

FOOD BRINGS HOPE

Annual Report

2015 - 2016

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



We were delighted to have had the opportunity to expand to 16 schools in 2015-2016 serving over 800-students. We were also excited to be selected to become a partner with the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation. This partnership allowed FBH to offer literacy classes to adults in the Pierson community. Literate parents can become a resource to their children ensuring their success. We not only taught English, reading and writing, but we also offered GED classes to English speaking parents through a partnership with Daytona State College.

We expanded our Farshad Babazadeh Honors program to three schools. The honors students receive up to 3-hours of afterschool tutoring in STEM fields, every day. FBHonors students are selected based on strong academics and their commitment to stay in school and graduate high school. We encourage and mentor them to attend college guaranteeing a scholarship. We offer FBHonors students technology

to help them with their school work, either an iPad or a laptop, and more academically oriented field trips.

During the 2015-2016 school year, FBH offered more field trips to our students than previous years. A tour of DSC was provided for any interested Middle and High school students. A tour of Planation Bay, to showcase the process of homebuilding, was offered to all middle schoolers. Schools took trips to Epcot, Orlando Science Center, Museum of Arts & Sciences, as well as FBH's regular field trips to Riddle's basketball game, DSC's holiday program at the News Journal Center, Cubs game plus many more.

We were able to do so much more this past school year because we were lucky to hire the dynamic Judi Winch to become FBH's Executive Director. Under her leadership, we intend to grow the program until we have reached every homeless and hungry child in our community. We won't stop there! We have every intention of expanding FBH's programs to our surrounding communities.

We thank our supporters, partners, volunteers, principals and teachers. We thank FBH parents who allow their children to stay after school. We especially thank VCS Superintendent, Mr. Tom Russell, in believing and promoting FBH. We believe we have built a winning model that addresses the students' challenges and obstacles holistically; from providing snacks and food in school to food bags to feed the family for the weekend; from tutoring and help with academics to taking them to ball games and cultural programs; from asking the students to volunteer and give back to the community which has given them so much, to accepting help from the same community. FBH is privileged to work with partners who extend us the opportunity to do more for our students; Halifax Urban Ministries, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona State College and Sodexo just to name a few. Most important of all, I want to thank our amazing community which gives of their time, treasure and talent so generously. We will eradicate hunger and homelessness, at least among our children, working together. My personal aim still is to be the first *HomelessLess County* in the country!

With Gratitude,

Forough B. Hosseini

*If the measurement to success
is expanding services,
Food Brings Hope (FBH) has succeeded.*

*If the measurement to success is to offer
even more programming to our students,
FBH has succeeded.*

*If the measurement to success is to have
students in the program have an
overall net learning gain,
FBH has succeeded.*

*If the measurement to success is to have
more partners, volunteers or supporters,
FBH has succeeded!*

WHO WE ARE / WHAT WE DO

Who We Are

When local businesswoman Forough B. Hosseini realized the depth of the homeless and hunger problems among school aged children in our community, she was stunned! In our beautiful and bountiful community, how could it be that more than 2,000 of the students are homeless? How could it be that the child sitting next to her daughters at school didn't have a place to go home to at night? As she learned how widespread the problem was, she started taking action. She, together with a few other caring community leaders, worked on a business plan for two years before they started the first pilot program in 2007.

What We Do

Food Brings Hope was founded in 2007 with the vision that children should be free from hunger. Through the extraordinary support of a generous community, Food Brings Hope, Inc. a 501 (c)3 Public Charity, now touches the lives of over 800 school aged children. We help children in need through several key initiatives:

- KidsZone and TeenZone Afterschool Programs
- FBHonors Program
- Adult Literacy through the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation
- Weekend Feed A Family Program
- The HOPE Project

Our Mission & Vision

Vision

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

Mission

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

Measurable Results

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

Serving over 800 students in the Volusia County School District.

Key Components of this Program

- Tutoring programs
- Transportation from school 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.

Building Successful Teamwork in Our Community

A truly successful community is one that nurtures the strengths of every family and every child, and acknowledges the value of our interconnectedness. Greater understanding of this important problem in our community can help us collectively learn, lead, and grow together. At Food Brings Hope, we offer a vehicle through which a comprehensive team of professionals, leaders, donors, agencies, and volunteers are able to collaborate in coordinating existing resources to provide programs to at-risk children to fill the gaps not previously addressed.

Executive Board

Forough B. Hosseini, Founder and Chair

Nellie H. Kargar, Vice Chair

David N. Jones, Secretary

Ted Serbousek, Treasurer

Judi Winch, Executive Director

Sandy Bishop, Member

Advisory Committee

Judge David B. Beck, Senior Judge Seventh Circuit

Dr. Maryann Bull, Principal, Champion Elementary

Karen Chenoweth, Principal, New Smyrna Beach High

Dwayne Copeland, Principal, Edith I. Starke Elementary

Dr. Fred Costello, DDS, Atlantic Center for Comprehensive Dentistry; State Representative

Kevin Flassig, Principal, Osceola Elementary

Stephen Hinson, Principal, Turie T. Small Elementary

Kim Hutcherson, Principal, Pierson Elementary

Elizabeth Johnson, Principal, New Smyrna Beach Middle

Kelly Lewis, Principal, Campbell Middle

Richard T. Meyers, Principal, Holly Hill K-8

Mamie Oatis, Principal, Southwestern Middle

Ronald Pagano, Principal, T. DeWitt Taylor Middle High

Alba Perez, Principal, McInnis Elementary

Julie Rand, Director, Florida Hospital Memorial Foundation

Dr. Cheryl Salerno, Principal, Mainland High

Dr. Todd Sparger, Principal, Spruce Creek High

James Tager, Principal, Atlantic High

William Ward, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler

Pam Woods, District Homeless Education Liaison, VCS; Commissioner, City of DB

Willie Williams, Principal, Westside Elementary

PEARLS OF HOPE GALA 2015

~ Annual gala raises \$90K for FBH ~



Food Brings Hope (FBH) hosted its second annual fundraising event on October 23, 2015. The “Pearls of Hope” Gala presented by Holland Financial took place at the Jim W. Henderson Administration and Welcome Center at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

More than 250 people attended the Gala which raised over \$90,000 through sponsorships, ticket sales and auctions, to benefit the students served by Food Brings Hope.

Donated goods and services from local businesses and groups, including art and photography by DeLand High School students, were incorporated into the live and silent auctions. *Kids Helping Kids* was a special project brought to Food Brings Hope by DeLand High School art teacher Peggy Banks and her AP Art students.

The presenting sponsor for the second year in a row was Holland Financial. Other event sponsors included the Burke & Cox families, Giles Electric, ICI Homes, Lesa France Kennedy, Jon Hall/Ritchey Automotive Group and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Food Brings Hope provides an array of enrichment opportunities for underprivileged students through their programs, KidsZone, TeenZone and FBHonors. The nonprofit provides a network of care for seniors in high school who are homeless and unaccompanied through the Eric Christopher DeVriese, Jr. HOPE House.

FBH partners with Halifax Urban Ministries to deliver weekly food bags to the neediest families. This year, FBH has partnered with the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation to provide literacy programs for both adults and children in the Pierson community. “Funds raised from the Pearls of Hope Gala are vital in ensuring that the students FBH serves attain every opportunity possible to reach their full potential,” said Forough B. Hosseini, FBH founder and chair. “We are very appreciative of the caring individuals and companies who have supported us for over nine years. It is through the community’s support that we have been able to expand our program to include more schools serving even more homeless students this year. At FBH, we aim to eventually expand our programs to reach every homeless student enrolled in Volusia County Schools.” Currently, Food Brings Hope has partnered with 16 schools throughout Volusia County, serving more than 800 students, with the goal to include all schools throughout the district and beyond.

PEARLS OF HOPE GALA 2015

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2015-2016 SPECIAL EVENTS

ERAU Basketball Game



KidsZone and TeenZone participants attended the Food Brings Hope Game Night at the ICI Center on Tuesday, November 24, 2015. The crowd of 323 Volusia County students watched in excitement as the ERAU Men's Eagles defeated the Gyrenes of Ave Maria College 85 to 57.

Students and chaperones of Food Brings Hope's afterschool programs, called KidsZone for elementary and TeenZone for the middle and high schools, enjoyed an evening of food, games, and music courtesy of the Embry-Riddle Athletic Association.

"Many of my kids hadn't seen Daytona Beach, let alone a university campus," expressed Efrain Alejandro, Principal Intern at Taylor Middle-High School, one of the 12 schools in attendance. "We are very appreciative to Food Brings Hope for the opportunity to participate."

The night started with ERAU men's head basketball coach, Steve Ridder, welcoming the group with a few words on respect, goals, and being thankful. "During the holiday season it is especially important to be thankful for those who do so much for us," reminded Coach Ridder.

