



FOOD
BRINGS
HOPE

2010 - 2011
ANNUAL REPORT

dreams



culture



friends



life experiences



achievements





Chair's Report

Food Brings Hope (FBH) had its best year during 2010-2011 school year. The program is continuously expanded to offer more opportunities, events and services for our Kids Zone and Teen Zone students. During the past school year, New Smyrna High School became the first high school in Volusia County to hold a Teen Zone club! We are excited and thankful that Principal James Tager took the initiative to offer Teen Zone to high school! We hope other high schools can also start sponsoring FBH programs.

During the past school year, FBH hosted Anousheh Ansari, the first female space traveler! She spoke about being an engineering student and starting her own company and then she talked about what she had to do to get ready to travel to space! An amazing story!! She explained to our students that if they work and study hard with a great focus, they CAN accomplish anything they want!

We were excited to share a Holiday Dinner and the Christmas Show at DSC's News Journal Center with our students. Students were invited by Sodexo for a delicious dinner followed by a Holiday performance by DSC faculty and students. Santa Claus met the FBH students after the performance and treated them to a surprise! Later in the year, FBH students were invited to attend an Eagles basketball game. The game was preceded by an inspirational talk by Coach Steve Ridder. We are indebted to Coach Ridder as well as Dr. and Mrs. Johnson for always supporting the Food Brings Hope initiative in many different capacities. Another exciting event we hosted for the first time was a trip to Halifax Historical Museum where the students learned about the history of the Halifax area. Our students attended the Cubs baseball game where they enjoyed a great American pastime!

FBH's end of the year program was hosted at The Winners Circle of the Speedway. This was a very exciting event for all our students as well as the

faculty and board members present. Mr. Joie Chitwood, ISC's president, gave an inspirational talk to FBH students. Our students were able to tour the track and afterwards were treated to a delicious dinner, sponsored by Sodexo. Many Food Brings Hope events have been generously sponsored by Sodexo, under the leadership of Mr. Rodney Cruise. We are indebted to them and value their partnership in our program. Two students from each school, a girl and a boy, were selected by their own schools as the Outstanding Students of the Year and received a gift certificate for a bicycle as recognition for their hard work and applying their best! We are thankful to the generosity of the Speedway Corporation as well as personal involvement of Mr. Dan Houser.

One major accomplishment during the past school year was a fundraiser hosted at four of the participating schools. Westside Elementary, Osceola Elementary, Campbell Middle and New Smyrna Beach High schools hosted a "Coins for Children" fundraiser. They raised \$797.08 in two short weeks! Mr. Dan Francati generously matched the raised funds by 3-to-1! The money will be used for improving programs for the club members.

We are honored to have some of the most distinguished community members on our board. It is through the selfless giving and leadership of these individuals that FBH has been able to achieve so much in such a short time. We are indebted to our board members for four years of giving of their time and treasure.

We look forward to another exciting year for our returning club members as well as new members and are working hard to ensure FBH students are able to accomplish what is most important to them; including but not limited to enhanced academics, improved behavior, learning of other cultures, visiting colleges and universities, more participation in athletics and sporting events, and also learning to give back to the very community that has worked so hard to further enrich their lives – the lives of our **Kids Zone** and **Teen Zone** students.

Thank you,

Forough B. Hosseini, Chair

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

2010-2011 Food Brings Hope Board

Forough B. Hosseini

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Who We Are

Food Brings Hope is an initiative of the Community Foundation, a division of United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties. *Food Brings Hope* is supported by a donor-designated fund, sponsored by the Hosseini Family Foundation, committed to helping break the poverty cycle for homeless and economically disadvantaged children enrolled in Volusia County schools.

Our Mission

Food Brings Hope achieves collaborative solutions for families with children that experience hunger due to homelessness, poverty, or unfamiliarity with community resources that provide nutritional assistance. We work closely with caring partners in the school district, social service agencies, and other friends who provide us with the benefit of their time and contributions.

Some of our initiatives are programs operating at Campbell Middle School, New Smyrna Beach High School, Osceola, Turie T Small and Westside Elementary schools. These are school-based programs that provide at-risk students with meals, within the structure of a tutoring atmosphere and activities program.

