



HOPE OUTREACH CENTER, INC.
4700 S.W. 64th Ave., Ste A • Davie, FL 33314

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Spring 2011

HOPE OUTREACH CENTER, INC. 4700 S.W. 64th Ave., Ste A • Davie, FL 33314
Phone: 954-321-0909 • Fax: 954-321-1059 • www.hopeoutreachfl.org

Message from Executive Director, Helen Shimmers

Dear Friends,

Spring is my favorite time of year because nature's explosions of color and new life remind me of rebirth and renewal! In South Florida trees and shrubs gleam with bright new foliage and our fruit trees blossom faithfully signaling the harvest that will soon come!

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."

-- Anne Bradstreet, British poet

Sadly, the promise of Spring seems farther away for the clients of HOPE Outreach Center, Inc. The number of people seeking emergency assistance continues to rise while our resources keep dwindling. Government officials face difficult choices as they contemplate spending cuts. One of our largest most reliable sources of funding, the Community Development Block Grant, is likely to be cut. Now, more than ever, we need your commitment and financial support as we continue to plan for programs and services to serve those severely affected by the continuing economic crisis Vincent Van Gogh once said, "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together." HOPE is a perfect example of this truth. If you are reading this newsletter, you are one of 3,000 very special people who pray, volunteer, donate, or contribute in-kind to make our work possible.

Every gift of time, talent, or treasure has a ripple effect on our community. Our strength depends on you and we are deeply grateful for your generosity.



As we try to prepare for the financial challenges ahead, we need your help. If you already contribute, I am asking you, if possible, to increase the size or frequency of your donation. If you are not yet a donor, try to make a contribution today. Share our story with your family, friends and co-workers and invite them to make a gift to HOPE. This is the first time in 13 years that I have asked you directly to increase your contribution; I need your help to meet these external challenges. Every gift, no matter how large or small, helps to make a difference in the lives of people who are suffering. If every person reading this newsletter gave just \$5 more per month, HOPE would receive an additional \$180,000 in funding each year! Please remember...

**With HOPE there's HELP,
and with YOUR HELP there's HOPE!**

Thank you for all that you do. May God bless you with love and prosperity for your kindness towards others who are less fortunate.

Helen

Featuring two of the most sought-after personalities on the national comedy scene:

PATTY ROSS & PAUL D'ANGELO

WHEN? Friday, April 29, 2011 / 8:00pm

WHY? To benefit **HOPE Outreach Center, Inc.**

WHERE? Police Officers Association Hall,

4500 Southwest 13th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33317

(one block south of Davie Blvd., 0.4 mile west of SR 7/441)

For additional information about show tickets or sponsorships, visit our website www.hopeoutreachfl.org or contact:

Kitty Preziosi: Tel: 954-915-0101 / Fax: 954-915-9912 / kittyprez@aol.com

SPONSORSHIPS

Available	
"Headliner"	\$7,500
"Laugh Attack"	\$5,000
"Belly Laugh"	\$2,500
"Knee Slapper"	\$1,000
"Giggle"	\$500
"Chuckle"	\$250



JUNE IS HUNGER AWARENESS MONTH

Join us with *Walgreens* to **Fight Hunger with HOPE** and help fill **HOPE food pantry** on June 4, 2011 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- Visit one of the 17 designated Walgreens locations in Cooper City, Pembroke Pines, Southwest Ranches, and Weston
- Donate **HOPE**. Purchase items advertised to fill the **HOPE** pantry
- Volunteer to work one of the designated locations
- To volunteer call (954) 321-0909 or contact the Hunger Event Volunteer Coordinator Leslie Stein at (954) 254-5843 or lesliejstein@gmail.com.

Last year we collected 1,028 pounds of food! This year we need to triple that to feed South Broward children and their families through the summer!

Mission: "To develop and provide services that impact quality of life for individuals and families in our community"

Thoughts from Sr. Germana's "Locanda"



Bad news surrounds us. Every corner of the earth seems to be in turmoil. At times we may feel hopeless and long for peace. But from above in the eyes of God sorrow and joy are never separated.

Where there is pain, there is also healing.

Where there is mourning, there is also rejoicing.

Where there is poverty, there is also a spirit of resilience.

Where there is despair there is HOPE.

By our simple joyful and grateful presence we can help people become more appreciative of life even in the midst of pain. As I watch the photos of the disaster in Japan, I am touched by the generosity of the Japanese. They show us that even in the midst of unimaginable catastrophe when food is scarce and fear abounds, we never have too little to share. People who have barely enough food to feed themselves, share with neighbors who have absolutely nothing.