Coach Ridder brought along senior players Daniel Kiesling and Eddie Gray to reiterate to the younger students that showing respect to others and making the choice everyday to get better will put you on the path to reaching every goal you set. KidsZone and TeenZone were then served pizza and drinks by ERAU's softball team. Throughout the game students were invited to play games for prizes during the game time-outs.

"We are so thankful for the hospitality ERAU has shown Food Brings Hope students over the years," stated Food Brings Hope Executive Director Judi Winch. "I have attended this event many times in the past as a principal and I know how much this annual collaboration means to our students and sponsors."



Daytona State Annual Holiday Extravaganza



For the sixth year in a row, DSC hosted over 400 FBH students to their amazingly popular and sold-out Holiday concert. This year an added surprise was the tour of the DSC campus. Twelve of the fifteen FBH schools were in attendance. More than 50 DSC volunteers were involved in making this event a success. One student was heard telling a volunteer thank you for being so nice to him!

The holiday festivities began with dinner, sponsored by Sodexo and served by DSC volleyball and softball team members, in the college's Student Center. During the evening, schools were taken on a guided tour of the campus by DSC's SGA members. Students were able to learn about and visit departments such as culinary, cosmetology, welding, science, and photography. The tour's aim was to familiarize FBH's students with what college classrooms look like and what degrees they can think about attaining.

Later, students were bused to the News-Journal Center to enjoy the musical extravaganza presented by DSC's music department. Upon arrival, the students were personally greeted by Santa and Mrs. Claus and given a special Christmas treat!

Dr. Doug Peterson, Chairman of the Mike Curb College of Music Entertainment and Art, conducted the concert that also included a symphonic band, an acapella set, and an improvisation group.

Chris O'Conner, a band student at NSB Middle, said, "I was really looking forward to hearing the symphonic band." Camron Thomas, seventh grader at Campbell Middle, shared, "I was in TeenZone last year, and I was so happy that we got to come again."

"Bringing our students onto a college campus teaches them that college is not a scary place. We hope that this visit has opened their eyes to the many opportunities available to them," said Mrs. Hosseini.



ERAU Softball Game



Over 100 KidsZone and TeenZone students from Mainland High, Starke and Westside Elementary attended the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's softball home game and cheered the Eagles to victory over the Bulldogs of Ferris State University.

"I found myself constantly smiling seeing everyone so full of joy while they were here", said ERAU Head Softball Coach, Kelsi Dunne. "It sure made our girls' day to have such a cheerful group of students at our game. Thank you for allowing us to be such a special part of another Food Brings Hope event."

Students were invited to participate in activities, hosted by the ERAU sports marketing team, between innings. The children had the opportunity to run the bases, participate in games and even take part in a burrito relay.

"I love sports so I had a blast!" said DeJuan Mitchell, fifth grader at Westside Elementary. Mitchell was one of the lucky game attendees to catch a free ERAU athletics t-shirt that was thrown into the crowd by members of the sports marketing team.



Sodexo campus services provided and helped serve students boxed lunches with the help of FBH volunteers.

DSC Tour - High School Students



Daytona State Admissions Office hosted a special tour and dinner for high school TeenZone participants on March 31.

Over 80 TeenZone students from all four of the FBH partnered high schools were in attendance to learn about the school's programs. Those schools include Atlantic, Mainland, Spruce Creek, and T. Dewitt Taylor Middle-High.

"The TeenZone trip to DSC's campus was wonderful!" said Keisha Wallace, Atlantic High sponsor. "Though our students are all 9th and 10th graders, the hope is that this experience will get them thinking about what to do after high school."

DSC staff guided the high school students through each department and explained the many programs that are available. Before students arrived on the college campus, they were given special questionnaires so that DSC knew their areas of interest.



One of the highlights of the tour was the visit to the culinary institute led by Chef Costa Magoulis. Students from Taylor High School were most interested in the garden of herbs growing outside the kitchen door. As one student sniffed a leaf of basil, he exclaimed that he did not realize herbs had such different odors. He was anxious to learn more about them and their uses with various foods.

After the tour, students and their chaperones were able to dine on pizza and drinks in the school's courtyard and student union.



2015-2016 SPECIAL EVENTS

Volusia Students Learn About Home Building



Food Brings Hope and ICI Homes Host Plantation Bay Tour

In April, over 125 middle school students were treated as VIPs during a construction tour of ICI Homes' Plantation Bay community in Ormond Beach. "I have never seen the framing of a home before", said Sara Gordon, a sixth grader at Holly Hill K-8 School. "It was really cool to see what is behind the walls in a house."

TeenZone participants and chaperones from all five of the Food Brings Hope partnered middle schools were in attendance. Those schools included Campbell, Holly Hill K-8, New Smyrna Beach, Ormond Beach, and Southwestern.

ICI Homes' building professionals answered questions and lead students through each stage of the homebuilding process; from foundation to completed project. Students were able to walk through a newly framed home before moving next door to a home with the addition of dry wall.



"Our message was that teamwork is the core of what we do," said ICI Homes Construction Manager, Tim MacFarlane. "We all have to look out for one another to get the job done. If they keep that mindset, then they can accomplish anything."

The tour continued to include a newly finished home complete with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, and finished hardwood and carpeted floors. In each home, students and chaperones were guided through each room learning the details of the building of it and then were allowed to explore the outside property.

Lunch was catered by Plantation Bay's Club de Bonmont and served by Food Brings Hope volunteers.



"This tour is one of the many enrichment activities that we provide to our FBH students to highlight different professions and possibly create some interest in a new trade," said Judi Winch, Food Brings Hope Executive Director. "This is the second year we have taken our TeenZone students on this tour. Last year, we only had 25 students involved. We are excited the opportunity this year has grown to include over 125 children!"

After lunch, the students got back on their buses for a guided tour of the entire Plantation Bay community before participating in an exciting, competitive scavenger hunt in one of the model homes.

"We are encouraging the children to explore the many possibilities ahead of them," said Forough B. Hosseini, FBH founder and chair. "Everything they saw and experienced was designed to raise their expectations in life to work harder and accomplish more for themselves. We hope the students left the tour feeling energized and ready to take the necessary steps to a future where they may own one of these homes in the future. Thank you so much to the ICI Homes construction team, especially Tim MacFarlane and Lenny Sanclemente, Club de Bonmont and our many volunteers for the day!"



FBH Year End Award Celebration



The annual End of the Year Celebration for KidsZone and TeenZone was held at the News-Journal Center. Chad Smith and Scott Green and the News-Journal Center staff helped host this celebration and helped make this event a memorable one for our children.



The celebration kicked off with over 400 students and chaperones gathering in the lobby of the News-Journal Center for pizza and drinks catered and donated by Sodexo Campus Services. After eating, schools were ushered to the auditorium to begin the program which included an FBH Awards celebration and a Talent Showcase.

Of the 16 Food Brings Hope partnered schools, 15 were in attendance. Those schools included McInnis, Osceola, Pierson, Starke, Turie T. Small, Westside Elementary Schools; Campbell, Holly Hill, New Smyrna Beach, Ormond Beach, Southwestern Middle Schools; and Atlantic, Taylor Middle-High, Mainland, and Spruce Creek High Schools.

Principals in attendance included, Jim Tager, Atlantic High; Richard T. Myers, Holly Hill School; Alba Perez, McInnis Elementary; Kevin Flassig, Osceola Elementary; Willie Williams, Westside Elementary; and Stephen Hinson, Turie T. Small Elementary. Other special guests included FBH Advisory Board members Dr. Fred Costello and Bill Ward. Also in attendance were Gerard Short, Sodexo Campus Services Director; Artie Echavarria, Sodexo Campus Services Manager; Shelia Jackson who organized the financial literacy program, Hands On Banking, for several of our schools and Soroptimist Club members, Diana Janzen and Dianna Cottrill who completed a character building program at Westside Elementary this Spring. Jenni Craig, Embry-Riddle Sports Marketing Director, and her husband, Tyler, were on hand to help backstage with the Talent Showcase. Kahlin Grant, Synergy Billing Talent Acquisition Manager, was also in attendance to help manage the event. Beverly Vaughn, Karen Bagley, and Felice Freeman, FBH Volunteer of the Month for April, also volunteered at the event.

Jason Glenn, VP of Student Affairs at Bethune-Cookman University, was Emcee for the evening and welcomed students and special guests before students performed in the Talent Showcase. Also featured in the Talent Showcase was former American Idol participant and Mainland High student, Michelle Marie. After performing, Michelle Marie also shared a few words of encouragement and answered questions from the students.



The Talent Showcase featured student acts from 11 of the 15 schools in attendance. Those acts included, singers, dancers, step teams, musicians, and a photographer. Each school took home a plaque recognizing their participation in the show.

After the final talent act, Mrs. Hosseini, and Judi awarded select students from each school with Citizenship of the Year awards for their positive attitude, dedication, and willingness to help others throughout the school year. Priscilla Sparks was recognized as Volunteer of the Year and Southwestern Middle School was awarded the Site of the Year award.

