

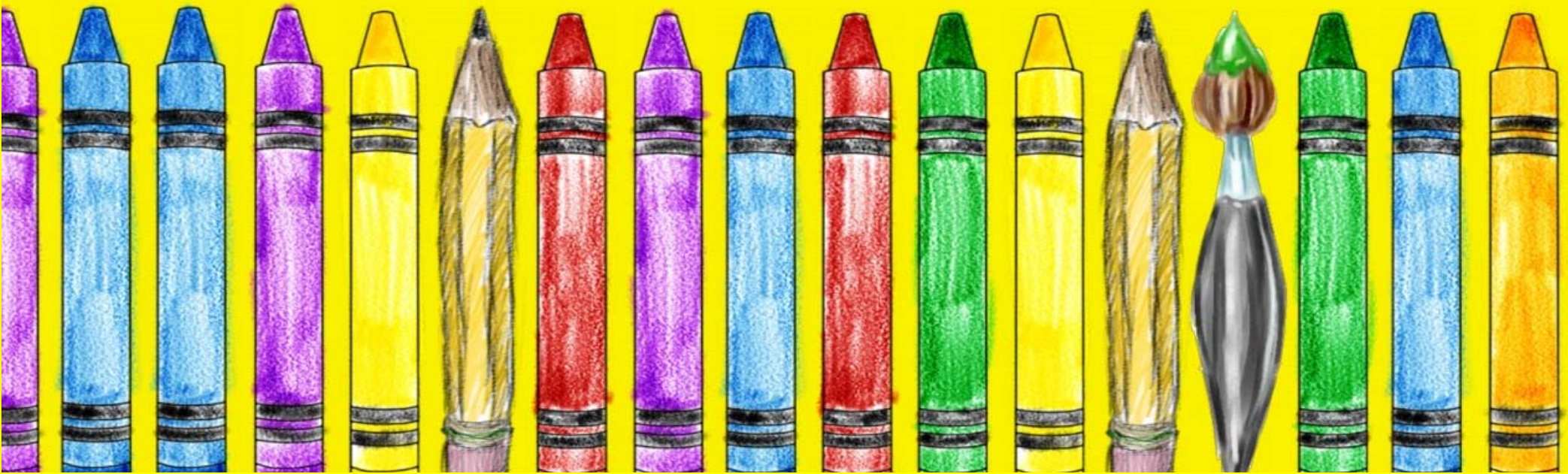


FOOD
BRINGS
HOPE

2011 - 2012
ANNUAL REPORT



An initiative of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler



A Message from the Board Chair

Food Brings Hope (FBH) students experienced another successful program during 2011-2012 school year. FBH expanded to eight schools, adding Spruce Creek and Deltona High Schools. We are thankful to Principals Dr. Todd Sparger and Ms. Susan Freeman for offering Food Brings Hope programs to benefit their students. FBH, in collaboration with the United Way's Campaign for Working Families, through the leadership of Ms. Shelia Jackson, started offering the Money Smart Program to each of our schools. Students learned about money management and benefited from other financial information taught. The classes culminated with a celebration where kids received \$50 US Savings Bonds, calculators and piggy banks.

We started the Farshad Babazadeh Honors (FBHonors) pilot program at Westside Elementary. Thirteen of the brightest 4th and 5th grade students were selected to attend a special afterschool program every school-day for 3-hours. These students benefited from extra time with their teacher, Miss Aimee Shank, and extra curricular activities. ERAU's engineering department offered special sessions for the students to learn how to build a rocket as well as learn about other engineering programs! The students toured the campus and spent much time learning about jet engines and simulators. These students finished the year very strong with the majority scoring 4s and 5s on their FCAT tests.

The FBHonors program will be expanded to Campbell Middle School in 2012-2013 to continue offering afterschool programs to these same students who graduated from Westside Elementary, as well as, other sixth graders. The goal of FBHonors program is to offer STEM related activities – mostly math and sciences - to these bright students, follow them through high-school and help them enroll in STEM degree programs in reputable colleges and universities. The United States needs more graduates with STEM degrees and helping our students study and graduate with a STEM degree, in most cases, ensures them a good paying job, thus helping them sustain economic independence and exit a life of poverty.

FBH started working on a business plan for a much needed new initiative this year: The HOPE Project – Helping Others Prosper through Education. In working with more high-school students, we realized Volusia County schools have many homeless teenagers living in our community (76 were counted on March 13, 2012). Through the help of a few community leaders, a new committee was formed to work on this specific issue – to find appropriate shelter for “unaccompanied youth”. While tackling this very serious problem, a very generous individual – Mayor Glenn Ritchey, realizing FBH's latest problem at hand, donated a duplex to the organization to benefit these specific students! This was a huge boost to us not only economically but also it served as a reminder of the extensive support we have in our own community. The biggest obstacle homeless teenagers face is the fact that the homeless shelters in our area are only set up for families; so, a single teenager can't apply for residence at a shelter. Therefore, these students are practically left on their own to deal with this very difficult issue. FBH Committee members visited the Bridge House in New Smyrna Beach. Cudas Unhooked committee members, who run The Bridge House, have been very successful in helping many teenagers get off the streets by providing a stable home and the needed support and encouragement to attend school regularly and graduate from high-school. We hope to be able to replicate their business model on the northeast side of the county! Mr. Shawn Lane, one of the founders of Cudas Unhooked, has been very gracious sharing all the information to help FBH start a similar program. We hope we are able to start The HOPE Project during this school year.

