

## Outgoing Daytona mayor donates house for homeless charity

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DAYTONA BEACH — Outgoing Daytona Beach Mayor Glenn Ritchey has donated a house to a charity that helps homeless schoolchildren.

Food Brings Hope is planning to use rental income generated from the Port Orange duplex to help support its programs.

"We have children sleeping in cars and trying to go to school," said Ritchey, whose six-year run as mayor ended Wednesday. "When people think of homeless people, they don't necessarily think of children and the impact it has on them."

Last school year, 2,228 homeless schoolchildren were enrolled in Volusia County Schools, while Flagler County had 367. School systems define homelessness as lack of a "fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence."

The charity serves about 500 students and is in the process of expanding from seven schools to 10. It provides meals, after-school tutoring, and rewards for academic success to homeless students.

Ritchey's donation will go a long way toward helping these students succeed, said Forough Hosseini, a Daytona Beach businesswoman and founder of Food Brings Hope.

"Food Brings Hope could not succeed in its mission of breaking the cycle of poverty for homeless and other economically disadvantaged children enrolled in Volusia County Schools were it not for the generosity of community leaders such as Glenn and Connie Ritchey," Hosseini said.

Ritchey's donation comes just days after a fundraiser sponsored by The Daytona Beach News-Journal raised \$23,606 for Food Brings Hope.

Former news carriers, who went on to become community leaders, sold newspapers around town Saturday and collected donations for the charity.

Ritchey, who was a paperboy while growing up in Kentucky, netted the most donations during the event.