“On behalf of Food Brings Hope, I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the principals, teachers, volunteers, and companies who help us each year to nourish the brilliant young minds of the students we have the honor of helping,” said Mrs. Hosseini. “Each year we have been blessed with more opportunities to grow and serve additional disadvantaged students through the generosity and support of our community.”

2015-2016 PARTNERSHIPS/FUNDRAISERS

Tennis Tournament

To support the mission of FBH, the Trails Racquet Club hosted its 3rd Annual Food Brings Hope Tennis Round Robin Fundraiser for Women and Men on November 14, 2015. More than \$1,900 was raised to benefit FBH students and programs.

There was plenty of tennis, food, and drinks. There were raffles for fantastic gift baskets, with 100% of the proceeds donated to FBH. Nancy Munier, Trails Racquet Club member, said, "As a high school student and tennis player at Father Lopez, my son, Michael started the event three years ago as a community service project. The event made him realize how fortunate he was and that there are many students in his community that needed assistance. He graduated last year and two students/tennis players are taking over."



Connor and Caden Sikorski, tennis students at Father Lopez Catholic High School, organized the fall event. They hoped to raise awareness of the poverty issue throughout Volusia County school children.

Special thank you to Connor and Caden Sikorski and Jan Buenner, Trails Racquet Club owner, for their help organizing and raising funds at this great event.

James Moore & Company



In 2016, employees from James Moore & Company, an accounting firm located in Daytona Beach, participated in the company's office fundraiser, Wear What You Want (WWYW) for Charity Day. They raised \$160 through this special event and decided to continue to raise funds for FBH's Hope for the Hungry campaign benefiting our weekly food bag program.

"At James Moore & Company, we believe in supporting our local nonprofit community and are very proud that our donation will be enough to feed eight families for a month," said James Halleran. "We are very excited about this new initiative and look forward to more WWYW days of fun and paying it forward!"

The charity committee decided to implement 12 days of giving throughout 2016 by offering a Wear What You Want for Charity Day each month of the year. Employees who choose to participate pay \$5 towards the selected charity and may wear whatever they want to work. This creates a fun environment while also giving back to the local nonprofit community.

"The employees at James Moore & Company have the exact mindset that drives our community by helping others in need. Thank you to all who participated!" said Judi Winch, FBH executive director.

Stellar Foundation

The Stellar Foundation/Jacksonville presented FBH with a check for \$7,500 for new freezers for each of the schools participating in the weekly food bag program. The freezers are being used to accept and store the frozen meat and perishable items each participating family receives. The check presentation and delivery of the first new freezer was held at Campbell Middle School.

"Stellar has built a strong, ongoing relationship with the Hosseini family over the years," said Stellar President and Chief Operating Officer, Mike Santarone. "We're honored to not only support an organization close to their hearts, but one that directly supports our mission at the Stellar Foundation: to build communities and to help develop environments that support stronger families throughout the world."

The donation first started as a pledge from the foundation to provide FBH with the funds to purchase new freezers. On the day of the check presentation, the Stellar Foundation surprised FBH with an additional \$2,500 to go towards food for the participating families.

"I am so glad that Food Brings Hope was able to help our school get a brand new freezer donated," said Christopher Koch, guidance counselor at T. Dewitt Taylor Middle-High. "Fortunately, it came at a perfect time since our older freezer had just broken and we had no funds to buy a new one. While we were waiting for the new freezer to be delivered, we were unable to distribute any food donations to our families. Now that we have the large new freezer, we will be able to begin helping our many families that are deeply in need."



Rediscover US1



Throughout the month of November, local restaurants from Oak Hill to Ormond Beach donated a portion of sales to FBH in hopes of raising awareness for the unique businesses and restaurants along the US-1 corridor.

City of Port Orange Planner, Penny Cruz, helped strengthen community support for the Rediscover US-1 campaign.

"This was the second event organized by the Rediscover US-1 planning committee. It was exciting to put this together in time for the holiday season. We knew it would be a nice opportunity to promote our local eateries and donate to a food-based charity," expressed Cruz. "We are happy that the funds raised will be

used to help eradicate hunger throughout Volusia County. It was nice to see all of our cities working together."

Participating cities included Ormond Beach, Holly Hill, Daytona Beach, South Daytona, Port Orange, New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater and Oak Hill.

"Food Brings Hope appreciates the community support given to us throughout this fundraising campaign. We are pleased to know businesses are also benefitting from our partnership with them," said Food Brings Hope Executive Director Judi Winch. "I had the opportunity to visit some of the participating restaurants and enjoy the wonderful food and was delighted with the level of service received at each."

Hope for the Holidays

To celebrate the holiday season, Food Brings Hope, Embassy of Hope, and Kidds Are First invited families to attend two evenings filled with food, giveaways, and lots of holiday cheer for a "Hope for the Holidays" event at Pierson and Westside Elementary schools.

"I hope that the families at Pierson and Westside enjoyed the clothing, food, and gifts, but more importantly, have a renewed faith in the spirit of Christmas," expressed Embassy of Hope Director, Dr. Michelle Carter-Scott.



Community partners donated items and volunteer time so that each family was able to choose gifts for each household member.

Adults were given the opportunity to choose clothes from a selection of new children's clothing, provided by Embassy of Hope and Kidds Are First. The children were busy enjoying activities such as cookie decorating, arts and crafts, and listening to a Christmas story.

Daytona State College professor, Frank Gunshanan, and his team of student volunteers were on hand at Pierson to assist with sorting over 150 pairs of shoes donated by ICI Homes' employees. Volunteers also helped arrange the plethora of children's toys, games,

and stuffed animals courtesy of Food Brings Hope and Kidds Are First.

The Sodexo Team catered and served both evening's meals offering Holiday wishes to each family as they passed through the food line. Weekend food bags, donated by Food Brings Hope, were given out during one of the night's rotations. Before heading home for the evening, families were given a turkey, on behalf of Sodexo, and a gift bag filled with family games and activities donated by FBH.

"It is such a privilege for Sodexo to partner with Food Brings Hope and to have an opportunity to give back to those less fortunate in the community. Mrs. Hosseini and the FBH team give new meaning to the word "hope" and we are excited to help eliminate hunger in Volusia County," said Gerard Short, Sodexo Director. "There is nothing more satisfying than seeing the smiles on the children's faces as they enjoyed their dinner and decorated their cookies. We are looking forward to working with FBH on "Hope for the Holidays" at other schools."



2015-2016 PARTNERSHIPS/FUNDRAISERS

ERAU-Worldwide host fundraising month for Food Brings Hope



Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Worldwide (ERAU-WW) raised over \$5,000 through their annual month long fundraising campaign to benefit Food Brings Hope students and programs.

Embry-Riddle employees donated and purchased tickets to participate in a series of bingo games and Friday 'Jeans for Hope' days from March 18th to April 22nd. Employees were able to donate \$5 to wear jeans to work.

A digital cookbook was also sold to raise funds for FBH and the Halifax Humane Society. Every recipe included in the cookbook was contributed by ERAU-WW staff, faculty, and friends from across the globe.

The series of fundraisers concluded with a rally that included a silent auction and food items prepared by ERAU employees. More than 125 spectators and players met on the west field at ERAU-WW to watch the Embry-Riddle Daytona Beach campus defeat the ERAU-WW staff in a friendly game of kickball. In order to participate in the kickball game, players had to wear a prom dress.

Spearheading the campaign for 2016 was Annamarie Garcia, verification and loan specialist for Embry-Riddle Worldwide.

"Each year this event gets better and better with more people coming out to donate to such a worthy cause!" expressed Garcia. "It warms my heart knowing that so many want to give to such an amazing group and knowing that it helps our local children and families makes it even better."



DeLand Cheese Festival



Food Brings Hope gratefully received \$5,000 in proceeds from the Inaugural Florida Cheese Festival sponsored by the West Volusia Tourism Advertising Authority.

"Food Brings Hope has enriched the lives of so many of Volusia County's underprivileged young people. We applaud and honor them, and want to show our support," said Renee Tallevast, Executive Director of the West Volusia Tourism Advertising Authority.

The Florida Cheese Festival presented by Stella Artois was well attended with over 1,500 participants. The event featured an array of cheeses, live music and a special film presentation.

"I had a great time talking to people about Food Brings Hope. It's a subject I never get tired of telling people about," said Priscilla Sparks, FBH lead volunteer. "So many people I gave the brochures to commented 'what a special thing to do - feeding children/families.'"

Over 35 Food Brings Hope volunteers were in attendance to distribute samples of cheeses from various countries. Volunteers for the day included Synergy Billing employees, Starke Elementary teachers, and students from Spruce Creek and Taylor Middle High. DeLand High School's advanced placement art students donated artwork to be sold at the festival. There was also a dessert table and over \$225 worth of sweets, made by 5th grade students from Tomoka Elementary, Dana and Kayla Kargar, were sold.



Hope for the Hungry Campaign



In December of 2015, Food Brings Hope launched a fundraising campaign called Hope for the Hungry. This campaign is aimed to ensure 350 of Volusia County's neediest students and their families benefit from the nonprofit's weekend food bag program. In January 2016, over \$8,000 was raised to



provide Volusia County's neediest families with weekly groceries.

