



Annual Report 2018

From the Director's Desk

The state of our organization as we approach 2019 is healthy as we have turned the corner from a small non-profit doing some good things for a few people to a vibrant and influential leader within the community.

We've found opportunities for recognition through news stories in Florida Today, Hometown News, the Beachsider, and Ebony News. Closer to home, we've solidified our existing programs and services over the past few months, expanding our programming in alignment with our mission by increasing the number of Permanent Supportive Housing units through the purchase of the Treeridge quadplex and the Southland house.



In 2018, we added a full-time and very talented case manager who has allowed our S.O.S. program to thrive and help dozens of families over the past year. Additionally, we maintained our footing financially and put ourselves in a position to thrive as we move into 2019. We've again been approved for the HUD Continuum of Care Grant which will help support our growth to reach more families, as one of many examples of our commitment to responsible financial stewardship.

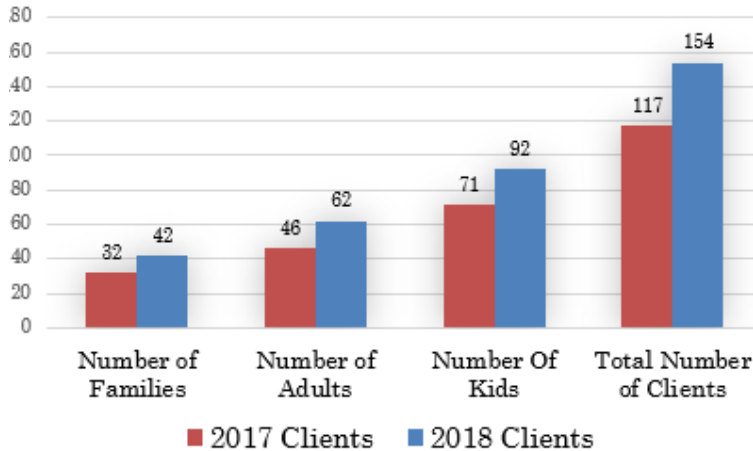
Our other new program, CAMP HOPE, was also a resounding success in service to families in allowing their children a safe place to go while school was on break. We've decided, based on family feedback and location opportunities, to take a year to secure funding so that it can be more fully realized as an educational, fun, and enriching camp experience that is accessible to all kids through exciting curriculum-based programming that encourages the exploration of the world through the arts, sciences, and technology.

Additionally, 2018 provided multiple opportunities for Community of Hope, as an agency, to step up as leaders within the Brevard Homeless Coalition and associated projects.

As we move into the new year we will focus on our core programs and look to expanding our services further north into Titusville, solidifying the gains we have made and continuing to improve and so faithfully serve our clients, our community, and our mission.

Housing Programs

Number of Clients - 2017 vs. 2018



Transitional Housing Program

A two year program focused on helping families transition from homelessness to a long-term housing solution

Permanent Supportive Housing Program

A long-term housing solution that provides stability for families struggling with overly burdensome rental rates

The number of clients assisted increased **33%** due to the addition of 5 new units being purchased during 2018

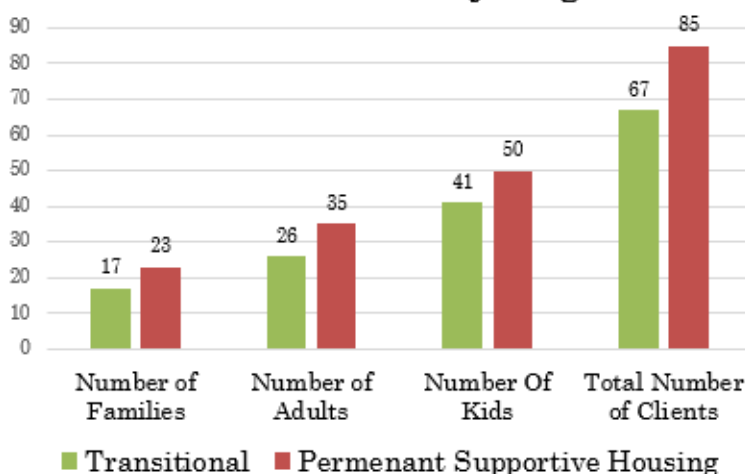
This meant **an additional 21 kids** weren't living in their cars, on couches, or in motels



Reunification Program

New this year, we had our first family participate in the Reunification Program. It is a partnership with Brevard Family Partnership that provides the opportunity to bring back together families that are working with the Department of Children and Families, when housing is the only barrier to bringing parents and their children back together.

