Court Month” With Adopt-A-Road and Keep Charlotte Beautiful**

PUNTA GORDA‐ — In celebration of “National Drug Court Month,” the Charlotte County Drug Court is taking community involvement to a whole new level by Adopting a Road through Keep Charlotte Beautiful. The group will clean up the adopted road, Easy Street from Olean Blvd to Gibralter Drive 4 times a year starting in May.

“National Drug Court Month” is coordinated on a national level by the National

Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP). This year, Drug Courts

throughout the nation are celebrating National Drug Court Month with the theme:

“Drug Courts: A Proven Budget Solution. According to the NADCP, the country’s 2,700 drug courts refer more people to treatment than any other system, and have put 136,000 seriously addicted people into treatment instead of jail.

Like the other 2,600 operational Drug Courts in the United States, the Charlotte County Drug Court is a judicially-supervised court docket that reduces correctional costs,

protects community safety, and improves public welfare. In Drug Courts, seriously

drug-addicted individuals remain in treatment for long periods of time while under

close supervision. Drug Court participants must meet their obligation to themselves,

their families, and society. To ensure accountability, they are regularly and

randomly tested for drug use, required to appear frequently in court for the judge to

review their progress, rewarded for doing well and sanctioned for not living up to

their obligations. Research continues to show that Drug Courts work better than jail

or prison, better than probation, and better than treatment alone.

Keep Charlotte Beautiful, KCB, works with the community through cleanup and litter prevention like the Great American Cleanup, Coastal Cleanup, Illegal Dumping Task Force, Partners for a Clean Charlotte, Adopt-A-Road, Adopt-A-Shore, and the KCB Student Calendar Art Contest.    
Recognizing Groups who are working to make Charlotte County a better place in which to live plays an important part in Keep Charlotte Beautiful programs. Keep Charlotte Beautiful's mission states KCB will improve the quality of life in Charlotte County through enhanced community awareness, education, and public/private partnerships.

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