For just \$40 a month, donors can ensure that a family will receive a food bag each week for as long as they are willing to donate. When meals are provided, economically disadvantaged families are able to dedicate their limited funds to paying their rent and utilities thus avoiding becoming homeless. We believe through the Hope for the Hungry campaign, our community is able to reduce homelessness among Volusia County students.

The weekend grocery bag initiative involves the distribution of 40-pound bags of non-perishable food items plus six pounds of frozen meats provided in partnership with Halifax Urban Ministries (HUM). A bag of groceries can feed a family for a weekend.



Kids Helping Kids

FBH received the profits from a lemonade stand owned and operated by Adrianna Mortola, Cami Kent, Evelyn Kent, and Kathryn Dana, all of Ormond Beach.

While on Spring Break, the group of young ladies decided to spend their time off from school giving back to the community.



Dr. Chris Kent, a surgeon with Florida Hospital, met Food Brings Hope Founder and Chair, Forough Hosseini, at a fundraising event and later shared with his daughter, Cami, and wife, Connie, about Food Brings Hope (FBH) and its efforts to eradicate hunger and homelessness in the community. The girls did more research into FBH's mission and vision and decided they wanted to raise funds to benefit the organization.

"We were so happy to raise money for Food Brings Hope," says Connie Kent. "It sounds like a wonderful charity that we would like to continue to be a part of."

Karen Jans, local resident and a longtime supporter of FBH, was on her way home when she saw signs advertising a lemonade stand down the road. The young ladies stayed until 6 p.m. raising funds and donations in the name of Food Brings Hope.

"I am very impressed with the generosity and thoughtfulness of these young ladies," said Forough B. Hosseini, FBH founder and chair. "Acts of kindness like this, have the power to change our community and inevitably our world. Mrs. Kent is an amazing role model for her girls and their friends; enabling them to learn how to give back while learning about running a small business and how to handle money. I am delighted FBH is the recipient of their hard work! Kudos to these young ladies!"

2015-2016 PARTNERSHIP FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

Jersey Mike's Subs Presents Food Brings Hope with Proceeds from 'Month of Giving' Campaign

For the second year in a row, FBH was presented with the proceeds from Jersey Mike's Subs Annual March "Month of Giving" fundraising campaign.

"Jersey Mike's is all about giving back to the community," said Bryan Price, Jersey Mike's Subs Franchisee Owner. "We've always loved working with our local nonprofits and it's wonderful that proceeds will be going directly to our local kids. It's exciting to know that making sandwiches for one day can help the entire community."

A total of \$13,077.27 was raised during the month long campaign that concluded on the "Day of Giving" when participating Jersey Mike's restaurants donated 100 percent of the day's sales to Food Brings Hope. Throughout the month of March, customers made donations to Jersey Mike's locations in Daytona Beach, Ormond Beach, and Port Orange.

"It's always a pleasure to help out such a great cause," said Tyler Freese, Jersey Mike's Subs Volusia Marketing/Catering Director. "It was a great turnout this year and I'm hoping we can raise more in 2017."

In 2015, local Jersey Mike's Subs selected FBH to be the partner for the annual campaign and presented FBH with a check for \$9,255.31 to go towards the nonprofit's programs and services.



Golf Tournament



Over \$4,500 in proceeds was collected and donated to FBH from the 3rd Annual Double Deuce Invitational Tournament held at Plantation Bay Golf & Country Club. The main sponsor, Ameris Bank, sponsored the event at \$2,500.

The tournament, designed to raise awareness and funds for the local nonprofit, was spearheaded by Ali H. Kargar, Corporate Vice President of ICI Homes.

"There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching out and lifting people up by making a difference in their lives," said Kargar. "On behalf of all the Double Deuce Golf Tournament participants, we are proud to be able to help with the mission of Food Brings Hope."

Thirty contestants, paired in teams of two, enjoyed light refreshments before starting the weekend early with a little friendly competition. The day event started with participants meeting on the Club de Bonmont Golf Course for check-in and warm up before competing against each other for cash and prizes.



Curves



Curves Gym/South Daytona selected FBH to be the beneficiary of \$1,289 in donations from a recent food drive in which their members participated.

For the last 15 years, Curves Gym in South Daytona / Port Orange has participated in the Curves International Food Drive where they select a local charity to benefit from either collected food items or donations so that the charity itself can purchase food from a local food bank.

The gym's members purchased a donation card with the amount of food they would "sponsor" on the card and then would hang it on the Curves donation wall.

"It was so exciting to see the wall filled with donations from the members and very satisfying to know that the food donations will help people in our community's backyard," said Deb Stokes, owner and manager of Curves South Daytona. "Our goal over the last few years has been to collect enough donations to purchase 10,000 pounds of food. The ladies at Curves in South Daytona / Port Orange are so generous and always rise to the occasion."

FBHonors — Elementary Schools

At the end of the year, all 28 FBHonors students attended the EPCOT trip. We graciously thank Food Brings Hope for supplying the bus and making the trip possible.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Hosseini and Food Brings Hope we were able to provide high achieving students with daily enrichment in the STEM areas.



Science Fair Projects: All of our FBHonors students completed and participated in this year's Science Fair. These students volunteered at the nursing home twice, and even explored space at the Kennedy Space Center.



A special surprise for us was the presentation of iPads to the students who had not received one last year. With this individual technology, FBHonors students are able to do research for papers and projects, using their own tool, at school or from home.

FBHonors—Middle and High Schools

Students that participate in FBHonors begin their journey in elementary school and transition to middle school. During this school year, the students completed STEM related activities such as Newton's Tool Box. The tool box is full of experiments that the students completed such as Newton's theories. One experiment had the students using several vehicles (toys) and having them run courses from different heights and angles. The students were clocking the speed and measuring the length that the vehicle traveled.

Students also worked with Ms. Kristie Long from Mainland High on science related activities such as precipitation. The students also recently received electronics from Mrs. Hosseini in the form of laptops and iPads. The students were joyous on receiving the gifts and expressed their gratitude to her. Without those gifts, the students would not have been able to complete some of their school assignments. The exposure and recognition the students receive through this program are life changing ones and for this they will be eternally grateful.



EDITH I. STARKE ELEMENTARY

Edith I. Starke Elementary School, located in DeLand, FL, is proud to have continued our partnership with Food Brings Hope's KidsZone program. The Edith I. Starke learning community meets all challenges by building on the strengths and diversity of our community. We hold high expectations for all students, ensuring their success in learning. The FBH program supports our goal of meeting challenges by building on the strengths and diversity of our community.

Starke Elementary School's KidsZone group consisted of approximately 30 students, grades 4 and 5. Students were selected by classroom teachers and then approved by Mr. Copeland, the principal, as well as Mrs. Fontaine and Mr. Senez, the club sponsors. An introductory meeting was held for all students who were invited, along with the opportunity for their parents to accompany them to lay out the expectations, activities, and the values of the KidsZone program, at Starke Elementary School.

During weekly meetings, which included social skill development, goal setting, community building, team building activities, accountability initiatives, gardening, and snacks, students worked together to build on and instill positive traits in themselves, as well as others on our campus and in our community. Students in KidsZone were challenged to display positive character traits and help continue to build up our school-wide, PRIDE Expectations; Positive Attitude, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Excellence. Because our KidsZone students are natural campus leaders, we believe that exhibiting model behaviors, while owning personal choices and identifying alternative actions to undesirable behaviors, will help continue to raise the awareness of the school-wide, PRIDE Expectations, while modeling desired behaviors for younger students to follow.

Grades, attendance and conduct improved from the beginning of the school year to the end of the school year, in regards to students in KidsZone. Our school academic and discipline data suggests that the fourth-graders in KidsZone made the most academic improvement, while the fifth graders made the most behavioral improvement. Food Brings Hope has continuously worked with our school to provide programs like KidsZone, provide groceries for families in need, provide funding for school and community beautification, as well as a warm smile and a hug to the students who've had an opportunity to encounter any of the FBH representatives.

A few highlights from some of the activities include our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Ahr, scoring a touchdown in her first ever flag football game at Starke Elementary School, with KidsZone; the Daytona State College Winter Concert at the News-Journal Center; the always popular Embry-Riddle Basketball Game and pep-talk from the coach and players; as well as a bowling extravaganza; rounded out with the Food Brings Hope end of the year celebration dinner and talent show!

Edith I Starke Elementary School is a Title 1 school, with a 78% minority rate and a 98% Economically Disadvantaged Rate. All students at Starke Elementary School achieve success due to a diverse, caring, committed learning commitment of teachers, families, school support staff, and community partners, such as Food Brings Hope. We are thankful to be a part of anything associated with Food Brings Hope, and look forward to continuing our partnership next year, while continuing to help the students at Starke Elementary School rise!