Scope of the Problem

Unfortunately, there are hundreds of homeless and hungry children living right here in our own community, most of whom are school aged and sometimes un-reached by the traditional safety nets of our human service agencies. The number of identified homeless on any given school day last year was over 1,000 (source: Volusia County School District office of the Homeless Liaison).

Key Components of this Program

- Tutoring program for extra credit
- After-School transportation to and from school
- Free dinner and snacks
- FCAT Camps
- Field trips to area museums, sporting events, cultural programs, etc.
- Fun learning and activities programs
- Reward system for academic improvement, good citizenry, attendance, etc.

Florida Education Foundation and Florida Department of Education Recognizes FOOD BRINGS HOPE

**Local Businesswoman Forough Hosseini Receives Commissioner’s Business Recognition Award
for the Food Brings Hope program she established in Volusia Public Schools.**

Florida Commissioner of Education, Dr. Eric J. Smith, notified Forough Hosseini that she is a recipient of the Commissioner’s Business Recognition Award. The award recognizes those businesses throughout Florida that have shown an outstanding commitment to improving education by partnering with schools in their community. Food Brings Hope was among more than 80 recipients of the Education Commissioner’s Business Recognition Award at a gala banquet that was part of a joint conference between the Florida School Boards Association and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents held on June 9, 2011 in Tampa, FL.



Mr. William Ward, Director of Planned and Leadership Giving for United Way of Volusia-Flagler presented Mrs. Hosseini with a plaque at *Food Brings Hope* Annual Awards Banquet at Daytona International Speedway held on May 2, 2011.

*“Philanthropy, to me, is giving enough of
your wealth that it affects your lifestyle!”*

Forough B Hosseini

The School Board of Volusia County Acknowledges FOOD BRINGS HOPE

Mr. Earl Johnson, Principal at Turie T Small Elementary School, presented Mrs. Hosseini with the...

**2011 Volusia Partner of the Year award
at Turie T Small Elementary**

Food Brings Hope was recognized for its exemplary collaborative effort among the community and Volusia County Schools to enhance the education of students.

The award was also presented at *Food Brings Hope* Year End Awards Banquet May 2011.



“A hero is a person who stands up for what is right regardless of personal consequences!”

Forough B Hosseini

FOOD BRINGS HOPE "SPECIAL EVENTS"

Throughout the year, *Food Brings Hope*, along with generous sponsors creates, plans and facilitates extra special events providing students with wonderful life experiences.

Embry-Riddle Pizza & Game Night



Coaches and players from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University welcomed 230 students from **TEENZONE** and **KIDSZONE** programs on Friday, Jan. 28, 2011. ERAU Coach Steve Ridder gave an inspirational speech about working hard, honesty and respect. ERAU players Will Benjamin, men's basketball team center; Glenn Dalacourt, men's basketball team guard; and Lauren Anastase, outside hitter on the girl's volleyball team spoke to the students. ERAU athletic club boosters, ERAU Student Alumni Association and ERAU golf team members hosted the students for dinner and dessert during the event. Each student received a basketball as part of the program.

First Female Private Space Explorer & First Space Ambassador

On February 23, 2011 over 170 students gathered at Westside Elementary School. The students were so thrilled and excited to meet a "genuine" astronaut, Ms. Anousheh Ansari. Judi Winch, Mayor Glenn Ritchey and Forough Hosseini spoke to the students prior to Ms. Ansari's motivational talk. Ms. Ansari talked about believing in what you want to be and achieving those dreams. Ms. Ansari listened and answered many wonderful questions from the students.

Pizza was served outdoors at picnic tables throughout Westsides Field of Dreams recreation area. The "Westside 5" and girls dance group "Diamonds" performed.



It was a unique, motivational and personal enrichment experience for the students.

Daytona International Speedway Year End Awards Banquet



More than 300 school students celebrated the end of another great year in **TEENZONE** and **KIDSZONE**. The students, sitting at Victory Lane, heard from Mr. Joie Chitwood, International Speedway Corporation's President. Mr. Chitwood gave an inspiring speech about how hard-work and perseverance can land each of the students in the victory lane of life! The students and attending family members were treated to track tours courtesy of

International Speedway Corporation. Two outstanding students from each school were presented with citizenship awards for exemplifying a positive attitude, cooperation, respect, attention to schoolwork and good behavior. The celebration culminated with dinner served in the Daytona 500 Experience Banquet Center, courtesy of Sodexo.