In our own Hope Outreach, we try to be simple, joyful, grateful, and ready to listen. So many miracles happen each day. No matter how difficult the circumstances, people leave our Center feeling more optimistic about the future.

In my quiet time with God, He reminds me that something good is about to happen! In a few days, we will celebrate Passover and Easter. Colorful leaves and flowers - signs of new life - will remind us that life springs anew especially after dark times.

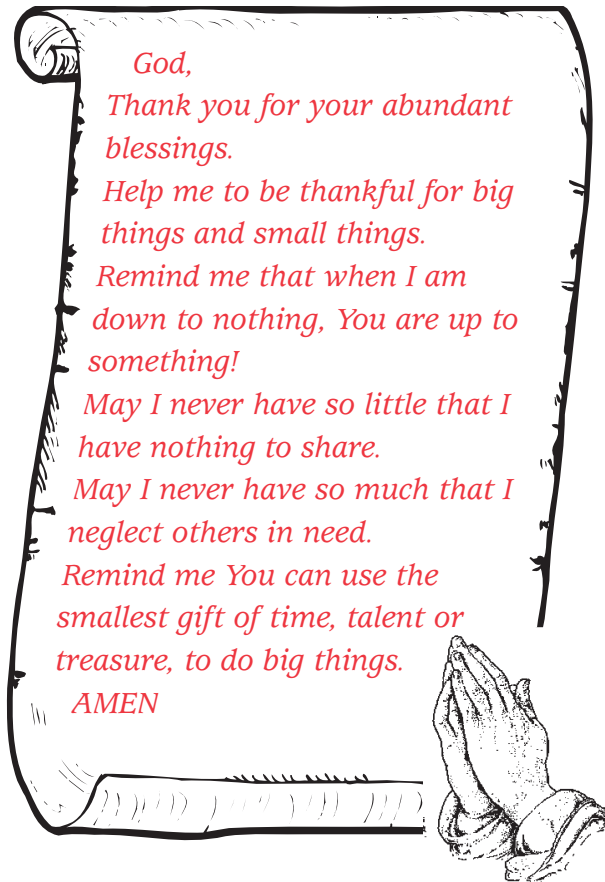
Sister Germana

United Way of Broward County Project Lifeline

Broward County continues to be hard hit by our nation's economic crisis which creates many different needs and challenges within our community. United Way of Broward County created Project Lifeline as a short-term initiative addressing homelessness and hunger in our county.

With their help HOPE Outreach Center is able to enhance the nutritional value that we give to families through our food distribution program. Offerings of fresh produce along with other food staples are gratefully received.

HOPE Outreach Center received 11,376 pounds of fresh produce in 2011 to date! We are grateful to the United Way of Broward County for enabling us to bring better nutrition to families who otherwise cannot afford some of these fresh fruits and vegetables.



Fifth Graders Give HOPE

Getting to understand the importance of breakfast in daily nutrition has been part of a Science health lesson for two Fifth Grade classes at Saint David School in Davie. Having learned the value of starting the day with good food, these children put the lesson to practice and shared it with others less fortunate, by collecting 300 boxes of cereal to donate to HOPE Outreach Center, Inc.



"A CEREAL STARTER, MAKES YOU SMARTER"

Mrs. Chimenti's and Mrs. Whiting's students read an article from Current Health magazine entitled "The Price of Poverty". They learned what poverty means, how an overweight person can also be malnourished, how stress from hunger damages health and even how low-income areas have less access to healthy foods. This article inspired the students to help other children start the day with a healthy breakfast. They created a slogan: "A Cereal Starter Makes You Smarter". They used it in all the posters and signs that they created to announce their Cereal Box Drive. "The pride that these children feel exceeded all their expectations" explains Mrs. Whiting. These two classes collected and donated more than **300 pounds** of cereal which means **5,400 smart starts** to families served by HOPE!

A Mirror of HOPE in the Face of Despair

Sooner or later HOPE Outreach Center volunteers and employees witness what happens here on a daily basis, and see God's hands at work. On occasion, however, there is that pivotal moment where something happens that touches their core and reminds them of just how busy God's hands are.

On Thursday, March 24, Mr. Harris, a homeless and physically impaired gentleman, entered the HOPE Outreach Center office seeking re-certification for Food Stamp benefits. He had carefully perched his bicycle, his most valuable possession, outdoors against the front glass window. As he sat to complete his paperwork, he kept a watchful eye on his only means of transportation but also the best way for him to get around since a spinal injury has affected the mobility of his leg. All of a sudden, the gentleman screamed "My bike, my bike!" and he jumped up from his seat to go outside. A youngster had taken the bike and was pedaling fast to get away. By the time they got outside the thief was two blocks down.

