

# News Release: Manatee Glens

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## MANATEE GLENS HOSTS CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN

(Bradenton, FL)... Manatee Glens is hosting its annual Champions For Children breakfast on Thursday, April 4 at 7:45 am at the Bradenton Auditorium. The keynote speaker is Henry Lawrence, three-time Super Bowl champion, professional singer and founder of the Henry Lawrence Youth Foundation. A teen who is a survivor of sexual assault will share her inspiring story. The Master of Ceremonies is Sheriff Brad Steube, and BB&T Area Executive David Brooks will provide the challenge to the attendees.

“This is a highlight of our year as we celebrate the success of children and families who are healing and moving forward with their lives. It is fulfilling to see the progress they are making and their new-found hope for their futures,” said Manatee Glens President/CEO Mary Ruiz.

The photos on the tables feature community leaders who are “stepping out” in the Manatee Glens Giving Partner campaign. The Heart Gallery of Sarasota will display portraits of children who are waiting to be adopted. The Manatee Technical Institute (MTI) Culinary students are catering the hot breakfast. Manatee Glens Board of Directors Chairman, Paul Duck and Manatee Glens President/CEO Mary Ruiz will also speak.

There is no charge to attend this breakfast, but guests will be given the opportunity to make a donation or monthly commitment.

Manatee Glens serves one out of 30 families in our community, including 4,224 children each year. Services for children include an inpatient crisis unit— the only children’s mental health unit in Manatee County; a day program for children who cannot function in traditional classrooms; in-school alcohol and drug prevention and counseling services; child abuse and neglect services to more than 300 children and their families each year; rape crisis counseling and advocacy; and The Manatee Glens Community Children’s Action Team (CAT) provides therapy, family education, crisis intervention and parenting support for children with severe mental health issues.

*Reporters who want more information about Manatee Glens, or to schedule an interview with Mary Ruiz, President/CEO, please call 941-782- 4320 or e-mail [Sondra.guffey@manateeglens.org](mailto:Sondra.guffey@manateeglens.org) or visit [www.manateeglens.org](http://www.manateeglens.org).*

Manatee Glens is a specialty hospital and outpatient practice in the Tampa Bay area treating mental health and addictions in youth, adults and seniors.

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