A Very Special Thank You to the following FBH Sponsors:

Daytona International Speedway, Daytona State College, Embry-Riddle and Sodexo

KZ

“WESTSIDE ELEMENTARY” The “Westside Night Alive”, WNA’s, mission is to provide after-school, evening and summer physical and educational activities in a healthy, safe environment. With the help of parents, guardians, and the community we strive to be a source of motivation for the children and a place of opportunities for the families of our community. A very important partner and supporter is Mrs. Forough Hosseini and her integrated network of service organizations that together help WNA provide academic and personal enrichment activities, events and services to targeted students and families.



DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE HOLIDAY CONCERT

For the third year in a row, Mrs. Hosseini provided a very special holiday field trip for Westside’s **KIDSZONE**. Students and families, along with groups from several other schools, were bused to DSC for a special holiday dinner provided by Sodexo and then to the News Journal Center to be treated to a very enjoyable holiday concert and performance provided by Daytona State College. The food was delicious and the performance was fantastic. This was a great “life experience” for our students.

ERAU PIZZA GAME NIGHT

Mrs. Hosseini created, planned and facilitated a wonderful evening on January 28, 2011 as 75 WNA students, chaperones and other family members, as well as scores of students from several **KIDSZONE** and **TEENZONE** schools were provided a field trip to Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU). The students, many wearing bright yellow **KIDSZONE** and **TEENZONE** t-shirts, filled a complete section of the stands as they enjoyed hearing from Mrs. Hosseini, ERAU Basketball Coach Steve Ridder, players and other dignitaries.



The students thoroughly enjoyed PIZZA and treats provided by Mrs. Hosseini. The large contingent of students made for a very vocal and enthusiastic cheering section for the winning ERAU basketball squad. An annual highlight was Mrs. Hosseini’s visit with the students in the stands. Mrs. Hosseini was very loving and patient with droves of students who approached her to thank her for the event and to have her autograph their game programs. Each student was provided a special, regulation, keepsake basketball at the end of the event. We have seen those basketballs in action all Spring during evening basketball games at Westside.



COINS FOR CHILDREN

The “Coins for Children” is designed to raise money to be donated to the United Way’s Homeless program, *Food Brings Hope*. This is an opportunity for Westside students to give back. They collect spare change and put it in the collection box in their classroom. All classes at Westside compete to see which class can raise the most money. The best thing about this campaign is that the money collected will be matched by the event’s sponsor. Mrs. Hosseini typically recruits other people to match the total amount of money collected. This is truly a win-win event for our community and for Westside students. The money collected is utilized locally to help provide children of homeless families with clothes and food.

STUDENT AWARDS PROGRAM

In order to motivate students towards increased attendance, improved punctuality and improved performance, WNA holds four student awards programs per school year. Awards are presented for attendance, punctuality, improvement, achievement and citizenship. For the fifth year in a row, Mrs. Hosseini provided appropriate gifts (rewards) to all student award winners. Between 60-100 awards and reward gifts presented at each program. Mrs. Hosseini attends many of the awards programs and has spoken to our appreciative WNA students, faculty and parents. Mrs. Hosseini has also provided motivational speakers and special guests including business leaders, mayors and organization directors. The motivational and encouraging results of these efforts to our students and families are tremendous.



FCAT CAMPS

WNA facilitates five Saturday FCAT Camps to help prepare targeted students for the FCAT tests. To help incentivize students to attend and participate in five Saturday FCAT Camps, these events are designed to make learning fun and rewarding. After all, these students have been in school and WNA afterschool programs all week. These events involve 60 or more targeted students. It is so important to the students, the school and VCS to motivate the students to participate and improve. Through the years, Mrs. Hosseini has participated with WNA in FUTURES matching grant campaigns which support FCAT Camp. She also has provided support for late morning meals for all students at these events. This is a treat and part of the overall incentive and reward for participation.