Another very exciting partnership FBH formed last year was with Halifax Urban Ministries (HUM). Each year, since the Food Brings Hope program started, the number of homeless students has increased and there are more signs of food insecurity. FBH's goal is to alleviate such fears in our students and to help remedy the problem. Through our partnership with HUM, we were able to start offering weekly food distribution at Westside Elementary for families in dire need of food. Once a week, 50 families were invited to pick up a 40-pound bag of groceries to help feed their families during the weekend. The program was well received and proved very beneficial to our students and their families. FBH was also able to provide food bags and fill pantries in other schools with high level of poverty. We will expand the program to other schools during 2012-2013 school year.



Forough B. Hosseini

Food Brings Hope was excited to share a Holiday Dinner and the Christmas Show at DSC's News Journal Center with our students. Students were invited by Sodexo for a delicious dinner followed by a Holiday performance by DSC faculty and students. Santa Claus met the FBH students after the performance and treated them to a surprise! Later in the year, FBH students were invited to attend an ERAU Eagles basketball game. The game was preceded by an inspirational talk by Coach Steve Ridder. We are indebted to Coach Ridder as well as Dr. and Mrs. Johnson for always supporting the Food Brings Hope initiative in many different capacities. Another opportunity offered to FBH schools was the exciting field trips to the Halifax Historical Museum where the students learned about the history of the Halifax area. We are thankful to Ms. Fayn LeVeille for providing a memorable learning experience including re-enactors who told the stories of our early pioneers and showed the students artifacts dating back hundreds of years.

FBH's end of the year program was hosted at The Winners Circle of the Speedway. This was a very exciting event for all our students, as well as, the faculty and board members present. Sean Belgrade, VP of Marketing, Daytona International Speedway, gave an inspirational talk to our students. Our students were able to tour the track and afterwards were treated to a delicious dinner, sponsored by Sodexo. Many Food Brings Hope events, throughout the years, have been generously sponsored by Sodexo, under the leadership of Mr. Rodney Cruise. We are indebted to Mr. Cruise and Sodexo and value their partnership in our program. Two students from each school, a girl and a boy, were selected by their schools as the Outstanding Students of the Year and received a gift card as recognition for their hard work and always trying their best! We are thankful to Mr. Mike Mitchener of Sam's Club, one of our HOPE Project committee members, for providing the gift cards. We are also thankful to the generosity of the Speedway Corporation for hosting FBH's End of the Year program as well as the personal involvement of Mr. Dan Houser. We are honored to have some of the most distinguished community members on our board. It is through the selfless giving and leadership of these individuals that FBH has been able to achieve so much in such a short time. We are very grateful to our board members for five years of giving of their time, talent and treasure.

I believe FBH had the best year to date because of the addition of our wonderful Executive Director, Ms. Beth Butera. Beth puts in countless hours to stay connected with each of the schools, providing information, sharing best practices, forming helpful guidelines and acting as a liaison between all the schools, board members, our affiliates and sponsors, and the community at large. I am personally very grateful to Beth for sharing her amazing talents with us. We could have never done so much without Beth's hard work.

We look forward to another exciting year for our returning club members as well as new members and are working hard to ensure FBH students are able to accomplish what is most important to them; including but not limited to enhanced academics, improved behavior, learning of other cultures, visiting colleges and universities, more participation in athletics and sporting events, and also learning to give back to the very community that has worked so hard to further enrich their lives – the lives of our Kids Zone and Teen Zone students.

Thank you,

Forough B. Hosseini, Chair

"Philanthropy, to me, is giving enough of your wealth that it affects your lifestyle!"

Forough B Hosseini

FBH Board / Who We Are

Who We Are

Food Brings Hope, founded by local businesswoman and visionary Forough B. Hosseini, is dedicated to fulfilling a dream that all school-age children in our community should be free from hunger. Mrs. Hosseini has worked tirelessly the past five years raising money for this initiative and bringing together community leaders in this effort.

Scope of the Problem

Unfortunately, there are hundreds of homeless and hungry children living right here in our own community, most of whom are school aged and sometimes un-reached by the traditional safety nets of our human service agencies. The number of identified homeless children on any given school day last year averaged 2,000 (source: Volusia County School District office of the Homeless Liaison).

Measurable Results

Improved test scores/grades ~ Reduced disciplinary referrals
Reduced sickness/absenteeism
Increase in the number of students successfully completing each grade level and working toward high school graduation.

Our Mission

Food Brings Hope achieves collaborative solutions for families with children that experience hunger due to homelessness, poverty, or unfamiliarity with community resources that provide nutritional assistance. We work closely with caring partners in the school district, social service agencies, and other friends who provide us with the benefit of their time and/or contributions.

Food Brings Hope programs are currently operating in Daytona Beach at Campbell Middle, Westside Elementary and Turie T. Small Elementary; in Ormond Beach at Osceola Elementary; in Port Orange at Spruce Creek High; in New Smyrna Beach at NSB Middle and High; and in West Volusia at Deltona High. These are school-based programs that provide at-risk students with meals, within the structure of a tutoring atmosphere and activities program.

