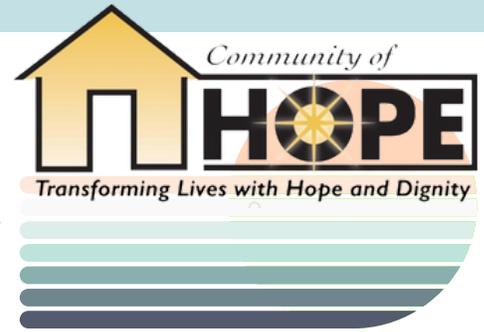


In a recent meeting of our Board of Directors, we discussed our progress through the first half of 2022. While not surprised, we were certainly pleased to find that our progress affirmed our ongoing trend of enhanced service, efficiency, and impact. Through the first half of the year, Community of Hope has served 220 households comprising 673 people. We sheltered 40 households, internally housed 35, and helped house another 141 with private landlords. **We also formally started a street outreach program finding the homeless where they are and helping connect them with the services they need to 'come home.'**



Impressively, through the first half of 2022 we served almost as many people as we did in all of 2021. More impressively, we are positioned to have a greater impact in the fall and winter when we will be able to start utilizing recently awarded grant funds, housing families at HOPE Hammock, and more fully engage street outreach program.

In short, Community of Hope continues change to lives, offering hope and a helping hand to families in need in Brevard. Thank you for all you do to make this possible; without the support of local donors and volunteers, we could not meet the needs of "the least of these."



The Homecoming Project: Bringing the Children of Brevard County Home

Community of Hope was recently awarded a grant through Brevard County to administer rental assistance funds. These funds will be used for the families of homeless school children in a program, developed in consultation with the school district Students in Transition office. This program, called the Homecoming Project will allow us to provide both shelter and rental assistance to help get families back on their feet and avert the psychological trauma, academic impairment and safety risks inherent in child homelessness.

Brevard County's first Community Land Trust

Due to the rising costs of housing, the effects of inflation, and the disproportionate impacts these factors have on lower income households, increasing numbers of previously stable households are faced with homelessness. Hotels, cars, and campgrounds are becoming residences for many. Others are able to "couch surf" or move into overcrowded conditions with family or friends. Our limited shelters and transitional housing programs are full of working families, elders on a fixed income, and vulnerable people without adequate resources to find housing. Those affected are unable to identify housing, creating a bottleneck of people in these programs. It is taking two or three times as long to get people out of shelter programs because there is inadequate inventory of affordable housing. Community Building Community: Land of HOPE will pull together affordable housing stakeholders to BUILD a more sustainable community.

In an effort to combat the housing crisis facing our County, Community of Hope has established a Community Land Trust (CLT) – Land of HOPE. A CLT allows land to be donated or acquired for the purpose of permanent affordability. Housing developed on land trust property must serve households in the low to moderate levels of income and takes the cost of land acquisition out of the cost of the home.



Ready for HOPE: Trailblazers with Ways for LIFE

Ready for HOPE, a partnership program with WAYS for Life Brevard and the Housing Authority of Brevard County takes a big step in building independence for youth phasing out of foster care. Last month, a home was made ready for two young men coming out of foster care, thanks to the support of the Air Force for renovations,



This is a chance for these young men to live independently as young adults and not to worry about where they will lay their heads for the night. This trailblazing collaboration between Community of Hope, WAYS for Life and the Brevard Family Partnership will provide a model for others to follow. With a safe space and the support of the community, these young men will have a good foundation to launch their adult life.



Community of Hope Resident makes Impassioned Plea for Affordable Housing

The Arp family was referred to Community of Hope by Genesis House in 2019 after having been split between shelters and the street. Brittney and Jared have turned their lives around and are now looking to become home owners. They have overcome the trauma of homelessness, now they are faced with the struggle to find affordable permanent housing in Brevard County. Brittney took a stand and let the Brevard County Charter Review Commission (CRC) know the urgent need for an affordable housing trust fund. This was a turning point in the months long debate over the issue. The CRC passed the measure which now goes before the voters in November.

Watch Brittney's impassioned plea here:

<https://youtu.be/h91tNJHRQUK?t=115>

PARTNER WITH US

Whether you are a landlord willing to work with our families or a business wanting to give back to the community we would love to partner with you!



HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

Community Outreach

Impactful outreach involves understanding when to step up for our neighbors in need, knowing the community resources available to help, and willingness to walk side by side as they navigate a path out of homelessness.

"In July alone, I saw over 90 people", says Tara Sobczak, "Outreach has been super busy, seeing families and individuals from Titusville to Palm Bay. We've had babies sleeping in cars, a man who is deaf sleeping on a bench, a blind man kicked out of a garage and into the woods, a family kicked out of their rental after 4 years, and a mom scrambling to find somewhere to go having never faced these issues before. So many people needing affordable housing and so few resources available."



<https://secure.givelively.org/event/community-of-hope/candy-land-gala>

Like and Follow our Facebook page and Instagram to help us to share information in the community.