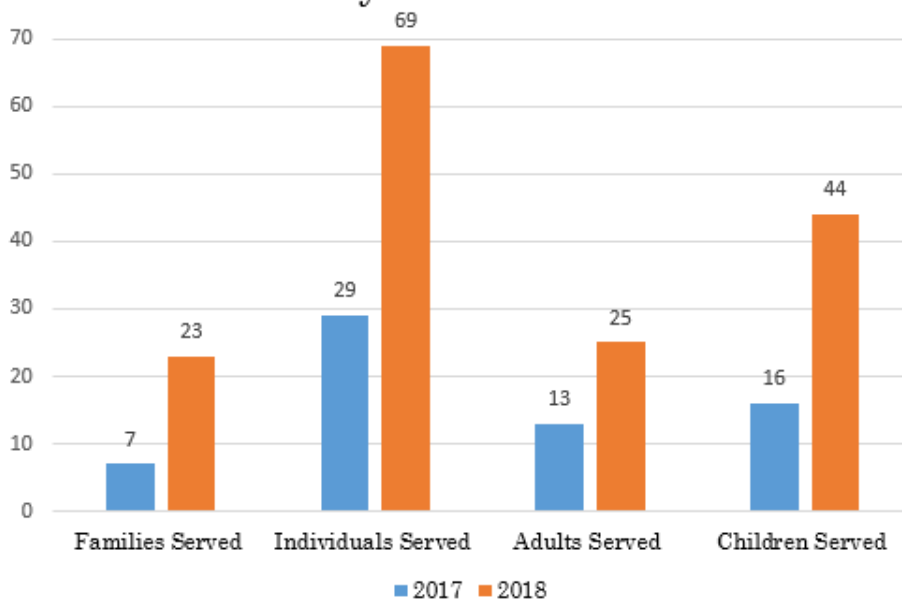
Number of Clients by Program



Safe Overnight Stay Program

Now in its second year, the SOS program is a partnership between Community of Hope, the Brevard Homeless Coalition, and 2-1-1 Brevard that provides short-term housing to families often experiencing homelessness for the first time. The goal is to get them rehoused quickly and minimize the trauma to the family.

Safe Overnight Stay Program
By the Numbers



"Dear Santa, for Christmas I just want someplace to live that's ours so we don't have to keep staying at other people's houses."

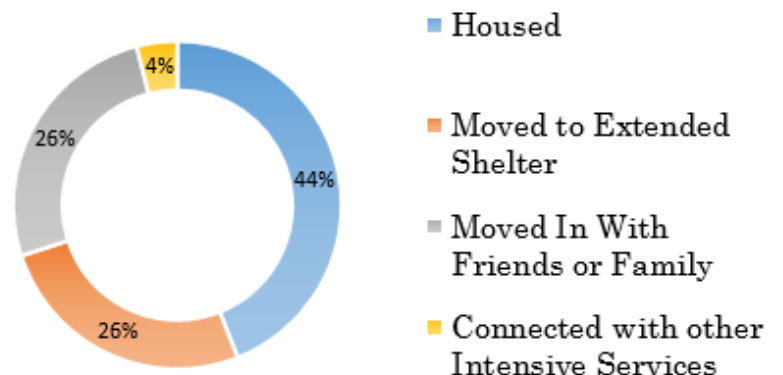
10

The average age of a child
staying in SOS Housing

13

The average number of nights a
families stayed with us before being
connected with long term housing

SOS Client Placement at the
End of Services



Camp Hope

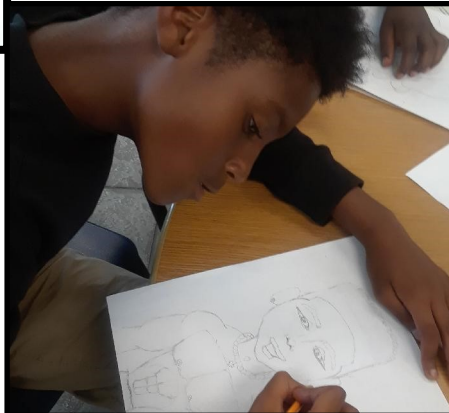
Camp Hope was a new initiative this year that focused on giving families in transition a safe and engaging place for their children to go during school breaks. Often, childcare is a major barrier to employment during these times, so it directly supported our Community mission to create such a program.



Camp Hope ran for nine weeks that included the winter, spring, and summer breaks.



Activities ranged from a variety of trips (including the Orlando Science Center) to arts and crafts on campus and was run by staff from University Park Elementary School.



100% of the families said that it positively impacted their ability to maintain employment and that their children benefited 'a great deal' based on a survey given after the camp season ended.

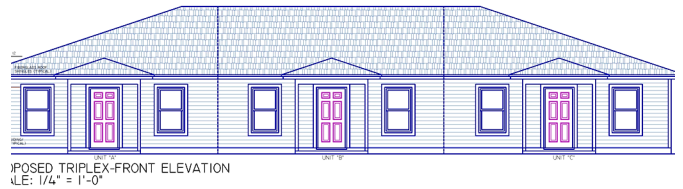


Camp Hope will be on hiatus during the summer of 2019 as the school receives needed maintenance.