Key Components of this Program

- Tutoring program
- Transportation from school on *Food Brings Hope* TeenZone and KidsZone meeting days and to special events and activities
- Nourishing hot meals and snacks
- Fun learning and activities programs
- Student reward system for improvement
- Sponsored cultural events, motivational speakers, sporting events, instruction in managing finances and pursuit of a healthy lifestyle
- Seminars for Junior and Senior High students to learn about options upon high school graduation including college tours, completing post secondary applications, preparing a resume and job interviews.
- Nutritious food to take home over the weekends for the neediest students.

Food Brings Hope Board

Forough B. Hosseini, Founder and Chair, Food Brings Hope
Beth Butera, Executive Director, Food Brings Hope
Judge David B. Beck, Volusia County Seventh Judicial Circuit
Judi Boone, Nutritionist, Juice Plus Education
Dr. Fred Costello, DDS, Owner, Atlantic Center for Comprehensive Dentistry
Susan Freeman, Principal, Deltona High School
Earl Johnson, Principal, Turie T. Small Elementary School
David N. Jones, Family Strategic Consultant, Lexington Family Office Services
Carl Persis, Council Member, Volusia County Council
Julie Rand, Director of Development, ERAU
Joe Rawlings, Principal, New Smyrna Beach Middle School
Ray Salazar, President, United Way of Volusia-Flagler
Dr. Todd Sparger, Principal, Spruce Creek High School
Marie Stratton, Principal, Osceola Elementary School
James Tager, Principal, New Smyrna Beach High School
William Ward, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler
Judi Winch, Principal, Westside Elementary School
Pam Woods, District Homeless Education Liaison, VCS; Commissioner, City of DB
Craig Zablo, Principal, Campbell Middle School

HOPE Project Committee

Forough B. Hosseini, Founder and Chair, Food Brings Hope
Beth Butera, Executive Director, Food Brings Hope
Sandy Bishop, Executive Officer, Volusia Building Industry Association
Bob Davis, President / CEO, Hotel Motel Association
Lori Gillooly, Executive Director, Halifax Habitat for Humanity, Inc.
Nika Hosseini, Student, Spruce Creek High School
Karen Jans, Associate Vice President for University Relations, ERAU
Maurie Johnson, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
David N. Jones, Family Strategic Consultant, Lexington Family Office Services
Dr. Maj Mirmirani, Dean, College of Engineering, ERAU
Mike Mitchener, Manager, Sam's Club
Troy Ray, Executive Director, Halifax Urban Ministries
Ray Salazar, President, United Way of Volusia-Flagler
Ted Serbousek, Chief Operating Officer, Jon Hall Chevrolet / Cadillac
Shelley Stewart, President, Southern Title
Van Truong, Student, Spruce Creek High School
Dr. Michael J. Williams, Dean, College of Business, ERAU
Pam Woods, District Homeless Education Liaison, VCS; Commissioner, City of DB

Special Events

ERAU Game Night

Coaches and players from ERAU welcomed close to 200 VC Public School students and chaperones to the ICI Center on Wednesday, January 11, 2012.

ERAU Athletic Director, Coach Steve Ridder, gave an inspirational talk about servant leadership and the value of doing for others. Engineering student and basketball player Dan Kiesling spoke to the students about the importance of making good decisions and choices in order to reach their goals. Following Mr. Kiesling's talk, track team member and a two-time winner of the national championship, Crystal Bardge encouraged the students to work hard and not give up until every goal is accomplished.

FBH students from Turie T. Small Elementary, Westside Elementary, New Smyrna Beach Middle, Deltona High and New Smyrna Beach High Schools attended the event. After the motivational speeches, students were treated to pizza and dessert made by Eagles Booster Club. Students enjoyed watching the Eagles play against Southwestern. Each student received a basketball to take home as a memento of the evening.



DSC Holiday Concert

Students from eight public schools in Volusia County were treated to a holiday party starting with dinner and followed by a holiday concert on Friday, December 2, 2011.

Celebrating the excitement of the holiday season, more than 200 FBH students enjoyed a meal prepared and sponsored by Sodexo while interacting with their peers, teachers and Food Brings Hope Chairwoman Forough B. Hosseini and Rodney and Anita Cruise. Rodney Cruise is the district manager for Sodexo, Inc.



The students were then transported to the News-Journal Center to attend the Daytona State College Holiday Concert. The students had the opportunity to listen to the symphonic band and concert choir and were enthralled by the vignettes from the "Nutcracker" performed by the Dance Theater.

Seated in the balcony, the students enjoyed the evening and heartily participated in the Holiday Sing-A-Long.

Students from Westside Elementary, Turie T. Small Elementary, Osceola Elementary, Campbell Middle, New Smyrna Beach Middle, Spruce Creek High and New Smyrna Beach High attended the event.

Year End Awards Presentation

Close to 400 *Food Brings Hope* students from 8 public schools in Volusia County attended the End of the Year celebration on May 1st as guests of the Daytona Beach International Speedway Corporation.

Upon arrival, excited students were treated to the track tour, courtesy of the International Speedway Corporation. Daytona International Speedway's Vice President of Marketing Sean Belgrade welcomed the students and spoke to them about the importance of always doing their best. He encouraged the students to follow their dreams and always focus on their goals.