Nashante Wyche and Pedro Albarran

McInnis Elementary School is a Title I school that is located in DeLeon Springs. Of the 360 students enrolled at McInnis, over 90% of the students receive free and reduced lunch. McInnis' KidsZone has approximately 35 members in fourth and fifth grade and is sponsored by Laurie LaMondie. With the newly formed relationship with Food Brings Hope, the students at McInnis Elementary School have been fortunate to participate in a variety of events and activities, such as an Embry Riddle Basketball game, Wells Fargo Hands-On Banking program, and the Daytona State College dinner and concert. Prior to dinner at Daytona State, the students were taken on a very informative, guided tour of the college that ignited very exciting conversations about future studies.

Additionally, the students had weekly meetings that focused on the development and enrichment of their reading and social skills. Based on the district ELA assessments, the KidsZone students have increased their reading comprehension skills. Most impressive has been their ability to work together and their compassion for others. The special projects always focused on supporting and thanking others, such as local veterans and teachers. Food Brings Hope was also instrumental during the holidays to ensure the KidsZone students were "visited" by Santa through the gracious donation of various gifts.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not," the Lorax. Thank you, Food Brings Hope, for caring. McInnis Elementary School KidsZone is already planning for next year!



John Ramirez and Kaley Gonzalez

To me, volunteering involves more than donating some of your free time. It requires finding out what it takes to make a project successful and giving it your all, even if you have to work through half the night, night after night...

Forough B. Hosseini

OSCEOLA ELEMENTARY

KidsZone is possible at Osceola Elementary by the generous sponsorship of Food Brings Hope. Countering the influences of poverty, this organization provides tutorial resources, nutritional snacks, hot meals, and special events for our low-performing students in third, fourth, and fifth grades. In both student confidence and achievement, FBH is making a difference!

Our KidsZone program is home to 47 students throughout the school year. Able to focus on their reading and math skills two days each week, students receive a nutritional snack on both days with a hot meal on Thursdays. Fifth grader, Luke R., exclaimed, "We love the fact that we can get help on the things we didn't understand in class and we sometimes get to play Kahoot!"

Osceola was blessed again this school year when Food Brings Hope donated an extraordinary amount of gifts for our KidsZone students. We were able to make the holidays memorable for our students by sending them home with a wrapped gift. Aeja B., a 5th grader, shared, "I was so happy to see all my hard work pay off and earn the bike for Christmas." Impressed and moved by the teamwork and speeches presented by the Head Coach and players during the pregame, our students participated in an Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Basketball game.

We were honored to perform at the Talent Showcase at the Food Brings Hope End-of-Year Celebration. Osceola students were excited to showcase their "Synchronized Swimming" for the organization. Hunter C. exclaimed "I'm so excited to be a leader in our performance!" Peyton F. and Luke R. were honored by Mrs. Hosseini and Mrs. Winch for their excellent citizenship during KidsZone this school year. Peyton shared, "KidsZone has helped me be more confident!"



Food Brings Hope has also created a wonderful partnership with the Daytona Beach Hilton and Osceola Elementary. This partnership is able to feed some of our families on weekends and the summer with non-perishable items every week. The Daytona Beach Hilton has also provided 100 backpacks for our students! We are so grateful to be partnered with the Daytona Beach Hilton and Food Brings Hope to reach the needs of our students and families.

Food Brings Hope is an organization that puts children first. They make it possible for students to feel welcomed and, most importantly, successful in their educational goals. We are deeply grateful for Food Brings Hope and look forward to many years of partnership to provide learning opportunities, care, and hope for our students.



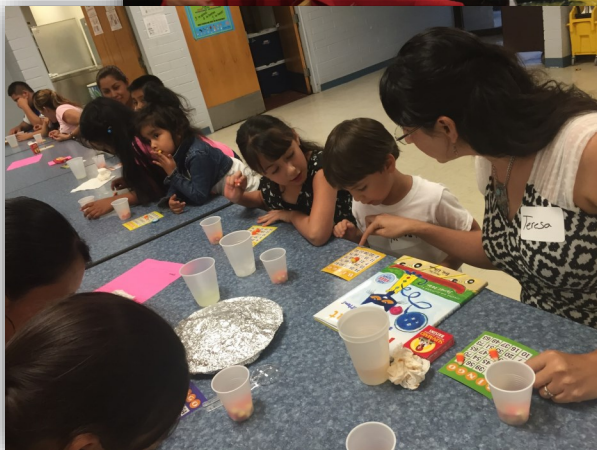
Luke Raymond and Peyton Fitzgerald



Thank you, Food Brings Hope!

Pierson Elementary is thankful to have an established partnership with Food Brings Hope. Our students are able to participate in KidsZone, FBHonors, and the weekly Family Literacy Program, which is sponsored through a partnership between Food Brings Hope and the Barbara Bush Foundation. Approximately 40 students participate in these programs each week. With the help of school staff and Daytona State College volunteers, parents and community members learn English and parenting skills. In addition to free language instruction, participants also receive dinner, childcare, and literacy resources at no cost. The generous support of Food Brings Hope provides after hours transportation, which allows access to extracurricular experiences for our students. Many of our families also benefit from the weekly food deliveries, which are provided by Halifax Urban Ministries and Food Brings Hope.

Our school data indicates an improvement in literacy skills for participating students, as well as improved communication skills among the adults enrolled in the Family Literacy Program. Each family received an iPad to access instructional resources at home. In addition to increased literacy and achievement, our students are able to enjoy many different activities and experiences as a result of our partnership with Food Brings Hope. Events sponsored by Food Brings Hope include: Daytona State College Winter Concert at the News-Journal Center, a tour of Daytona State College, Embry Riddle basketball game, free admission to the Nutcracker performance at the Peabody, and the End of the Year Award ceremony at the News-Journal Center.



Thank you Food Brings Hope -
for ALL you do!
- Pierson Elementary Administration,
Faculty, Students and Parents



Jarrett Cervantes and Celeste Rubio (not pictured)

BARBARA BUSH LITERACY FOUNDATION PROGRAM



Each Tuesday night, students from Pierson Elementary and their families gathered in the elementary school's classrooms to participate in the Pierson Family Literacy Program. This two-generational program helps parents improve their skills in English plus reading and writing skills while their children receive additional support for their own literacy development in another area of the school.



The Pierson Family Literacy Program is provided by Food Brings Hope through a partnership with the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation.

"It's our honor to partner with Forough Hosseini to bring family literacy to Pierson," said Liza McFadden, President and CEO of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy. "Simply put, there's nothing we love more than the opportunity for parents to come to school and learn with their children. It's the greatest example of parental involvement we know."

Each week student volunteers, from Daytona State College's Quanta Honors College, travel to Pierson to help the families reach their goals. Student volunteers were recruited by Daytona State English Professor Frank Gunshanan after Mrs. Hosseini met with him and shared her goals for the new program.



"The Pierson Family Literacy program has provided an excellent opportunity to assist newly-arrived members of our community and serves not only elementary-school students, but their families, as well as our Quanta Honors College student volunteers, many of whom are first-generation Americans. They also know full well the unique challenges of integrating into a new culture," shared Gunshanan. "Although Tuesday tutoring often means a twelve-hour day for them, all are passionate about being part of this unique initiative and look forward to working one-on-one with kids and adults every week."

Participating families celebrated the conclusion of the program and reaching their educational goals at their end of the year celebration.

Parents and children completed post tests and surveys to analyze their growth throughout the program. More than half of the parents enrolled made great improvements in writing and speaking in the English language along with perfecting their parenting skills. The children made vast improvements in their literacy skills and gained new reading activities for the summer break.



Food Brings Hope would like to thank the following individuals who graciously provided their time and skills to help these families: Priscilla Sparks, Kathy Clark, Amy Dunlap, Ava Gormley, Kathy Clark, Frank Gunshanan and the Daytona State College's Quanta Honors College student volunteers, Miriam Castaneda-Osorio, Kayla Farley, Gilarys Garcia-Milan, Preston Johnston, Danjha Leon, Kayla Lillie, Jose Villalobos, and Kirstin Miller.

TURIE T. SMALL ELEMENTARY

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Turie T. Small Elementary, located in Daytona Beach, is proud to be sponsored by Food Brings Hope. We had a great 2015-2016 year and memories that will last forever.

Turie T Small KidsZone program consists of about 80 students participating from grades 1-5. With the support of Principal, Stephen Hinson, Turie T. staff, and ERAU volunteers, the KidsZone Program offers students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, such as youth development activities, art, music, and recreation programs. Technology education programs and character education programs are designed to complement the regular academic program of participating students.

KidsZone students meet daily to eat dinner, complete homework, create projects, attend field trips and many other academic enrichment activities. With the help of additional sponsors from Daytona Beach West Rotary Club and Girls On The Run (GOTR), students were able to experience many new activities. Rotary Club provided weekly Reading Buddies, Board Game Days, and weekly tennis lessons. GOTR provided weekly mentoring and exercise activities for KidsZone girls. GOTR concluded a great year with a 5K run that KidsZone students participated in! KidsZone students were also able to experience field trips to ERAU basketball game, Campus Tour of Daytona State College, Food Brings Hope Winter Concert, and FBH End of Year Awards Ceremony.