The poor gentleman started crying. Sister Germana took him in and was comforting him as they completed paperwork. This is when the very determined staff at HOPE took action. The intensity of their do-or-die resolve to find a replacement bike for Mr. Harris mimicked the furor a mother protecting its young. It is very safe to say that they were a team on a mission. In true group effort the whole center started phoning businesses to find a donor of a bike.



Walmart in Cooper City, Assistant Manager Ruben Castillo, Mr. Harris with his new bike and Sister Germana

Mary López, Secretary, got on the phone with Ruben Castillo, Asst. Manager at Walmart in Cooper City, who immediately said that they would help. All that was needed was a copy of the Police Report in letterhead as proof of the incident. The Davie Police were called and a report was filed.

With this information in hand Sister Germana and Linda, the volunteer receptionist, took Mr. Harris to Walmart. He was given a gift certificate and told to go select a bicycle with it. He humbly chose the least expensive. When Sister Germana asked him what else he needed, he did not want anything, he was grateful for the bike. Despite his tentative response, Sister Gemana selected a lock that will keep his brand new bike safe. Thanks to Cooper City Walmart replacing it took less than ten minutes.

We are all grateful to Walmart Store #1845 at 4700 S. Flamingo Rd, Cooper City Store Asst. Manager, Ruben Castillo for helping restore HOPE where there was despair.

Planned Giving – HOPE Outreach Center, Inc.



There are many easy ways for you to help HOPE Outreach Center, Inc. ("HOPE") serve people in need that possibly will also allow you to get federal and state tax benefits at the same time. Your options include gifts of cash via check or credit card; gifts of appreciated securities (like stocks, bonds, and mutual funds); and planned gifts that may benefit you and your loved ones during your time here on earth, and leave a legacy gift to HOPE in your afterlife.

Below we provide some basic information regarding some of these types of gifts. However, in every case, we strongly recommend that you contact your legal, tax, and financial advisors to address various legal, tax and financial implications, and to determine what might be best for your own personal situation.

Appreciated Securities

Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Fund shares held for more than one year can be given as a gift, and capital gains tax benefits may apply when donating these assets. Appreciated Securities can be used for an outright gift or to fund a planned gift.

Appreciated Property

Assets in this category include personal residences, vacation homes and farms as well as personal property such as collectible items and jewelry. Appreciated Property can also be used for an outright gift and some properties can be used to fund a planned gift.

Assignment Gifts

Assets in this category include items that can be 'signed over' to a beneficiary or a charitable organization, such as life insurance policies, Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's), bank accounts, pension plans, and other items. Assignment gifts can be given during one's lifetime or through a will bequest. Assignment gifts make easy outright gifts and, in some cases, they can also fund a planned gift.

Charitable Gift Annuity

A Charitable Gift Annuity is one of the oldest and most common methods of making a planned charitable gift. Typical advantages are that it is a way to "give and receive", reduces your estate, generally produces an immediate income tax deduction, and provides income during retirement years. A charitable gift annuity is a contract under which a charity, in return for a transfer of cash, marketable securities or other assets, agrees to pay a fixed amount of money to one or two individuals, for their lifetime. The charitable deduction will vary with the age and income payback to the individual(s). While HOPE Outreach Center has not yet established a Charitable Gift Annuity program, such a program is under future consideration.

Charitable Trusts

The Charitable Trust is another creative gift that allows a donor to 'give and receive' and is also an excellent way to supplement retirement income or healthcare costs. Every trust is unique as it is established to meet the individual's needs and charitable intent. Funding assets may include cash, appreciated securities, real estate or business interests. Capital gain tax benefits may apply when funding a trust with appreciated assets.

Pledge of Giving

HOPE Outreach Center is constantly seeking sources of consistent and reliable annual donor income to meet the annual funding needs of our organization. At the same time, many of our donors find that it becomes much easier for them to give to HOPE when they can plan for giving in advance, on a set schedule or program tailored to their individual financial and tax situations and needs. A Pledge of Giving is ideally suited to satisfy these needs. Under a Pledge of Giving, an individual enters into a pledge agreement with HOPE to make fixed or variable monthly, quarterly, or annual gift payments to HOPE. This can be as simple as a pledge of \$10 or \$20 a month for 12 or 24 months payable by check or credit card, or for those with more substantial financial giving considerations, this could take the form of multi-year pledge of say \$500, \$1000 or \$5000 per year over a 3 or 5 year period. Pledge amounts can be individually tailored to meet specific donor needs.