FBH Chair Forough B. Hosseini congratulated the students on another successful year and told them how proud she was for all that they have accomplished.

During the evening, fifteen students were recognized as recipients of the coveted Citizenship Award. This very prestigious award honors students who 'go above and beyond' on a daily basis. Students being recognized were those who study hard, receive good grades, behave properly, and treat others, as they would like to be treated. Each recipient received a \$75 gift card.

As part of the event, *Food Brings Hope* students enjoyed a fabulous dinner provided and sponsored by Sodexo. Mark Robertson of Beach Photo was on hand to take pictures as students went from activity to activity.



Comedian Maz Jobrani

Maz Jobrani, a founding member of the Axis of Evil Comedy Tour, performed at the News-Journal Center on October 28, 2011. In attendance were the New Smyrna Beach High School TeenZone Students.



Special Events

Kindergarten, first and second grades from T.T. Small Elementary school and first graders from Westside Elementary watched in awe as the Silk Road Dance Company presented women's dances from Iran, Central and South Asia.

The ensemble's performance, sponsored by the Iranian American Society, offered a unique glimpse of art, life and the rich cultures of the regions along the Great Silk Road trade route linking China with the Mediterranean. Students were enthralled by the music, colorful costumes and unique dance style.

Food Brings Hope believe that exposing youngsters to different cultures provides a unique opportunity for them to learn about the world and promote cultural understanding.

Silk Road Dance Group Entertains Elementary Students

New Programs / Partnerships

"Hands On Banking" Financial Education



Food Brings Hope partnered with United Way's Campaign for Working Families and Wells Fargo Bank to provide a banking program at elementary, middle and high school levels. Wells Fargo Financial experts, using age appropriate materials,

taught *Food Brings Hope* students about individual finances and the banking system. The students were given calculators, piggy banks and were awarded a \$50 US Savings Bond at the conclusion of the six seminars. Shelia D. Jackson, Program Coordinator for Campaign for Working Families at United Way coordinated the program with LaToya Carey of Wells Fargo Bank.

The program offered two formats: one for Elementary students and another for Middle and High School students. The following schools participated in this program: Westside, Osceola and Turie T. Small Elementary; Campbell and New Smyrna Beach Middle; New Smyrna Beach High and Deltona High Schools.

Food Brings Hope believes that equipping young people in their formative years with the basics in financial education will give them the knowledge, skills, and confidence that they will need in managing their money.

"Journey Through Day Town"

In partnership with Halifax Historical Society Museum, a special educational program took children from elementary, middle and high schools on a living history tour of their own community.

The journey, given after school in the Halifax Historical Museum began with a 20 minute movie covering 130,000 years of local history. As the students toured the museum, re-



enactors covered the next step of the journey by telling the stories of our early pioneers. Local history gives the students a new sense of identity and a new connection to where they live.

Parade of Homes Charity of Choice



Food Brings Hope was selected by the Volusia Building Industry Association as the 2012 Parade of Homes Charity of Choice. The Association hoped to spread awareness of an issue that has skyrocketed over the past few years in Volusia County - the large increase in the number of homeless students attending our public schools. On any given day, there are approximately 2,000 homeless children enrolled in Volusia County Schools. The VBIA placed a donation jar in each home on the Parade route stressing, "just \$4 feeds a family of four for one weekend".

Halifax Urban Ministries

Food Brings Hope formed a partnership with Halifax Urban Ministries to provide a 40-pound bag of nutritious food (including meat) to 50 needy families at Westside Elementary School for a cost of only \$4 per bag. Receiving nine meals weekly has enabled many of the families to have the money to pay their rent thus avoiding homelessness!

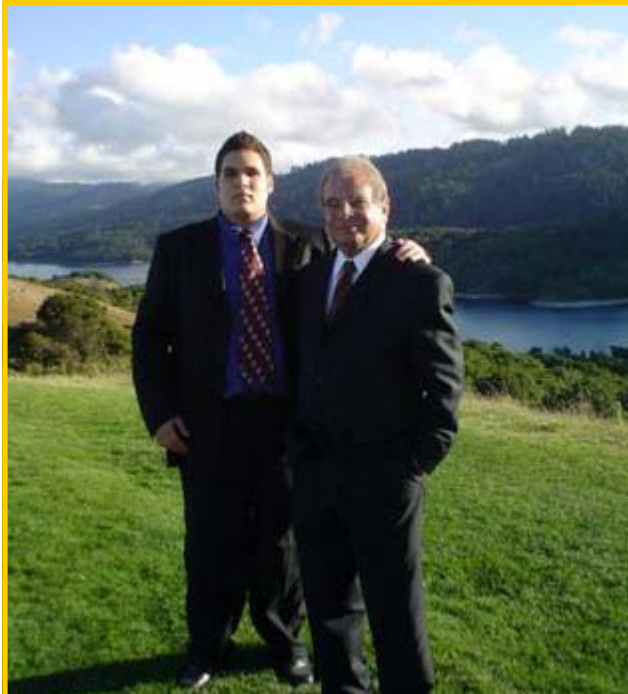
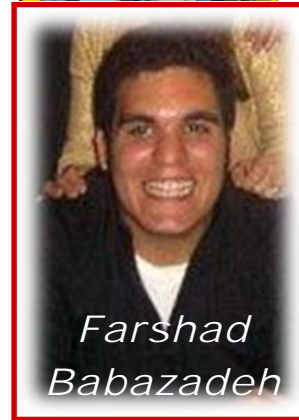


