

## Food Brings Hope Hosts Inaugural Fundraising Gala

*Published: Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 5:30 a.m.*



*Photo provided by Food Brings Hope*

Connie and Glenn Ritchey, Dr. John and Maurie Johnson, Dr. Fred and Linda Costello, and Forough Hosseini pose while attending the Pearls of Hope Gala.

DAYTONA BEACH – Food Brings Hope, a local charity dedicated to breaking the cycle of hunger, poverty and homelessness among Volusia County School students, recently hosted the inaugural Pearls of Hope Gala at the Jim W. Henderson Administration and Welcome Center at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. More than 200 guests attended the event.

“Pearls of Hope was the first FBH fundraising gala,” said FBH founder and chair Forough B. Hosseini. “Our goal was two-fold. We needed to raise money toward our mission of eradicating hunger among schoolchildren in Volusia County. But we also wanted to share our mission with the community-minded individuals in attendance so that they can become ambassadors of our cause and spread the word.”

The presenting sponsor of the event was Holland Financial. Other event sponsors included Daytona Kia-Mitsubishi, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Giles Electric and ICI Homes.

Through sponsorships, ticket sales and auctions, the event raised nearly \$60,000 and all of it will go directly to programs that serve students. In fact, 100 percent of all donations to FBH are used to benefit the students. All overhead is covered by the Hosseini Family Foundation. FBH plans to extend its reach from 11 to 13 schools and from 500 students to 600 students this school year as a result of the success of the gala, as well as, expanding the weekend food program.