



Parade of Homes Charity of Choice is “Food Brings Hope”

Food Brings Hope was selected by the Volusia Building Industry Association as the 2012 Parade of Homes Charity of Choice. The Association hopes to spread awareness of an issue that has skyrocketed over the past few years in Volusia County- the large increase in the number of homeless students attending our public schools. On any given day, there are approximately 2,000 homeless children enrolled in Volusia County schools.

There is a growing concern that many students are not receiving adequate nutrition over the weekends, and it is affecting their health, behavior, and academic performance in school. In response, Food Brings Hope, in cooperation with Halifax Urban Ministries is providing a 40-pound bag of groceries to 50 Westside Elementary School children and their families weekly for the remainder of the school year. The cost is \$4 for a 40-pound bag of nutritious food!!



Naming Food Brings Hope as the Parade of Homes Charity of Choice, the Volusia Building Industry Association has placed a donation jar in each home on the Parade route. V.B.I.A. encourages those who tour the homes to make a donation, stressing that **“Just \$4 feeds a family of four for one weekend”**. For the cost of a cup of coffee, donors can provide seven nutritious meals for a family of four.

Food Brings Hope, an initiative founded by local businesswoman Forough B. Hosseini, is dedicated to helping break the cycle of poverty for homeless and other economically disadvantaged children enrolled in our local schools. The program, established in 2007, provides nourishing meals, tutoring, rewards for improvement, and opportunities to attend sporting and cultural events for students in eight Volusia County Public Schools.

The V.B.I.A. Parade of Homes runs through April 1. Parade Guidebooks are available in most Volusia Publix entry racks and online www.volusiaparade.com

For additional information, please visit our website at www.FoodBringsHope.org or email Beth@FoodBringsHope