Will or Living Trust Bequests

Establishing a personal Will or Living Trust offers peace of mind through the assurance that one has made known how personal assets should be distributed after death. Bequests can be designated to HOPE Outreach Center, Inc. in several different ways, such as:

- Stating a specific amount or specific asset;
- Stating a percentage;
- Designating the remainder or residual of estate holdings.

Will

"Intestate" is the term for a person who dies without a formal, legal will. If this occurs, everything you possess is given away by strangers to other strangers. A well-planned will puts you in charge. It is your directive to everyone else about your personal wishes, such as:

- Distributing cash, investments, real estate, and personal property to family and other loved ones;
- Providing property management for heirs who may not be prepared to manage their financial affairs
- Reducing taxes and estate settlement costs
- Making "gifts of a lifetime" to charitable interests

Bequests: Gifts left to HOPE Outreach Center in your will

A bequest can take one of the following forms:

- You designate a specific dollar amount to be transferred to one or more charities.
- You can designate property assets, such as real estate, artwork and other valuables to be used to fund a charitable gift.
- A percentage of your estate plan can be designated for charitable purposes to ensure that the relative values of your gifts remain equal.
- You can determine that what remains after all other gifts to loved ones have been fulfilled, goes to charity.
- They are easy and revocable if your situation changes.

You should contact your attorney when writing your will for the first time or updating it through a Codicil. If you've already decided to include HOPE Outreach Center, Inc in your will, and you have contacted your legal and financial advisors, here are some sample statements that you can immediately include in your will:

- As residual:

I, _____, give, devise and bequeath all the residue of my estate, including real and personal property, to HOPE Outreach Center, Inc 4700 SW 64th Avenue, Suite A, Davie, FL 33314

- As a percentage:

I, _____, give, devise and bequeath an amount equal to _____% of my estate to HOPE Outreach Center, Inc 4700 SW 64th Avenue, Suite A, Davie, FL 33314.

- As a specific amount:

I, _____, give, devise and bequeath the sum of \$ _____ to HOPE Outreach Center, Inc 4700 SW 64th Avenue, Suite A, Davie, FL 33314

For more information and to discuss giving opportunities please contact Vince Marino, Board Member.

HOPE Outreach Center, Inc

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www.hopeoutreachfl.org

A 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

April 9, 2011

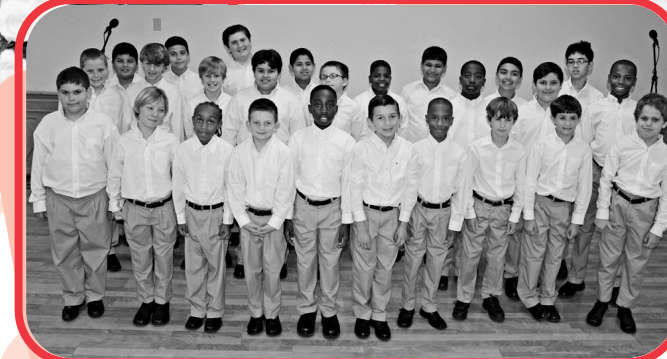
Our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was a beautiful celebration of spring and of the renewal of our commitment to Helping Other People Everyday! After the delicious luncheon and entertaining performance by the Florida's Singing Sons Boy Choir, messages from Executive Director Helen Shinnars and Board President Beth Azor encouraged us to "spring into action" and continue to help provide much-needed services and food, "glorious food"!



Volunteers Glory Hernandez and Kim New



Volunteers Marty and Shirley Mercen, Pat Lezon, Anne Flaherty



Florida's Singing Sons Boy Choir



Back: Councilmember Susan Starkey, Beth Azor HOPE Board of Directors President
Volunteers: Bernadette Falciglia, Sydney Sotor, Rosemary Sims (St. David Women's Club), Jean Kephart and Maria Rubino



Back: Councilmember Susan Starkey, Tiffany Richards (Davie Police), Director Giovanni Moss,
Front: Marge Jozwiak (Davie Police), Town of Davie Mayor Judy Paul, Vice Mayor Caryl Hattan, Sr. Germana Sala

"HOPE builds stronger communities by strengthening families, mentoring youth and assisting the elderly."

"With HOPE there's HELP and with your HELP there's HOPE"