Unaccompanied Youth

With over 75 homeless high school students in the school district, *Food Brings Hope* has been helping these students on an 'as need' basis. Using the Cudas Unhooked model, *Food Brings Hope* is working on a project to provide housing for these homeless youths on the northeast side of Volusia County so these students can finish high school and either enroll in college or learn a trade. This new initiative, named "The HOPE Project" aims to give these young adults the stability they need to stay in school and receive their high school diplomas.

The acronym **HOPE** stands for **Helping Others Prosper through Education**.

Farshad Babazadeh Honors Program



Farshad Babazadeh Honors (FBHonors) Pilot Program for 4th and 5th grade students at Westside Elementary started in January 2012.

Students, from low socioeconomic families, scoring at the top of their class, were invited to sign up for FBHonors. This program provided enrichment activities for the students every weekday from 3-6pm.

Food Brings Hope partnered with ERAU to work with students on their NASA rocket project, sending professors to Westside to instruct the children and hosting them for a tour at the University. Additional activities for collaboration are being set up for the 2012-2013 school year. FBHonors students were invited to participate in all of Food Brings Hope field trips and other activities.

FBHonors 2012 Academic Highlights

FCAT Reading Scores	92% scored 4 or higher
FCAT Math Scores	100% 4th grade students scored 4 or higher
FCAT Writing Scores	100% scored 4 or higher
	SH scored highest in school - 4.5
	DR scored 2nd highest - 4.0
Science Fair Award	100% 5th grade students won science fair awards

Westside Elementary KidsZone

Westside Elementary School's, after school and summer program called, Westside's Night Alive (WNA) has worked with KidZone to provide students with enriching activities in a safe environment. This relationship, through the kindness of Mrs. Forough Hosseini, has provided children with opportunities to experience events they would not ordinarily have had the opportunity to. We are truly grateful for her generosity.

FBHonors

Program was created through the dream of Mrs. Judith Winch to enrich high achieving students. She went to Mrs. Forough B. Hosseini for ideas on how to fund this program. Mrs. Hosseini turned to her family who had suffered the loss of her nephew, Farshad Babazadeh. The generosity of Farshad's parents made the FBHonors program a reality. The thirteen students involved in the program have benefited in many ways including; the science lessons from Ms. Aimee Shank, writing lessons from Mr. Jeremy Phillips, a relationship with Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU), and an incredible awards ceremony at Plantation Bay Club House.

Banking Program

The banking program provided through Wells Fargo Bank and the United Way, taught the children about finance management. The students received many gifts along the way including calculators, piggy banks, and a \$50.00 savings bond.

Daytona State College Holiday Concert

The December evening brought culture to the lives of many for the first time. Students were able to experience music of a different nature after enjoying a meal provided by Sodexo.

ERAU Basketball and Pizza Night

Students had the time of their lives at the January event! WNA/KidZone students and other KidZone and TeenZone students from the area cheered the Eagles on after enjoying pizza and a presentation from ERAU's coach. The evening ended with a presentation of basketballs to take home and many smiles.

Coins for Children

Money was collected by students donating change into classroom containers. The money was matched by the generosity of Mrs. Hosseini and donated to the United Way's Homeless program, *Food Brings Hope*. This collection teaches the children about giving back to their community and helping those less fortunate.

FCAT Camps

The challenge of preparing students for testing is enormous! Staff and students prepared for five Saturdays. The camp was funded by Mrs. Forough B. Hosseini and FUTURES Foundation. Students were rewarded for their efforts with a lunch and a short recreation break.



Westside Elementary KidsZone

Spa/Nutrition Day

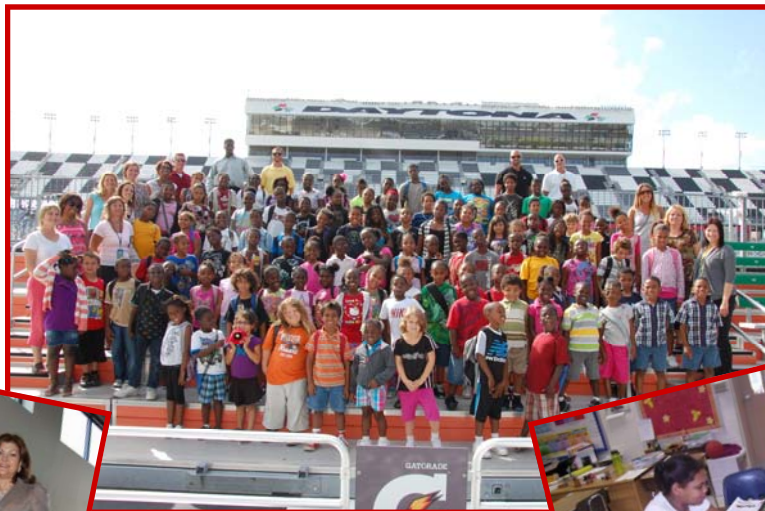
Ahh!!! A day of beauty! Students smiled as they had haircuts and manicures. Mrs. Judi Boone gave a great presentation about health and fitness. Body mass indexes were taken and information given to the students to bring home. Finally a delicious meal was enjoyed!