We are using that time to rewrite all of the camps (nearly forty of them), to better support both our campers and teachers with STEAM-based programming that is both fun and engaging.



Looking Forward to 2019



CONTINUED COMMUNITY HOUSING LEADERSHIP

This year, we intend to continue our work as leaders in the fight against homelessness through our ongoing work within the Brevard Homeless Coalition and other community organizations.

We are also in the process becoming a Certified Housing Development Organization. This would recognize Community of Hope on the federal level as an active participant in the solution process for creating affordable housing in our communities.

Another area of focus is bringing awareness to the homeless in our communities, particularly the working poor—challenging the currently accepted narrative of homelessness, its causes, and those whose lives are affected by it. We will do this through our social media outlets and physical presence during community discussions as we collectively look for long-term solutions to prevent families from being separated by poverty.

PROJECT TITUSVILLE

Our primary campaign in the coming year will be putting the final plans together on our nine-unit community, comprised of three triplexes, to be located in Titusville.

We currently operate an S.O.S unit in Titusville, but we recognize that there is greater need for affordable housing there. This is a project that has been in the works for some time and the first steps have already come to fruition: Community of Hope already owns the land and initial plans have been made with the architect.

Looking forward into 2019, we will be working with city officials to finalize the plans, as well as with officials from Habitat for Humanity, who we've partnered with, to get a build schedule in place to make this goal a reality.

Additionally, we'll be actively looking for partners to help fund both the preliminary work and the build itself.

CAMP HOPE RENEWAL

Based on the overwhelmingly positive responses to Camp Hope, we've decided to continue the program, and most importantly introducing a STEAM and exploration based curriculum (an addition of nearly forty camp themes). Kids that are coming from low-income families are significantly more likely to be considered behind their peers once they go back to school, directly related to their access to fun and educational programming during school breaks. We're looking to break down those barriers by completely revamping the camps to include a variety of themes (such as community, self-expression, and eco-exploration) that encourage our campers to grow and ask questions about the world around them.

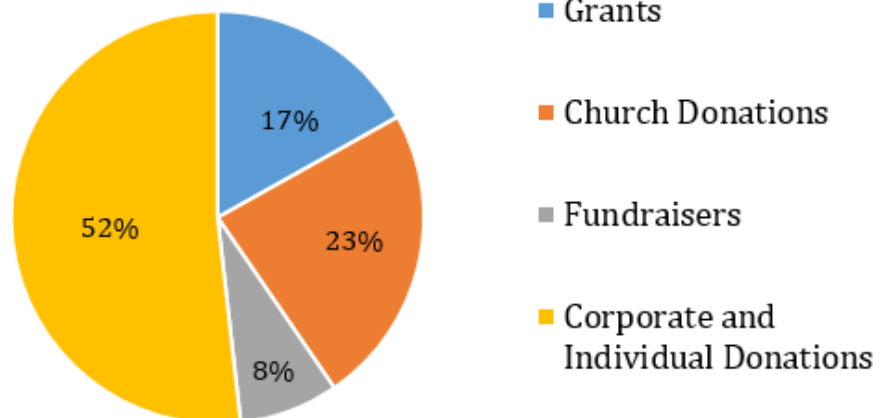
To that end, and as a result of renovations to the school where camp has been held in the past, Camp Hope will be on hiatus for the '18/'19 school year while the programs are rewritten and funding is secured through grants and charitable donations so that the cost of camp attendance is not prohibitive to the campers when it makes its debut during the winter break of next year.

Corporate Partners

Boeing
Home Depot
PNC Bank
4Cs Nursery
National Institute of Public Procurement
American Protection Systems
Skylight Counseling Services

Financial Support

Financial Support for Community of Hope
2018



Non-Profit Partners

2-1-1 Brevard
Brevard Family Partnership
Brevard Homeless Coalition
Catholic Charities
Family Promise of Brevard
St. David's By the Sea Church
Suntree United Methodist Church
Genesis House
Habitat of Humanity of Brevard
South Brevard Sharing Center
Volunteers of America
The Gale Foundation
Covenant Presbyterian
Daily Bread

Organization Leadership

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Stephanie Hopper
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Bartow Willingham
1st Vice-President

Linda Parrish
2nd Vice-President

Tracy Masters
Secretary

Becky McCowen
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Directors

Bryan Becker
Alyssa Buchanan
Fay Byrd
Pamela Davis
Judy Dolan-Wood
Megan Howard
Ray Hirst
Terry Quinlivan
Ellen Rogers



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Trustee Churches

Ascension Catholic
Ascension Lutheran
CenterPointe Church
Christian Fellowship
Covenant Presbyterian
Eastminster Presbyterian
First United Methodist of Melbourne
Highland Avenue Fellowship
Holy Trinity Episcopal
Trinity Wellsprings Church