DAYTONA 500 EXPERIENCE YEAR END EVENT

A very successful school year for **TEENZONE** and **KIDSZONE** was celebrated as students from four schools congregated at The Daytona International Speedway for the *Food Brings Hope*, **TEENZONE**



2010-2011 Citizenship of the Year Award Winners

Shane Brownrigg and Katelynn Phillips

Presented by

Forough Hosseini, Joie Chitwood, Judi Winch

and **KIDSZONE**, End-of-Year, Awards Program on Monday, May 2nd. Mrs. Hosseini opened the ceremony, welcomed all in attendance and subsequently introduced Joie Chitwood, President of the Daytona International Speedway. Mr. Chitwood gave an inspirational talk and included information about the speedway. The principals announced the male and female student Citizenship of the Year award winners from each school. Each award winner received a certificate and a gift certificate for a bicycle. Mrs. Hosseini was presented two educational awards and received a standing ovation from all in attendance for her many contributions to education. The students were treated to an enjoyable and informational raceway tour and to a delicious dinner provided by Mrs. Hosseini and Sodexo. It was an event to remember for all and another great life experience for our children.



Food Brings Hope sponsors **KIDSZONE** at "OSCEOLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL". **KIDSZONE** offers academic tutoring and enrichment in reading, writing, mathematics and science to students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

KIDSZONE students met on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the 2010-2011 school year. In order to accommodate the academic needs of all students, the program was divided into three sessions. The first two sessions were offered to third, fourth, and fifth graders to help them prepare for FCAT. The final session was offered to kindergarten, first, and second graders. *Food Brings Hope* provided 140 students with nutritious snacks, dinners, and transportation home.

In addition to the weekly tutoring, fifth graders had the opportunity to attend Saturday Science Camp. The students who participated received science and reading enrichment through hands on experiments and science investigations. Students also used technology, such as MacBooks, iPads, and iPods, to research topics and showcase what they learned in Science Camp!

At Christmastime, students were very excited to receive a **KIDSZONE** t-shirt and sweatshirt. They proudly wore them on our field trips to an ERAU basketball game and the end of the year awards ceremony at Daytona USA.



2010-2011 Citizenship of the Year Award Winners

Shane Brownrigg and Katelynn Phillips

Presented by

Forough Hosseini, Joie Chitwood, Marie Stratton

"TURIE T SMALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL" KIDSZONE is a *Food Brings Hope* sponsored program that provides the after-school environment for kids in need of special academic and nutritional assistance. One component of this program focuses on providing additional tutoring for students in the third thru fifth grades who need additional support.



KIDSZONE extended day program had ninety-eight participating each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Monday's reserved for 5th grade science instruction. Students were tutored for an hour and a half in the areas of reading, writing and math. Additionally 4th and 5th grade students were provided an opportunity to visit the Museum of Arts and Sciences on Wednesday for four hours. Activities involved hands-on experiments, building background knowledge through active learning and creative writing techniques.

KIDSZONE focused on providing comprehensive tutorial opportunities to increase and accelerate the academic achievement of the lowest performing students in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics. In order to provide equity and access for all the students who needed tutoring, *Food Brings Hope* provided transportation for students who lived two miles or more from school. Snacks were provided for students on Mondays and Tuesdays, with hot meals provided for the kids on Thursdays!

The most significant measurable outcome this school year has been shown using SINI scores as FCAT scores had not been received for comparison. In a three month period from September to December 2010 results showed an increase of 14.5% for fifth grade, 7.4% for fourth grade and 11.6% for third grade **KIDSZONE** Students.

Food Brings Hope sponsored several group events throughout the year! Our students attended an Embry-Riddle Basketball game and the end of the year awards banquet at the Speedway. T-Shirts and sweatshirts were also provided for each students.



**2010-2011 Citizenship of the Year
Award Winners**

Stephan Symonette and Tamia McRae

Presented by

Forough Hosseini, Joie Chitwood, Earl Johnson



"CAMPBELL MIDDLE SCHOOL" TEENZONE meets every other early Wednesday afternoon from 2:45 to 5:00. Upon reporting to **TEENZONE** at the end of the school day, the students are treated to a light nutritional snack and then focus on their homework assignments, prepare for exams, read for the Principals' 20 Book Challenge or just for pleasure. Sponsors assist the students in all subjects. The homework sessions are followed by 10 - 15 minutes

of exercise, then 35 minutes of direct instruction in math, reading and language arts. Students are, also, given an opportunity to work on the computer to receive additional assistance by logging on FCAT Explorer, as well as Math Counts. Hot meals are then served to the students. Students assist by setting the table, and passing out condiments to their fellow students. The students enjoy foods such as tacos, Sheppard's Pie (both were made with ground turkey) and chicken Alfredo. Each meal is served with either a vegetable or salad. Students drink water, crystal light or sugar free kool-aid. Meal times are always a hit with the students.