Student Awards Program

The awards ceremonies are greatly appreciated! The students work hard each quarter and earn awards in attendance, punctuality, improvement, achievement and citizenship. The continued generosity of Mrs. Hosseini allows us to provide each student with a certificate and a "prize". We cannot thank Mrs. Hosseini enough for all that she does for our Westside students! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Daytona 500 Experience

ROAR!!!!!!!!!!!!!! What a day! Students boarded trams and experienced a guided tour around the track! They enjoyed a meal by Sodexo, played a cup stacking game and Bingo for prizes. Kayla Campbell and Johnny Fluitt earned the Citizenship Awards for the year. Congratulations!



Turie T. Small Elementary KidsZone

Turie T. Small Elementary School Kids Zone is a *Food Brings Hope* sponsored program that provides the after school environment for kids in need of special academic and nutritional assistance. One component of this program focuses on providing additional tutoring for students in the 3rd thru 5th grades who need additional support.

KidsZone extended day program had 59 participating each week on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Mondays were specifically for 4th grade writing and 5th grade science. While Tuesdays and Thursdays were organized for reading and math assistance for third thru fifth grades. Students were tutored for an hour and a half in the areas of reading, math, science and writing. Additionally 4th and 5th grade students were provided with the opportunity to visit the Museum of Arts and Sciences on Wednesdays for two hour sessions. Activities involved hands-on experiments, building background knowledge through active learning and creative writing techniques.

KidsZone focused on providing comprehensive tutorial opportunities to increase and accelerate the academic achievement of the lowest performing students in the areas of reading, math, writing, and science. In order to provide equity and access for all students who need tutoring, *Food Brings Hope* provided transportation for students who lived two miles or more from school. Snacks were provide for students on Mondays and Tuesdays, with hot meals provided for the kids on Thursdays!

With the help of *Food Brings Hope*, Turie T. Small's fifth grade FCAT Science scores showed the highest learning gains in Volusia County. In the 2010-2011 school year, our FCAT Science scores demonstrated 37% of our fifth grade students proficient in science. On the 2011-2012 FCAT Science, 55% of Turie T. Small's fifth grade students demonstrated proficiency in science! This represented growth of 18 points, the highest learning gains in the district.

Food Brings Hope sponsored several group events throughout the year! Our students attended and the Daytona State College winter musical program at the Daytona News Journal; an Embry-Riddle Basketball game and the end of the year awards banquet at the Speedway. In addition, *Food Brings Hope* sponsored a special visit to our school. The Iranian American Society presented the Silk Road Dance Company to our first and second graders.



Osceola Elementary KidsZone

KidsZone is a *Food Brings Hope* sponsored program at Osceola Elementary School. KidsZone offers academic tutoring in reading, writing, and mathematics to students in third through fifth grade.

KidsZone students met on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the 2011-2012 school year. In order to accommodate the academic needs of all students, the program was divided into three sessions. The three sessions were offered to third, fourth, and fifth graders to help them prepare for the FCAT. *Food Brings Hope* provided the 100 KidsZone students with nutritious snacks during their tutoring sessions. Each Thursday the students enjoyed a hot meal before they went home. To help make KidsZone accessible to all students, *Food Brings Hope* provided transportation home for the students who did not live within walking distance of the school.

Students who attended the second round of KidsZone participated in a "Hands on Banking Program". Students applied math skills to real life situations and learned important financial skills such as budgeting, distinguishing between needs and wants, and how to balance a checking account. Upon graduating from the program, students received a savings bond.

Students proudly wore their KidsZone t-shirts and sweatshirts on field trips to a holiday concert and the end of the year awards ceremony at Daytona USA.



Campbell Middle TeenZone



TeenZone met every other early-release Wednesday afternoon from 2:45 to 5:00pm. Upon reporting to TeenZone, students were treated to a light nutritional snack and then focused on their homework assignments, preparing for exams, reading for the principals' 20 book challenge, etc. Sponsors assisted students in all subject areas. The homework sessions were followed by 10 - 15 minutes of exercise, then 35 minutes of direct instruction in math, reading and language arts. Students were also given an opportunity to work on the computer to receive additional assistance by logging on FCAT Explorer, as well as Math Counts.

Hot meals were then served to the students. Students assisted by setting the table and passing out condiments to their fellow students. The students enjoyed fare such as tacos, Sheppard's Pie (both were made with ground turkey) and chicken Alfredo. Each meal was served with either a vegetable or salad. The drinks were water, crystal light or sugar free kool-aid. Meal times were always a hit with the students.

Food Brings Hope also provided opportunities for Campbell's students to attend programs such as the Holiday Concert at the Daytona State College News Journal Center, a basketball game at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and a track tour and dinner at Daytona International Speedway. This year our students, also, took part in the Banking Seminar sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank and participated in a tour of the Halifax Historical Society Museum.

