

ERAU surpasses fundraising goal for Food Brings Hope

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Photo provided by Food Brings Hope

John Johnson, president and CEO of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, presents Forough Hosseini, founder and CEO of Food Brings Hope, with a check from the Everything Counts Fundraiser.

DAYTONA BEACH – Food Brings Hope founder and chair Forough B. Hosseini recently accepted a donation of \$81,892 from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the result of their annual campus-wide fundraising campaign for the public charity that fights hunger among students in Volusia County Schools.

The donation, presented to Hosseini by John P. Johnson, president and CEO of ERAU, surpassed Johnson's announced goal of \$50,000.

Fundraising efforts were made possible through Embry-Riddle's faculty, staff, students and friends of ERAU who hosted events from February through May. The events ranged from potluck lunches, bake sales and barbecues, 5K races, a motorcycle rally, high-stakes bingo, prom dress kickball and a Derby Days auction.

"I challenged our Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Nancee Bailey and Dean of Students Jason Glenn, to once again lead our Embry-Riddle family in helping the children in need in our community," said Johnson. "The fact that kids in our community go without food or shelter is unacceptable. We know Food Brings Hope is doing a great job, but they can't do this alone. We never back down from a challenge, especially not in our own backyard, and this year the people of Embry-Riddle really proved it."

All funds raised for Food Brings Hope go directly toward the organization's programs to benefit underprivileged children. These initiatives include FBH's after-school programs, which currently serve more than 500 students in 11 Volusia County schools, STEM-focused honors programs entitled FBHonors for the highest achieving students and the weekly delivery of bags of groceries to nearly 200 families.

"I want to personally thank Dr. and Mrs. Johnson for their generous and kind hearts," said Hosseini. "And, of course, we are grateful to the Office of Student Affairs, all of the team leaders, contributors and participants that made this amazing effort so successful. These funds will go a very long way toward allowing us to expand our programs to cover even more schools and help a larger number of children in need."

For information about Food Brings Hope, visit FoodBringsHope.org or contact Fay Theos, executive director, at 386-453-1588.