BAYFIRST NATIONAL BANK PARTNERS WITH eSMART RECYCLING, GIFTS 50 REFURBISHED COMPUTERS TO SALESIAN YOUTH CENTER/BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB AT VILLA MADONNA SCHOOL

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (July 14, 2023) – St. Petersburg-based community bank BayFirst is proud to announce a recent partnership with eSmart Recycling, a Tampa-based IT and computer recycling company dedicated to ensuring children everywhere have access to technology. Together, the two organizations gifted 50 fully refurbished computers valued at more than \$20,000 to the Salesian Youth Center/Boys and Girls Club at Villa Madonna School, located at 315 West Columbus Drive in Tampa.

After discussing program needs with Salesian Sisters' Director of Development Theresa Anderson, BayFirst purchased the devices, refurbished by eSmart Recycling, and donated them for use in the computer lab at the inclusive youth development organization, which offers Tampa children after-school and summer camp programs year-round. More than 160 children ages five to 18 attend daily.

"As a community bank, we know the importance of providing children the resources required for long-term financial success," said BayFirst Tampa Bay Market Executive Anthony Perez. "We are proud to do our part to ensure the next generation has the tools they need to thrive, and we are fortunate to have found a like-minded and generous partner in eSmart Recycling, which enabled us to increase our impact."

"Through partnerships like this, we can allow children and families to leave their digital footprint and to make a global impact through technology," said eSmart Recycling Founder and CEO Tony Salvaggio. "We were honored to partner with BayFirst to support this great program located in our backyard and serve the amazing youth and families who participate in it."

Next, as part of its year-round community engagement program, BayFirst will offer Salesian Boys and Girls Club members a financial enrichment program called "Financial Literacy with *The Four Money Bears*." Co-developed with a local author, Mac Gardner, the program is presented by the Bank's <u>Cash Kids Club</u> and features readings of <u>The Four Money Bears</u> and related lessons. The book teaches children the four basic functions of money while following bears appropriately named Spender, Saver, Giver and Investor.

About BayFirst National Bank.

Headquartered in St. Petersburg, BayFirst National Bank, the principal subsidiary of BayFirst Financial Corp. (NASDAQ: BAFN), operates ten banking centers in the Tampa Bay area. In addition, BayFirst offers a broad range of retail and business banking services, including small business loans through its government-guaranteed lending division, and is one of the top-producing SBA lenders in the country. Since it opened in 1999, BayFirst has grown exponentially without losing sight of its commitment to making an impact in the community and being Here for What's Next® in the lives of its customers. For more information, visit: www.BayFirstFinancial.com.

About eSmart Recycling

eSmart Recycling is the 2016 Sustainable Business Award Winner in the small business category. The company recycles computers and electronics to set up tech incubators for kids

without access to technology worldwide. They provide certificates for secure data destruction of hard drives. To learn more, visit www.esmartrecycling.com.