



Giving Hope a Hand

2484 SE Bonita St., Stuart, FL 34997 ♦ (772) 286-4673 ♦ www.hohmartin.org

HOH, clients grow through case management

For more than 25 years, House of Hope has been focused on helping people with short-term aid get through a period of crisis. Two years ago, the agency’s leadership decided to create a longer-term solution by implementing a case management program to guide people toward economic stability and self-reliance.



In the past year, the program has grown, thanks to a major grant (see box) and the use of trained, professional volunteers to mentor clients in aspects such as budgeting, resumé building and interview skills.

Case manager Lesley Frederick, MSW, leads the program, which includes Yolanda Owens and Carmen Encarnación, both hired under the grant last fall.

Following are just two examples of clients House of Hope is mentoring through case management.

Advocacy and referral

“Jackie” originally came to House of Hope’s Hobe Sound branch, seeking help to pay her rent. She had been struggling with many expenses, including medical care for her children. Compounding problems further, she was laid off from her job at a child care center last summer. When the Hobe Sound branch manager heard her story, she referred Jackie to HOH case manager Lesley Frederick, who has provided mentoring, advocacy and referrals to help Jackie improve her situation.

For example, Jackie was referred to Workforce Solutions and found another job at a day care. She wants to become a teacher and also has started attending classes at IRSC. Jackie was referred to the free citizenship classes at the Martin County Library System and passed the test to obtain her U.S. citizenship.

Jackie still faces

a long climb, but the case management program at HOH will help her stay on the right path.

Focus on the job

“Beth” initially came to House of Hope through a referral from Martin County Health and Human Services. She needed help with her electric bill and, later, her rent when her work hours were cut and she also had to take time off when one of her two children became sick.

HOH helped Beth with emergency financial assistance, and the agency identified her family as a candidate for case management. Beth’s situation stabilized when she returned to work full time, but her significant other, “Sam,” has lost his job.

“The focus is now on him because the only way for this family to be stable is for him to find work,” Lesley said. HOH connected Sam to Workforce Solutions, and a volunteer, Michael Hoynes, is helping with his resumé.

HOH taps federal stimulus funds

Martin County gave House of Hope a major boost in its quest to provide case management services with a significant grant awarded last fall.

The one-year grant, which totals \$146,855, is funded through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Program (ARRA, or federal stimulus package) and supports the hiring of two case workers at House of Hope.

It also provides for financial assistance to address the needs of low-income people – especially as it relates to their ability to obtain, maintain and/or increase their employment.

To continue the service longer than the one-year term of the grant, House of Hope must find alternate ways to fund the much-needed program.

Major gifts from individuals, foundations and other sources are vital, and planned giving also will help sustain the agency and its programs. (Please see Page 3 for more information.)



Case workers Carmen Encarnación, left, and Yolanda Owens, right, work with Irene Rummel, a volunteer who helps clients with budgeting.

House of Hope stretches safety net

Over the past 25 years, House of Hope has provided a safety net for struggling people in Martin County – primarily low-wage workers, the recently unemployed, single parents, veterans and elderly people who struggle to subsist on Social Security payments of a few hundred dollars a month.

Last year, that service was greater than ever. With demand soaring, House of Hope provided all-time highs in food, clothing and household necessities, and emergency financial assistance.

Following are the service statistics for the past two years at HOH:

Service Provided	2009	2008
Families receiving financial assistance:	709	397
Total financial assistance provided:	\$120,113	\$82,370
Requests for food:	12,892	10,480
Food distributed:	129 tons	95 tons
Approximate number of meals:	303,476	223,194
Garments & household items distributed:	83,097	35,871

Poverty stats explain need for House of Hope

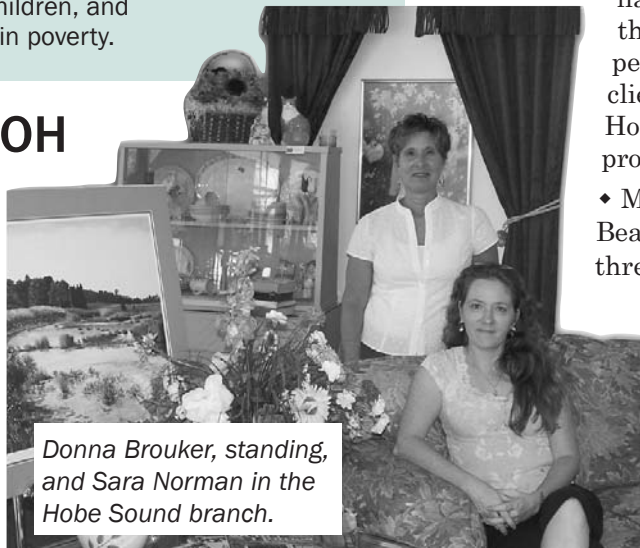
Here are some of the reasons why House of Hope’s service is so necessary, even in beautiful, affluent Martin County. The following information provides a look at how many people struggle to get by on very low wages. (Sources: 2008, Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation and U.S. Census Bureau.)

