

FOOD BRINGS HOPE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

FROM THE DESK OF OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear FBH Family,

Did you make a New Year's resolution this year? Are you still following it, or has it long been forgotten? Unfortunately, that is the way mine seem to go. Great intentions, but not enough follow through. Recently, I was having this discussion with a dear friend, and she explained she wasn't making a yearly resolution, but rather committed herself to do something special each month for someone in need starting by making a home cooked meal for a struggling family in her neighborhood. They were overjoyed by her kindness and generosity.

As we started thinking about February, the month of **Love**, I explained how sad a time it can be for children, living in poverty like our FBH students, when peers surrounding them are being showered with Valentine's gifts, cards, flowers and balloons and they receive nothing. A lightbulb went off in her head, and she announced she knew exactly the kind act she was doing in February. You see, a flyer had just come home with her child that day announcing the sale of items to be given to students on Valentine's Day. She remembered a time in middle school when she received nothing and mostly all others did. Her kind act for February is going to be to buy a candy rose, not only for her child, but all children in the class and make it anonymous.

Showing and sharing love with others and acts of kindness can be done in so many ways, large and small. I want to express my appreciation to the FBH Family for the love, kindness and support you consistently provide to our FBH homeless and hungry children not only in February, but throughout every month of the year. Thank you.

My Best,

Judi

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!



MCINNIS KIDSZONE TOURS DOWNTOWN DELAND

McInnis Elementary KidsZone students and chaperones visited Downtown DeLand before their Winter Break. They enjoyed a snack at Checkers and then toured the Downtown DeLand shops. At Earl Brown Park, they were entertained by local artists performing holiday songs. The Grinch even made an appearance! McInnis also wanted to share their photo collage of their trip to the Amazon fulfillment center. The students enjoyed the tour and found it very education.

Food Brings Hope also wants to recognize sponsor, Sara Montalvo, for being chosen as a Halo Award winner. The Halo Awards recognize community members who go above and beyond every day in helping others. Sara was recognized as an Outstanding Educator for her work in enrolling families in need in various programs that benefit children. *Congratulations, Sara! FBH is fortunate to have you as our program sponsor!*

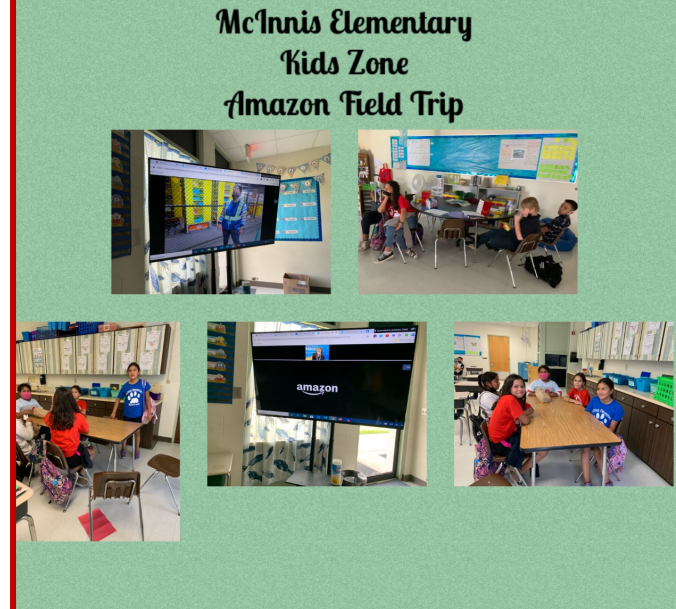


HOMES BRING HOPE RECEIVES \$25,000 GRANT FROM TRUIST

Truist has awarded a \$25,000 grant in support of Homes Bring Hope's quest to help people break the cycle of generational poverty through homeownership and home equity. "Truist is committed to supporting initiatives that create generational wealth and build strong, sustainable communities," said Tammy Paycer, community development manager at Truist. "Through homeownership, Homes Bring Hope is giving more people the opportunity to thrive."

Homeownership stabilizes communities and provides families with the opportunity to build equity in their homes, which helps create wealth. With affordable housing availability at record low levels throughout Florida, Homes Bring Hope helps residents most in need.

In the month ahead, 2 more HBH families will become homeowners, with many more to come.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Our sincerest thanks to the many volunteers who help our programs grow. Without your dedication and willingness to support our efforts, we would not be as successful! FBH recognizes an outstanding volunteer and community partner each month.

December Volunteer of the Year - Melissa Bergeron

FBH recently chose Melissa Bergeron as their December Volunteer of the month. Melissa has been a reliable volunteer since 2019. She assists with drive through food distributions, packing food bags, preparing t-shirts and sweatshirts for distribution to schools, and assisting at special events. FBH appreciates Melissa's dedication to the FBH mission and looks forward to working with her for many years.



Congratulations on your recognition, Melissa. FBH appreciates you!



December Community Partner - ICI Homes, Inc.

Thank you ICI Homes for your generous support!

ICI Homes, Inc. has been chosen as Food Brings Hope's Community Partner of the month. For the last 7 years, ICI Homes, Inc. has sponsored "Walk for Hope" an event where employees donate new shoes and socks to KidsZone and TeenZone students. In December 2021, they generously donated 282 pairs of shoes and 466 pairs of socks. When students receive these new shoes, their expressions are one of pure joy and is a gift they look forward to every year.