To encourage parent involvement, KidsZone provides, families of students, learning center opportunities for literacy and related educational development. Leaders within our community came to speak with our parents and students. Guest Speakers and topics included:

- ◆ Raising Children with a Positive Self Image, Assertive Discipline, Dawn Parr; Family Therapist Raising Drug Free Children, Kenya Turner Stewart Marchman-Act
- ◆ Assertive Discipline, Dawn Parr; Family Therapist
- ◆ Handling Peer Pressure and Bullying, Cari Hankard; Guidance Counselor Turie T Small Elementary
- ◆ Making the Right Choices, Honorable Judge Fields
- ◆ Raising Physically Fit Children, Andrea Thorpe MD Halifax Health Keech Center

The Turie T. Small Elementary family believes in creating an academic, safe, and respectful environment to ensure our children will learn and reach their full potential to compete in our global society. We would like to thank Food Brings Hope for all of the support for our students, parents, and community.



Fabian Jeune and Almany Hunt

WESTSIDE ELEMENTARY

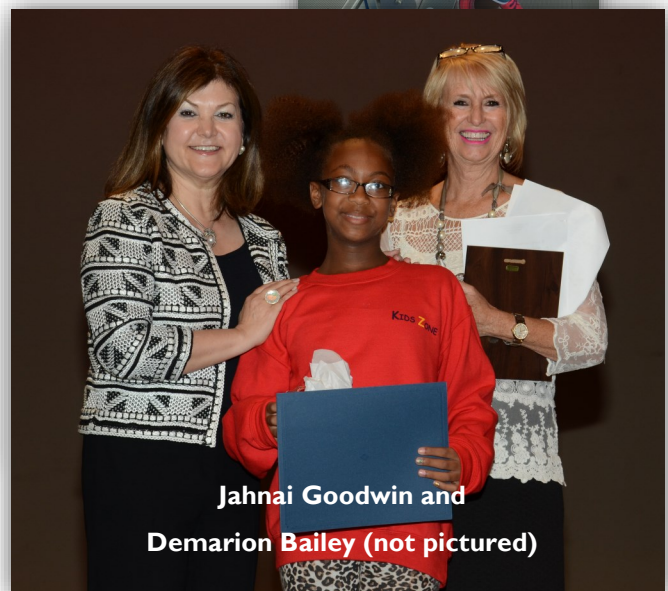
Food Brings Hope has been an integral support for our after school program. This year we had so many opportunities afforded to our students we would not have had without the support of FBH.

Hope for the Holidays: Last Christmas our students and their families celebrated the first "Hope for the Holidays". This program allowed the cooperation of many organizations to provide clothing, food, and toys for 90 of our most needy families.

Soroptimist Club: This group taught and mentored 15 of our 5th grade girls afterschool. The girls learned the importance of education, etiquette, and equality. Soroptimist/LiveYourDream.org teaches girls to be strong, successful, happy adults. Dream It, Be It targets girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. It provides girls with access to professional role models, career education and the resources to live their dreams. The Soroptimist Club worked in partnership with girls in small groups or in a conference setting to provide them with the information and resources they want and need to be successful. The topics covered included career opportunities, setting and achieving goals, overcoming obstacles to success and how to move forward after setbacks or failures.

We had the opportunity to attend various field trips sponsored by FBH. These included a basketball game at ERAU. The children enjoyed hearing Coach Steve Ridder speak and then were presented a blue and gold basketball of their very own. At Christmas, tickets to the Peabody were appreciated and being able to take family members too was a special treat.

It was a unique experience participating in the End of the Year Talent Showcase at the News-Journal Center. We were very proud of our National Anthem singer, Ariah King.



Campbell Middle School's after school program called, Campbell's Night Alive (CNA), has worked with Teen Zone 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 TeenZone events they would not ordinarily have had the opportunity to experience. Those events included the Daytona State College Holiday Concert, ERAU basketball game, Daytona International Speedway trip and the student rewards program at The Daytona Beach News Journal Center.

In addition to all that Mrs. Hosseini funds, Campbell's Night Alive is funded through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant. These funds provide the salaries and supplies for certified teachers to empower students in the following areas: reading and math tutoring, science, individual fitness, team sports, technology, and art education. Campbell also completed a community service project that focused on painting and landscaping a senior citizen's home.



Coach Freeman taught the students the basic/fundamental skills of volleyball, soccer, pickle ball, flag football, basketball, and lacrosse. The skills were necessary to equip the students to be successful in popular modified game situations. Coach taught bike safety, fitness/health concepts and usage of different exercise equipment. Lastly, basic CPR and first aid knowledge were introduced to provide the students with the skills and knowledge to develop and maintain a healthy, active lifestyle for the rest of their lives.

This year, Mr. Kung asked the students to make observations regarding the world around them in an effort to explore and foster an intuitive sense of the scientific world. They were instructed on the use of microscopes as well as the fundamentals of observation and scientific study with an emphasis on creating models based on their findings. Students created experiments with controlled variables as well as observed their living environment, both microscopic and macroscopic. All lessons were designed with minimal instructions in order to allow the students to discover the creative facets of the scientific method.



Cemiyah Talton and
Aryyana Moten (not pictured)



HOLLY HILL K-8

Holly Hill School K-8 was pleased to have the support of Food Brings Hope this year! Holly Hill School selected 40 students to participate in our KidsZone and TeenZone program. Our participants, for the school year of 2015-2016, consisted of students in grades 4 thru 7. The students were selected based on their previous participation and teacher recommendation.

With the support of Food Brings Hope, we were able to provide homework help and enrichment activities; while building social skills to improve relationships among our students, parents, and teachers. Throughout the year, students were engaged in activities including arts and crafts; health and wellness; and etiquette sessions to help provide a variety of new learning experiences. Students were provided the opportunity and encouraged to implement their new learning experiences in their daily routines.



Thanks to our sponsor, Mrs. Newmon, our students received nutritious meals and were introduced to a new fruit or vegetable with each dining experience at our school. The Holly Hill School sponsors, Mrs. Gadson and Mrs. Newmon, would like to express gratitude to Mrs. Fletcher, a retired Holly Hill teacher. She provided our students etiquette sessions to help build communication skills, learn good manners, and show respect for others and themselves.

By way of Food Brings Hope, our enrichment activities allowed our students to learn how to build new and improved relationships with their peers. During weekly meetings, our students learned how to work in pairs or groups to reach a common goal. For example, our students learned the importance of working together during homework help sessions. In addition, students improved their social skills through character development lessons. These lessons helped to assist our students with conflict resolution skills.

There were additional activities our students were engaged in this year. One included our "Drug Free" Tie-Dye project. In support of Red Ribbon Week our students created tie-dye shirts to promote a drug-free environment. *Holly Hill Students Say No To Drugs!*

Another opportunity provided by Food Brings Hope allowed our KidsZone and TeenZone students to experience a trip to Gaylord Palms in Orlando, Florida. Our students were grateful to experience ICE! This indoor winter wonderland which featured Walk-through holiday attraction, kept at a chilly 9 degrees; Two million pounds of hand-carved ice sculptures; Four ice slides; Six individual rooms depicting the story of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas; The Frostbite Factory - a live carving zone and final room is a breath-taking Nativity scene carved from crystal clear ice. This was an unforgettable Christmas gift for Holly Hill KidsZone and TeenZone students.



For Valentine's Day, our students showed appreciation to their parents and guardians by personalizing cards and painting ceramic gifts. To provide our students exposure to our local historic Bandshell on the Atlantic Ocean, Holly Hill Kids Zone and Teen Zone students visited the Ocean Walk Movie Theatre and Shoppes. To highlight additional field trips and field studies, our students enjoyed the tour of ICI Plantation Bay construction and home sites. The students learned the stages of how to build homes.

To support and teach our students about health and wellness, Ms. Rose provided Yoga lessons. The benefits to support the study and practice of Yoga include self-health, relaxation, and inner fulfillment. Research states Yoga at an early age encourages self-esteem and body awareness that is physical and noncompetitive. This activity supports our school-wide behavior plan by teaching cooperation, instead of opposition. Thank you to Ms. Rose, for sharing your pertinent learning experiences while fostering growth in our students!



**Nathan Simpkins and
Amber Harvey (not pictured)**

We had an amazing year! Thank you Food Brings Hope for your support!

We started our year recruiting students as we had lost so many as 8th graders the year before. We stressed participation being contingent on good behavior and citizenship. Our expectations are for grades that show effort and regular attendance in school. Our role has been one of tutors, mentors, arts and crafts, playing team sports outside, providing experiences outside of school and making sure our kids had healthy snacks and a hot meal when we met.