Campbell's fourth year involvement with Teen Zone was a pleasurable experience shared by both students and sponsors alike. We bid farewell to several of our eighth graders who have been a part of Teen Zone each year of their three-year middle school experience at Campbell, Tamia McRae, Sadajah Stalling, Jade Hancock, Jasmine Davis, and Cayla Cue. Also, we bid farewell to eighth graders who have been a part of TeenZone for two years, Simone Symonette, Aryanna Bouie, Hykeem Spencer, and Stephan Symonette. We wish them much success as they enter into their next educational phase.

Above all, we are thankful for the experience that was afforded to our students as TeenZone participants.

New Smyrna Beach Middle TeenZone

New Smyrna Beach Middle School kicked off the year in September by inviting 14 students to attend our first meeting. The students came for pizza and orientation. We played some games and got to know each other. We decided meetings would take place every other early release Wednesday afternoon from 2:45-5:00pm. For October's meeting we did homework, had an outdoor picnic and decorated pumpkins for students to take with them. November's activities included preparation for dinner, decorating and setting the table, silverware placement and enjoying a holiday feast. They especially liked the leftovers and dessert. In December, we enjoyed the holiday concert at the News Journal Center. A faculty member at our school donated a ham for the students to cook in one of our life skills classrooms. She also visited our meeting and helped serve the meal. Students were also taking part in holiday craft activities. December ended with a fantastic holiday celebration. Members of our yearbook staff visited with their teacher Mr. Johnson. The students played games and took part in a holiday drawing.

Happy New Year! January was a busy month with academic and personal goal setting as well as exercise activities. The sponsors presented at the school advisory meeting and students attended a field trip to Embry Riddle for a great basketball game. TeenZone Members were able to meet and speak with Embry Riddle students about their goals and future plans for employment. Our group was very impressed by a young lady that they met from Texas that attended the university. Chinese food was served this month, a first for many. Students took turns discussing the meanings of their fortune cookie messages. Their paper chain of goals was hung in the art room for later review.

TeenZone worked on a Greenovation project for school improvement by painting planters and creating art for stepping stones. Their work will remain in the outdoor urban garden at New Smyrna Beach Middle School. Preparation for FCAT was our next endeavor. Test taking strategies and prevention of test anxiety were the hot topics. The field trip to the Halifax Historical Museum was a hit with our students. They enjoyed the presentations and a beautiful picnic on the river afterwards. The Daytona Speedway was the site for a perfect ending to a great year of TeenZone. Throughout all of the difficulties and challenges that were faced by our students, TeenZone was a bright light for them. They truly enjoyed all of the time, activities and support that TeenZone was able to provide. Everyone looks forward to another outstanding year.

Thank you from all of us at New Smyrna Beach Middle School.



New Smyrna Beach High TeenZone

The 2011-2012 school year began our second year with TeenZone. We invited 20 ninth grade freshmen to join in September. By the beginning of October, we were up and running. Several first year TZ members requested to remain in TeenZone. What a compliment! We offered empty spaces not filled by our freshman to returning sophomores. These sophomores were returning with the understanding they would be the role models and peer tutors for our freshman. The sophomores were wonderful at welcoming and helping our newest TeenZone members. Each week we had 15 to 20 attend our Wednesday meetings. The time was dedicated to academic support by means of tutoring or the ability to go to other teacher classrooms to retake tests, make up work, or receive tutoring from the core teacher. This was very important because most of these students do not have transportation home after school hours and this academic support time was imperative to our students' success. The teacher contact time evens up the playing field for students without transportation after school, which was a huge benefit from this wonderful program.

TeenZone meetings began every Wednesday at 1:45pm with an hour of academic homework/tutoring time. Students that needed to work with a teacher would check in and report to the appropriate classroom. At 2:45pm all members were back together for our weekly activity which would run between 45-60 minutes depending on our meal. The students really enjoyed the last 20-30 minutes having dinner together. This gave us time to listen to the students and hear about them in a casual atmosphere. We met the bus around 4:00 and students were on their way home with their homework completed and stomachs full. There were never any leftovers. Students would ask to take food home to a younger sibling or for their supper later that night. The meal, the academic support, and transportation home made a huge difference in the day for these high school students.

