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Driving Home Change: First Federal Bank Powers Alachua Habitat's ReStore with \$5,000 Donation

Gainesville – Alachua Habitat for Humanity is delighted to announce a generous donation of \$5,000 from First Federal Bank to support the acquisition of a much-needed box truck for their ReStore. This contribution will significantly enhance the efficiency and operational capabilities of the ReStore, which plays a crucial role in funding Alachua Habitat's home building initiatives.

Alachua Habitat's ReStore is a cornerstone of our community impact, providing affordable home furnishings to the public while generating vital funds for our home building projects. The ReStore sells items such as appliances, furniture, and cabinets, with proceeds enabling the construction of an additional 2 homes each year. The ReStore's success relies on the support of donors, and the acquisition of a new box truck ensures the seamless transportation of donated items from local residents and businesses to the ReStore.

Stevie Doyle, Executive Director of Alachua Habitat for Humanity, expressed gratitude for the partnership, stating, "We are immensely grateful for First Federal Bank's generous donation towards our ReStore box truck. This contribution directly enhances our ability to serve the community, allowing us to efficiently transport donated items and continue our mission of providing affordable housing solutions."

First Federal Bank, with a legacy dating back to 1962, demonstrates unwavering commitment to community well-being. Their dedication extends beyond financial services to impactful community initiatives. Recognizing the profound impact an organization can have on small communities, First Federal Bank invests in various community projects, from building playgrounds and funding computer labs to supporting local sports teams and providing affordable housing solutions. Their commitment includes over 2,100 volunteer hours annually, \$52,000 through community rewards programs, and more than \$90,000 in First Federal Foundation grants.

Founded in 1986, Alachua Habitat for Humanity is the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. We envision a world where everyone has a decent place to live and we work towards that vision by bringing people together to build strength, stability, and independence through shelter. To accomplish these goals, we invite people of all backgrounds, races, and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need of affordable housing. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Alachua Habitat has built 177 homes in the local community. Habitat houses are sold to homeowner families financed with mortgages they can afford. For more information visit www.alachuahabitat.org

For those interested in learning more about First Federal Bank's commitment to community, visit <https://www.ffbf.com/about/community>. To discover more about Alachua Habitat for Humanity's ReStore and how you can get involved, visit <https://www.alachuahabitat.org/restore>.



First Federal Bank is a community-based bank offering consumer and commercial banking solutions, services, and loans through banking offices in Florida’s Panhandle, North Central and East Florida, and coastal South Carolina. Mortgage, SBA and USDA customers are served through lending offices across the Southeast and Midwest. First Federal is headquartered in Lake City, Florida with assets totaling over \$3.8 billion. First Federal has received a “5-Star, Superior” financial rating from BauerFinancial, Inc., of Coral Gables, Fla. for more than two decades and was recognized by Newsweek as “Best Small Bank in Florida” in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. For more information, visit www.ffbf.com.

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