Our first meeting was in October and we went over the ground rules and discussed how we could help the students be successful in school. In November, we had a wonderful Thanksgiving meal featuring a turkey with all the trimmings. We all talked about what we had to be thankful for. Students were provided with a handmade blanket from the organization, Project Linus. The following week we had a wonderful time at the Embry-Riddle basketball game where the kids participated in time-out races with other schools and posed with the ER Eagle mascot. We all enjoyed our new basketballs. December featured their favorite Teen Zone meal—Tacos! They loved making their own and they had a good time! Our Christmas celebration was very special.

Our school was the lucky recipients for a truckload of toys from Volusia Builders Association. Each student was able to pick a favorite toy and the rest were distributed to five families in Southeast Volusia to make their holiday complete. The bikes we received were donated to one of the NSB elementary schools to go to a deserving child. Of course, the Holiday Concert at the Daytona News-Journal Center was beautiful and they loved the lights and decorations. Returning from the holidays, we had our Chinese New Year where the kids sampled Chinese food they never had before. We also made a chain of personal goals they wanted to achieve in 2016. They had a fried chicken picnic for lunch one day as a surprise.

In February, our students did a community project of picking up litter around the outside of the campus and enjoyed a great bowl of chili with cheese, sour cream and corn bread afterwards. In March, the students participated in a water conservation contest making posters to be hung in Edgewater. They enjoyed a 6 foot sub sandwich after they were done!

Another TeenZone field trip they enjoyed was the Plantation Bay trip where they got to see firsthand the construction business. They wore their hardhats and goggles all afternoon and asked lots of great questions. The houses were beautiful, and they especially liked the scavenger hunt at the completed model.



Three of our kids were the happy recipients of scholarships from Food Brings Hope to attend the Gradventure at Universal Studios. They had lots of fun and it was truly a night to remember. The final activity we enjoyed this year was the Food Brings Hope Talent Show! Everyone loved seeing our student's talents from across the county. Manners and respect were displayed by all in the audience.

*Thank you for a
wonderful year in
TeenZone!*



Thomas McFarland and Reilly

ORMOND BEACH MIDDLE

Ormond Beach Middle School (OBMS), located in North Ormond Beach, was elated when we received notice of being accepted into the Food Brings Hope TeenZone Program. These four months have greatly impacted and benefited our children and families here at OBMS.

Our School's Mission Statement reads: "The students of Ormond Beach Middle School will achieve with pride within a clean, orderly environment under the guidance of a knowledgeable and caring school community."

The FBH program assisted and encourages the growth of our mission by ensuring that 31 homeless students had meals in their homes and also introduced them to educational/cultural experiences they may never had the opportunity to experience. That truly showed us just how much you care.

The OBMS TeenZone embraces all students in grade levels 6th through 8th. Most of them had no knowledge of the Food Brings Hope TeenZone Program; therefore, we have taken this time to increase the knowledge of the students, as well as the parents of the new enriching/educational programs we will be offering here at OBMS for the 2016-2017 school year. Currently, the program is sponsored by Celena Stephens, and we have 25-30 students participating in the activities. We had people who volunteered their time for the projects we were able to attend this year. Our plan is to attend the OBMS Meet and Greet before the start of the upcoming school year to take applications for our TeenZone Program, that will take place Tuesdays and Thursdays every week as enrichment and continue with our food pantry Fridays. If all goes planned, we will need additional adults to assist with the program.

OBMS TeenZone attended the following Food Brings Hope sponsored events:

- ◆ ICI Homes Plantation Bay Tour
- ◆ End of the Year Celebration at the News-Journal Center

Ormond Beach Middle is a school that encompasses an array of students from diverse backgrounds and ethnicities and with increasing levels of poverty and mobility.



Justin Wiggins and Tennia Collins

**Thank you, Food Brings Hope, for providing the assistance
and support to our students and families.**

Southwestern Middle School located in DeLand, continued to “Shine” in its second year as a Food Brings Hope TeenZone sponsored program. Approximately, twenty-five TeenZone students met weekly 1-2 hours, along with their second year sponsors, Sharon Brown, Simon Franklin, newest sponsor, Nicole Small, and Principal, Mamie Oatis. During weekly meetings, which included dinner during designated homework and tutor time, students worked in groups by grade levels to complete their homework, complete various school projects, organize binders and to work on study skills. Students took full advantage of the tutoring and homework program. Teachers agree that FBH TeenZone has helped improve students' grades and attitude about learning. Sessions have become an integral part of our program. Sponsors ensure students receive well balanced, nutritious meals during meetings. Additional meals are taken home to eat as later dinners and to share with family members. HUM food bags are distributed weekly (including beyond school hours) and are also delivered to homes by TeenZone Sponsor, Sharon Brown. Special thanks to John's Appliance for the delivery of a brand new freezer.

Southwestern's TeenZone Program helped motivate and support our students. Teachers saw personal growth, improved work habits and efforts, and improved academic achievement. Parents saw improved attitudes and self-esteem. The Money Smart Banking presented by Wells Fargo and United Way's Campaign for Working Families educated students on how to budget, the importance of saving, how to use bank services to protect money, and how to invest.

The First Annual Celebration of Hope Awards and Recognition Dinner was held on May 17th in the media center. Joining us were parents, teachers, Judi Winch, FBH Executive Director, Ms. Sheila Jackson, United Way, and Efrain Alejandro, VCS Principal Intern. Students were recognized for their accomplishments in academics (Honor Roll, Straight “A”) citizenship, TeenZone Tiger Spirit, Perseverance, and TeenZone Perfect Attendance. Omari Harris and Patrice Green received the TeenZone Student of the Year Award. Jiya Hasting and Ayja Cusack received the City of Deland Star Student Award. Ms. Shelia Jackson presented a piggy bank to each student completing the Money Smart Banking Program. It is a great way to end the final meeting of the year.

Numerous other activities attended included:

- ◆ Thanksgiving Family Dinner
- ◆ The Winter Concert at the News-Journal Center
- ◆ Embry Riddle Basketball Game
- ◆ Zora Neal Hurston Educational Day
- ◆ Hispanic Heritage Day
- ◆ Black History Program/Family Dinner
- ◆ End of the Year Celebration at News-Journal Center



Patrice Green and Omari Harris

Thank you Food Brings Hope for providing the assistance and support to our students and families.
Congratulations students for another outstanding year!

TAYLOR MIDDLE-HIGH

Taylor Middle-High School (TMHS) is a rural community school serving students grades 6-12 from the DeLeon Springs, Pierson, and Seville areas. The community is filled with hard working families who value education but many lack the resources to support their children's schooling. This lack of resources stems from the fact that over 80% of the students participate in free or reduced lunch while many others cannot afford transportation outside the community. In order to help meet these challenges, TMHS has partnered with Food Brings Hope (FBH) to offer a host of educational programs to its students. These initiatives, funded by FBH, engage students, form relationships, and ultimately increase student achievement.

The 2015-16 school year kicked off with a school wide focus on monitoring and mentoring our students in need. Teachers, administrators, and counselors selected a group of 80 students who they felt had great potential to improve if involved in TeenZone activities. From our group, each student was introduced to a personal mentor they would check in with throughout the year on a weekly basis. Once a month, FBH provided funds for mentees and mentors to have a fun lunch get together with pizza and drinks. These regular meetings provided the structure for mentors to monitor students' grades and attendance which kept their academics on track. Pizza lunches were also used as incentives for good student performance on district interim assessments. Classes that achieved total scores of 80% or higher, were rewarded with a celebration.



In addition to weekly and monthly meetings, FBH also gave TMHS students exciting opportunities to travel beyond their community. The year's first large trip was to visit the campus of Embry-Riddle University for a college basketball game. On this trip, students began to connect with each other and observe what student life on a college campus is like. A second trip took students back to a college campus, but this time to Daytona State College. At Daytona State, students were able to take a comprehensive tour of the Health Sciences, Photography, Construction, Mechanics, Cosmetology, and Hospitality programs. The highlight of the trip was a special tour of the state of the art Hosseini Center where head chef Costa Magoulas let students observe the kitchen at work.

As the year progressed, it became clear that many of our students benefited from our FBH events. One example of student improvement was when an additional pizza celebration was promised for all students who raised their second quarter report cards. Remarkably, over half of our students met their goals and were eager to be recognized with their mentors at the end of the grading period. The 8th graders in this group averaged a 0.1 increase in GPA which seems small but actually a significant positive trend. More intriguing are the individual stories of students who have become engaged with school this year from TeenZone activities. Another 8th grader in particular went from missing over 15 days of school to having almost perfect attendance and straight A's, winning the Futures Foundation "Turn-Around" award. Two other students that experienced "turn around" success are being honored with an Outstanding Citizenship Award at a final end of the year celebration at the News-Journal Center.

The support of FBH at TMHS has allowed staff to implement the TeenZone program again this year with considerable success. Throughout the year, meaningful staff and student relationships have been built that stress the importance of a quality education. It is our wish that FBH is able to continue to provide this necessary partnership for TMHS in the years to come!



