



Food Brings Hope is concluding its fifth successful year of working in Volusia County Public Schools. Each year, FBH expands to offer additional opportunities and services to 'our kids'.

Currently working in Westside Elementary School, T.T. Small Elementary School, Osceola Elementary School, Campbell Middle School, New Smyrna Beach Middle School, Spruce Creek High School, New Smyrna Beach High School, and Deltona High School, Food Brings Hope provides nutritious meals, tutoring, rewards for improvement, a banking program, tours of area colleges and universities, opportunities to attend sporting and cultural events, and a weekend food assistance program. This year FBH began serving Spruce Creek High and expanded to the west side of the County with the addition of Deltona High School. We also started a Food Pantry at University High School in Orange City due to the high number of homeless families in the area. On any given day in Volusia County Public Schools, there are over 2,000 homeless students needing assistance.

#### New programs started this year

\* Farshad Babazadeh Honors (FBHonors) Pilot Program for 4th & fifth grade students at Westside Elementary. Students, from low socioeconomic families, scoring at the top of their class, were invited to sign up for FBHonors. This program provides enrichment activities for the students every weekday from 3-6 pm. FBH 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 next year. FBHonors students were invited to participate in all of Food Brings Hope field trips and other activities.

\* Partnership with Halifax Urban Ministries to provide a 40-pound bag of nutritious food (including meat) to 50 needy families at Westside Elementary School. Receiving 9 meals/week has enabled many of our 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, FBH is working on a project to provide housing for these homeless youths on the east 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**.

\* Partnership 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 FBH 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.

\* Deltona High is our only high school program with juniors and seniors. Besides tutoring, nutritious meals, rewards, etc. Food Brings Hope provided instruction on resume writing and applying for jobs. Students also toured Daytona State College and met with administrators to learn about their application process, scholarships, and work-study programs.



DSC Holiday Dinner 2011



University High Food Pantry



Spruce Creek High at  
Halifax Historical Museum



Silk Road Dance Comp at TT Small Elementary



Deltona High FBH



Westside FBHons students at ERAU



Year End Citizen Award Winners  
(best 'all around' FBH students at each school)