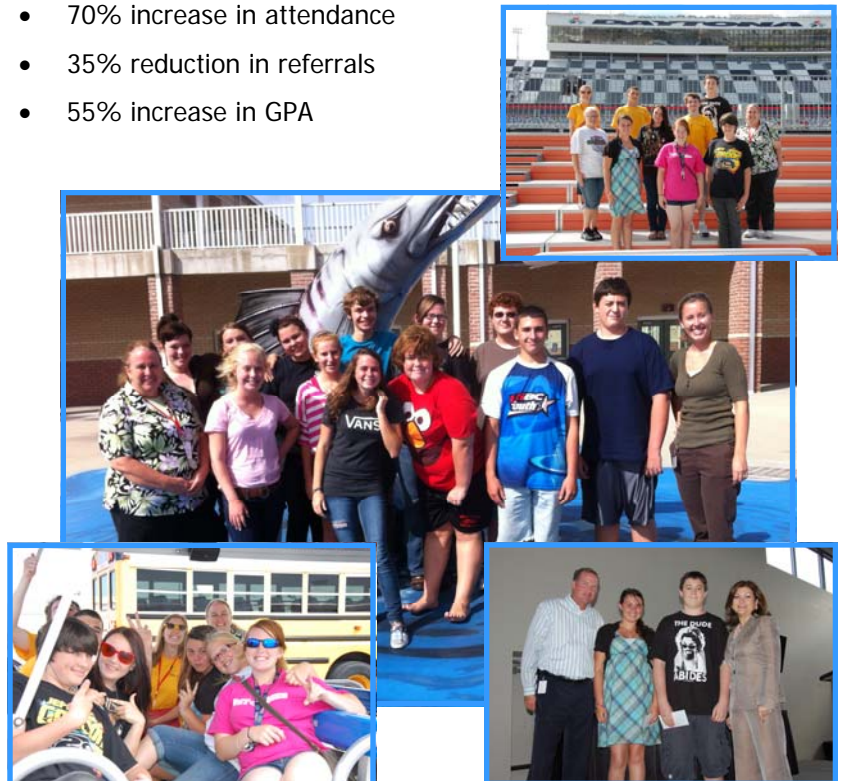
We were fortunate to have participated in many events offered by *Food Brings Hope*. A very meaningful program was the eight week Personal Finance Program where our Teen Zone students spent one hour weekly learning about saving, investing, and spending money. Upon completion each student received a certificate of completion and a savings bond. Other events we participated in was the Maz Jobrani Comedy Show, DSC Christmas Concert, Embry Riddle Basketball game, and Daytona Speedway Year End Awards Banquet. Each event had a special meaning and offered TZ students an inspirational message and opportunity to learn from experiences these high school students would not otherwise attend.

Our time together this second year of TeenZone was a huge success. *Food Brings Hope* offers the support that could not be afforded by our school. Students need this partnership to be successful not only as a student but a productive member of our school.

Our students not only received academic support, community activities, and nutritional meals on Wednesdays but they were afforded the opportunity to join clubs that would never have been attended due to transportation issues. Students with good grades were able to attend clubs that met on Wednesdays during the month. What happened next was unexpected? We watched some of our TeenZone members run and win officer positions for next year's clubs. What an experience to watch these freshman grow, learn, and celebrate the successes. Then, to see them take on leadership roles in community clubs was exciting. These students are very appreciative and wanting to continue next school year. *Food Brings Hope* did exactly that ... it gave students a successful start to high school as well as helped returning students who needed a place to get support to succeed!

NSB High School Academic Highlights

- 70% increase in attendance
- 35% reduction in referrals
- 55% increase in GPA



Spruce Creek High TeenZone

The 2011-2012 school year marked the commencement of the Spruce Creek High School TeenZone club ... and what an exciting year it was! We saw eighteen full-time 9th grade student participants receive academic support, build peer relationships, and find a comfortable home in a bustling high school environment. It was exhilarating to be a part of this wonderful program.

At Spruce Creek High School, our TeenZone participants met every Wednesday for an hour and a half. Our typical meeting consisted of 45 minutes of student tutoring, followed by a quick meal/snack, and finished with a selected activity for the day. The students really enjoyed this format, and quickly bought into the program and it's many benefits. Initially the program membership consisted of ten students, but word got out and we soon found the full-time group of eighteen students showing up for every meeting. The academic support and provided transportation were strongly appreciated by both students and parents.

Our participants were fortunate to attend three of the *Food Brings Hope* special events...the Christmas Concert at the News Journal Center, a presentation of local history at the Halifax Historical Museum, and the End of the Year Awards Banquet at Daytona International Speedway. These events not only provided our students with entertaining outings not commonly afforded to high school students, but additionally exposed them to local history, events and culture from a perspective they would not otherwise receive.

All in all, the initial year of the Spruce Creek High School TeenZone was a tremendous success. Our Sponsors, Administration, Students, and Parents are extremely appreciative of all that *Food Brings Hope* has offered, and we look forward to a continuing and lasting partnership that will benefit our students for a long time to come.



Deltona High TeenZone

Food Brings Hope Teen Zone began this past January for sophomores, juniors and seniors. Meetings were held every early release Wednesday after school. The goal was to assist the students on their path to graduation. Each session began with the students focusing on academics and homework.

TeenZone was fortunate to have the benefit of volunteers working together in support of the students. Deltona High School's Culinary Department, led by Dr. Stojic, provided nutritious home cooked meals weekly. Dr. Stojic and her students included the Teen Zone students in the preparation of meals and taught them much about cooking and the foods of different cultures. The importance of a healthy well balanced diet was always stressed.

Guest speakers visited TeenZone meetings providing valuable information. Focusing on preparing students for the future, volunteers covered filling out job applications and preparing resumes. As a follow-up, students participated in mock job interviews.

Deltona High School TeenZone visited Daytona State College and met with Dr. Tom LoBasso and the Admissions Department staff. They learned about the certificate programs, associate of arts and sciences programs, and the four-year programs available. Students were also provided information about the FAFSA form and the availability of scholarships.

The TeenZone students enjoyed attending the Embry-Riddle basketball game and speaking with a few players! The End of the Year event at the Daytona International Speedway was another big hit! Students toured the track, had a fabulous meal, and participated in Cup Stacking.

All of the students thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to be a member of TeenZone!



A Special Thank You!

Numerous groups have come forth to help us accomplish the Food Brings Hope Mission;
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