Jon-Paul Rodriguez and Jade Alvarado

Atlantic High School's TeenZone is the newest site added to the Food Brings Hope Family. We strive to support our students through tutoring, weekly grade monitoring, mentorship and provision of food. We also create opportunities for the students to give back to the community through various projects throughout the year. Our goal is to show our students the doors that are open for them to experience the world as a productive citizen in our world. The FBH Program supported our vision of creating opportunities for all of our students by providing students engaging cultural and community service experiences. AHS-TZ consisted of approximately 20 selected students, grades 9 and 10. Students were selected based on criteria set forth by FBH and recommendations from guidance counselors.



Weekly meetings: Students are taught to advocate for themselves to maintain passing scores by conferencing with teachers, completing missing work and meeting all requirements to correct and retake assessments. Each month was dedicated to a type of community service project and students worked together to compose and submit poetry for our Literacy Fair.

Grades/Attendance: More than 63% of our members increased or held their GPAs between Q2 and Q3. The number of students who hold a GPA above 2.0 increased from 63% to 73.6%. Attendance and behavior also improved inside and outside the classroom. Members have found the accountability that FBH offers keeps them focused on their education.

Community involvement and Cultural Experiences:

December - We conducted a toiletry drive, where students collected socks and other important items for the Homeless. We then toured Halifax Urban Ministries to see how the organization operated and donated our items.

January - We took pride in our community and cleaned up our road ways around our school by collecting several bags of litter on Reed Canal Road. Many students experienced their first Broadway Production, Beauty and the Beast, at the Peabody Auditorium.

February - We paid tribute to those who fought to maintain our freedom. We went to a VA assisted living facility to spend quality time with the residents and play games like checkers, chess, and word games.

March - Our students created "spring survival kits" for our new VPK students. AHS-TZ was able to deliver the items and interact with the delightful and grateful Shark "pups".



April - Students visited Stetson University and attended a collegiate baseball game against Bethune-Cookman University.

Our students were introduced to Thai, Cajun, Southern and Mexican cuisine. They learned traditional etiquette and expectations of family dining in diverse cultures. We thank FBH for giving our students the opportunity to have these experiences. Our students are grateful for all

the wonderful opportunities and support you have provided for our school.

Our TZ members have bonded and work together like a family. They offer support to one another and encouragement. We thank our Principal James Tager and everyone from Food Brings Hope, for giving Atlantic High School students hope.

AHS Teen Zone also attended the following Food Brings Hope sponsored events:

- ◆ The Daytona State College Winter Concert at the News-Journal Center
- ◆ Embry Riddle Basketball Game
- ◆ Daytona State College Tour for FBH High Schools
- ◆ End of the Year Award Ceremony at the News-Journal Center



MAINLAND HIGH

This year Mainland High School students of TeenZone celebrated community service, STEM initiatives, and academic enrichment. We participated in select events in the community that supported these interests and allowed us the opportunity to learn, grow, and have a bit of fun.

We met biweekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays for study hall and group activities. Our group consisted of 20 young ladies who were very active on campus. Our members sang in the MHS chorus, were members of our undefeated MHS Girls Flag Football Team, District Championship Track Team, cheerleading squad, Science Olympiad Team, SGA, and the list goes on.



In October 2015, for the 2nd consecutive year, we celebrated the women in our community who have won the battle with breast cancer, and supported those who are still in the battle. In December, we traveled to Orlando, Florida for a bit of holiday cheer while attending ICE! at Gaylord Palms Resort. We also took part in the Daytona State Holiday Extravaganza. Not only did we enjoy dinner, but the DSC Orchestra and improv groups were awesome.

In the spring, we attended DSC STEM Symposium. We took in a softball game at ERAU, and of course were amazed to see our fellow TeenZoners honored at the End of the Year Celebration. We thank Food Brings Hope for affording us the opportunity to take part in this organization.



We appreciate everything you have done for us.

Here's to many, many more eventful years!



Esmeralda Ramirez and Christy Hall



The 2015-2016 school year marked the fifth year of Spruce Creek's participation in the Food Brings Hope TeenZone Program. We had a wonderful year and as always, we are extremely grateful for the opportunities that FBH has provided us. As a sponsor, it has been a tremendous experience watching our Teen Zone graduates progress over the last four years through their involvement with this program. This year we have five senior participants who will be graduating, not only from the program, but from high school as well. We are very excited for these students, but saddened to see them leave.

At the same time, it was very exciting to welcome our group of newcomers including eight freshman. Our group was similar in size to years past with fifteen full-time members participating on a weekly basis. We met weekly after-school on Wednesdays, where students received tutoring and academic support. Students also utilized this time rigorously to catch-up on any homework or school projects they may have had, and their willingness to help and encourage each other was a joy to witness.

This invaluable opportunity was made possible only by the transportation home provided by FBH. In addition, students were provided afterschool snacks, which were extremely appreciated. These items, provided by FBH, not only made this program possible, but it helped make the experience enjoyable. Again, we are extremely grateful.

In addition to the weekly meetings, our students were able to attend several FBH sponsored events. First, we attended the Embry Riddle Basketball Game Event. Our attendees had a terrific time listening to the motivational message provided by the coach and players followed by an exciting game.



A new, and very exciting, event that we attended this year was a guided tour of the Daytona State College Campus. Students were shown the numerous programs the college offers, including nursing, cosmetology, welding, photography, hospitality and culinary. This was all in addition to the general higher education classes designed for students looking to attend a four-year institution. Students really enjoyed touring the facilities and several of the graduating seniors plan on attending in the fall.

Finally, we attended the FBH End-of-Year Awards Ceremony and Talent Showcase at the News-Journal Center. Our students were entertained by student performances from other participating schools and two of our students, Alexis Michael and John Alexander, were presented with Citizenship awards and gift certificates. The event was enjoyed by all attendees.

Again, we at Spruce Creek cannot fully express the gratitude we have for Food Brings Hope and all of the opportunities they provide our students.

As always, we look forward to a continuing and lasting partnership and many TeenZone years to come.



Alexis Michael and John Alexander

KIDS ZONE



TEEN ZONE

SPECIAL THANK YOU

Numerous groups have come forth to help us accomplish the Food Brings Hope Mission;
We would like to recognize and thank our Donors, Sponsors and Partners for 2015-2016.

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100% of donations to Food Brings Hope directly benefit students.*

How You Can Make a Difference Today

Food Brings Hope greatly appreciates and accepts any contributions. 100% of all donations go directly toward our programs that support children in our community!

You can contribute directly to Food Brings Hope with a tax deductible contribution of any amount in the form of cash or check payable to Food Brings Hope.

Mail your contribution to: Food Brings Hope, Inc., 2379 Beville Road, Daytona Beach, FL 32119

You may also make a donation thru Food Brings Hope website: www.FoodBringsHope.org

For more information on how to donate, please contact us at 386.843.1161

History

2007-2008

- Teen Zone Pilot program started at Hinson
- 27 students in program

2008-2009

- Expanded to 5 schools: Westside and Osceola Elementary; Campbell, Hinson and NSB Middle
- 245 students enrolled

2012-2013

- Programs hosted in 10 Volusia County Schools with 5 elementary and 5 Middle and High Schools
- Expanded FBHonors to Campbell Middle
- Expanded Weekend Feed-A-Family to over 100 families
- 500 students enrolled

2009-2010

- Expanded to 6 Schools adding Turie T. Small Elementary
- 395 students enrolled in KidsZone and TeenZone

2013-2014

- Programs expands to eleven schools, adding Mainland High School
- FBHonors expanded to serve two middle schools as well as Westside
- Weekend-Feed-A-Family expanded to serve close to 200 families
- 550 students enrolled

2010-2011

- Expanded to 7 schools, New Smyrna Beach High became the first High School to hold a Teen Zone Club
- Program continued to expand offering more opportunities
- 420 students enrolled

2014-2015

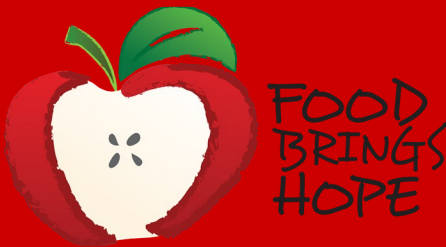
- Program expanded to 13 Volusia County Schools, FBH welcomed Southwestern Middle and Champion Elementary
- Expanded FBHonors to three middle schools plus Westside
- Provided 6,000 weekend grocery bags to 233 families

2011-2012

- Expanded to 9 schools, adding two High Schools
- FBHonors Pilot program started at Westside
- New program partnerships formed
- 450 students enrolled

2015-2016

- Now serving 16 Volusia County Schools, adding McInnis Elementary, Ormond Beach Middle and Atlantic High
- 33 FBHonors student participants in two Elementary, one Middle and one High School
- Provided over 8,000 weekend grocery bags to 267 families



Food Brings Hope

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100% of your donation benefits FBH Students and Programs

2379 Beville Road | Daytona Beach, FL 32119 | 386.843.1161

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