KRISTIE LONG - VOLUSIA COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALIST

Kristie Long, TeenZone and FBHonor's sponsor at Mainland HS, was recently recognized as one of five Volusia County Teacher of the Year finalists. Judi Winch, FBH Executive Director, attended the event to celebrate Kristie's prestigious honor. Kristie has served as sponsor of Mainland High School's Food Brings Hope program for 8 years. She also currently serves as a Chemistry Instructor, Science Department Chair, SAT/ACT Testing Coordinator, and AVID Site Team Member at Mainland HS.



Teacher of the Year Finalists with Superintendent Dr. Scott Fritz (left) and Ruben Colon, School Board Chair



Kristie Long



Kristie Long and her parents, Mr. Turline Long, Jr. and Mrs. Jistine B. Long

TURIE T. SMALL KIDZONE & FBHONORS DECEMBER ACTIVITIES



KZ students enjoying hands-on Science Experiments



KidsZone Holiday Celebration

Turie T. Small's KidsZone and FBHonor's students had an active December. Sponsor Brandon Wingfield keeps learning alive by immersing his students in hands-on Science activities. To recognize their hard work throughout the semester, the students were treated to a Christmas party sponsored by FBH where they received gifts, enjoyed food and loved playing on a giant slide. They had a blast!

VOLUSIA CIVIC BALLET



Heritage Middle School

Our middle school students thoroughly enjoyed attending the Volusia Civic Ballet with their sponsors, friends and family.

Food Brings Hope truly appreciates the support of Nelly Droznin, President, and the Volusia Civic Ballet.



Heritage Middle School



Galaxy Middle School



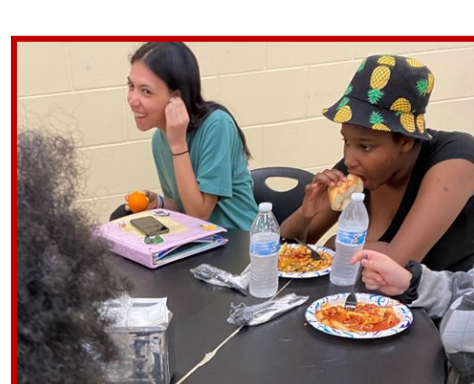
Galaxy Middle School

NEW SMYRNA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL—TEENZONE DECEMBER ACTIVITY

New Smyrna Beach High School's TeenZone program meets weekly during lunch period. Each month, members of the community donate food for these meals. This month The Garlic in New Smyrna Beach donated a huge amount of assorted pasta dishes with additional bread and cheese to feed the students during their meeting.

The TeenZone sponsor, Dana Luff, and her students send a big "Thank You" to Chef Michael and Jeff from The Garlic for the delicious pasta meals and thanks to Tara Shea for coordinating this effort.

This is a wonderful example of our community supporting our programs!



Teresa Clay and Autumn Paone



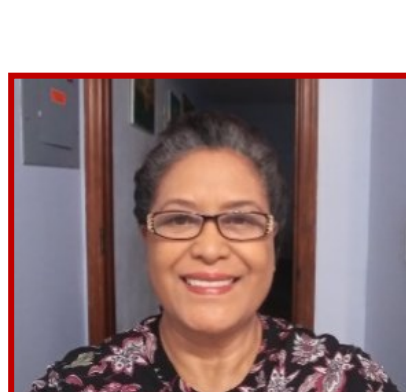
TZ Sponsor, Chef Dana Luff, and The Garlic's Chef Michael



Bradley Dudding is ready to dig in to his pasta dish!



SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT - ORMOND BEACH MIDDLE KIDZONE FAYE JOSEPH



Faye Joseph joined the FBH Team as a Sponsor in 2020. She joined FBH during a difficult pandemic time and tried to recruit and retain students for the TeenZone program during absences and challenging times. She immediately created opportunities for her students to explore careers by inviting guest speakers to engage them. Inviting her peers to offer workshops such as art and flower arranging piqued the interest of students. At the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, Faye began cooking for her students to ensure students didn't go home hungry on meeting days. For their holiday celebration, she made a huge hot meal for them and followed it with time for singing and dancing. Faye also does frequent grade checks with her students to encourage them to stay on track and work to improve grades. She encourages tutoring and recognizing hard work and improved grades with incentives each semester.

Executive Director Judi Winch stated, "I was fortunate to witness Faye's positive vibes and energy when interacting with the students at the OBMS TZ Holiday Academic and Awards celebration. She drives them to have purpose and become better in all areas of their lives."

FOOD BRINGS HOPE WISH LIST

Food Brings Hope is in need of a Smart television that can be wall-mounted in the office conference room. This allows us the capability of having remote meetings with clients, schools, and volunteers. If you have one that you would like to donate, please email Diane Smith at Diane@FoodBringsHope.org.



Volunteers Needed!

Join our efforts to feed hungry families and youth throughout Volusia County. Volunteers are asked to use their personal vehicles to deliver VCan food bags, based on their availability, when a call for help is made to the helpline. If interested or have any questions, please contact Assistant Director, Sofia Rivas, at Sofia@VCan2020.org.

Donations Needed:

- Bottles of water or juice
- Microwavable soup cups/packages
- Freezable soup or dried fruit cups/bowls
- Packaged deli meat
- Bread
- Personal hygiene products such as deodorant and feminine care items



Our Mission
Nurturing the Body, Mind and Spirit of underprivileged children in our community.

Our Vision
Creating a community where underprivileged school children discover their full potential.

FoodBringsHope.org
Facebook.com/FoodBringsHope
Instagram.com/fbhnow
Twitter.com/FoodBringsHope1

For more information, please contact:

Office: 386.317.5767
Info@FoodBringsHope.org
1400 Richmond Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32117