Food Brings Hope also provides opportunities for Campbell's students to attend programs such as the Holiday Concert at the Daytona State College News Journal Center and a basketball game at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. By participating in **TEENZONE**, it afforded the students the opportunity to tour the Daytona Beach Speedway followed by a delicious catered meal as a part of the annual Awards Program hosted by *Food Brings Hope*.

Campbell's third year of involvement with **TEENZONE** was a pleasurable experience shared by both students and sponsors alike. We, also say farewell to two of our dedicated eighth graders who have been a part of **TEENZONE** during their three years at Campbell, Kaylo Hannah and Valmeika Willis. We wish them much success as they enter into the next phase of their educational journey.



2010-2011 Citizenship of the Year Award Winners

Stephan Symonette and Tamia McRae

Presented by

Forough Hosseini, Joie Chitwood, Vickie Presley





"NEW SMYRNA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL" was fortunate enough to receive funding this 2011 school year to start the first official *Food Brings Hope* **TEENZONE**. We initially invited 20 freshmen to join from the get-go, and we got 8 to show at our first meeting, where the others declined due to other responsibilities they had to attend to. I believe we got a great track record because those 8 that joined originally continued to come back week after week, and stayed with us until the very end at our last meeting. In addition to that, those 8 members were strangers to each other. But if you were to look at us today, you would never know that originally we started that way because we all had the opportunity to get so close. Even though the present numbers are little, we have room for so much growth and cannot wait for next year, where we plan to have our current members return and invite some new incoming freshmen.

At NSBHS we had **TEENZONE** meet every Wednesday after school. We filled those Wednesdays with tons of different activities. One routine affair was spending the first 30-45 minutes of our meeting focusing on academics. **TEENZONE** members knew the second they entered the **TEENZONE** classroom to start working on anything they needed to get done for their classes. During this time the team leaders would walk around to help any individuals that may be struggling or just motivate them to continue doing their work. Although the students weren't sometimes thrilled to be working on homework during our club meetings, it paid off in the end, some of their grades improved and all-in-all I believe they picked up on great study habits. Once we finished the allotted time on school work, we participated in many different things, including: playing sports and board games, watching movies, creating pieces in arts and crafts, helping out at school events, cleaning the school, assisting in the recycling program, and lastly, attending many "field trips" (an Embry Riddle Basketball game, meeting astronaut Anousheh Ansari, Halifax Historical Museum, the BEACH, Daytona 500 track tour, eating out, Daytona Cubs game, and more!).

New Smyrna **TEENZONE** students were the first to participate in "Journey through DayTown" an educational program that includes a film on local history, artifact displays and re-enactors portraying area pioneers provided by the Halifax Historical Museum.

The Cuda **TEENZONE** only started this January, but as you may see we did a lot and we had a whole lotta fun doing it! We can't wait for next year to see our numbers grow and to participate in a ton more exciting things!

Thanks for letting us have this opportunity!



2010-2011 Citizenship of the Year Award Winners

Brian Dunn and Taylor Coulon

Presented by
Forough Hosseini, Joie Chitwood, Jim Tager

How You Can Make a Difference Today!

Donor Designated Fund

You can contribute directly to our donor-designated fund *"Food Brings Hope"* with a tax deductible contribution of any amount in the form of cash/check, stock, or real property. Foundation staff is available to assist you in this simple and easy process.

To Donate

Food Brings Hope greatly appreciates and accepts any contributions. For information on how to donate, please contact Bill Ward, Community Foundation Director at 386.366.9059 or Vickie Sims at 386.236.4252. All contributions are tax deductible.

"If at the moment, you don't have money to donate to a charity, donate your time and talent!"



Food Brings Hope

An Initiative of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler

Sponsored by the Hosseini Family Foundation

United Way of Volusia-Flagler Counties, Inc.

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www.FoodBringsHope.org