- ◆ More than one-third of all jobs paid \$25,000 a year or less.
- ◆ One-fifth of all households earned less than \$25,000 a year.
- ◆ 11.3 percent of Martin County residents – about 15,700 people – lived at or below the federal poverty guidelines in 2008. Poverty levels are defined as \$10,830 for one person; \$22,050 for a family of four.
- ◆ By comparison, data from 2007 showed that 8.2 percent of Martin County residents – about 11,400 people – lived below the poverty level.)
- ◆ 30 percent of single mothers, 17 percent of children, and 7 percent of senior citizens over age 65 were in poverty.

Great things in store at HOH

Donna Brouker recently joined House of Hope as the branch manager at the Hobe Sound location. She succeeds Sara Norman, who has been promoted to retail manager for House of Hope and now works at the main Stuart location.

Donna actually started at House of Hope last spring as a volunteer. She was of great assistance to Sara, and now that Donna has taken over the branch, she could use her own volunteer extraordinaire to help run the store! If interested, call (772) 286-4673.



Donna Brouker, standing, and Sara Norman in the Hobe Sound branch.

There’s no place like HOH for the holidays

Supporters of House of Hope helped to brighten the season for scores of Martin County residents, ensuring that the agency’s client families — from infants to senior citizens — had presents and a holiday dinner.

Here are some of the notable ways that people were helped:

- ◆ Residents in Mariner Sands Country Club adopted 44 families, providing gifts, bikes and grocery cards. The gift-giving is an annual event for Mariner Sands, making for a heart-warming tradition for the community and House of Hope.
- ◆ Another 15 families were adopted by other individuals, businesses and groups that purchased gifts for selected HOH client families. Plus, 51 pre-registered families came to the Stuart location for toys and bikes provided by HOH donors.
- ◆ House of Hope referred 32 families to the White Doves Holiday Project, which provides families with toys and the staples for a holiday meal.
- ◆ Further Christmas cheer was spread via \$4,150 in gift cards provided by donors – primarily the residents of Piper’s Landing, The Cottages at Hobe Sound, Loblolly, and the GFWC Hobe Sound Women’s Club.
- ◆ Many people donated turkeys and hams, supplementing the box of non-perishable food that clients of House of Hope’s Food Pantry program receive.
- ◆ Mulligan’s in Jensen Beach also hosted about three dozen children, supplying the food while gifts and goodies were contributed by Jensen Beach Travel Service and the Woman’s Club of Stuart.



How YOU can make a difference

The faces of House of Hope clients change daily — but what remains unchanged is how the agency counts on your support to aid area residents who are struggling.

Our donors tell us that making a difference in the lives of local families is the greatest benefit of their charitable giving. Here are a few ways for you to help your neighbors with basic life necessities.

Teaching children the gift of giving

Family members can play an active role in helping children learn about financial responsibility, sharing and family values.

- ♦ **Allowance:** Teach children to save and share with others to deepen their understanding of money.
- ♦ **Charitable giving & community service:** Bring philanthropy into your home by asking your children to recommend causes they would like to support. Help them figure out how to donate money, gently used items or their time to a cause important to them.
- ♦ **Family foundation:** Securing your family's legacy in a foundation will aid the community while creating a vehicle for children's involvement in decisionmaking regarding charitable giving.

- ♦ **Leave a legacy:** Your lifetime of good work can become a legacy of HOPE and provide tremendous support to your neighbors. Bequests and planned gifts can often create giving opportunities that might not have been possible during your lifetime using a simple bequest in a will or trust. For others, gifts of appreciated stock, bonds, mutual funds, life insurance or real estate might be an attractive means for you to leave your legacy for the benefit of the clients of House of Hope.
- ♦ **Charitable Gift Annuity:** House of Hope makes it easy to take advantage of a Charitable Gift Annuity through the Comerica Legacy Foundation. For a minimum of \$10,000 you will receive a fixed payment for the rest of your life with a portion generating an immediate income tax deduction. This is particularly appealing considering interest rates on CDs, money market funds and Treasuries. Recommended rates follow the American Council on Gift Annuities (see box at left).
- ♦ **Taking stock:** There are advantages to donating gifts of stock and securities directly to House of Hope rather than liquidating and making a donation. You can claim the full market value of the stock on the day it was given as a charitable gift. You do not have to pay capital gains tax when stock is donated; appreciated stock held over time could have a significant savings. Please consult your financial advisor.

Charitable Gift Annuities	
Your age today	Payment rate (Single Life)
60	5.0%
65	5.3%
70	5.7%
75	6.3%
80	7.1%
85	8.1%

Please give Hope a hand

I want to make a one-time donation in the following amount: \$ _____

I want to make a Monthly Gift of Hope in the following amount and method:

- \$25 each month
 - \$50 each month
 - \$75 each month
 - \$100 each month
 - Other: \$ _____ each month
 - I have enclosed a check for my first month's gift.
 - Please charge my credit card for my first month's gift.
- After this initial donation, your monthly gift will be transferred from the appropriate account.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

My check payable to House of Hope is enclosed.

Please charge \$ _____ to my Visa Mastercard

Number _____

Expiration _____ Security _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Questions? Call (772) 286-4673

Please complete, clip and return this form to House of Hope, 2484 SE Bonita St., Stuart, FL 34997. THANK YOU!



2484 SE Bonita St.
Stuart, FL 34997-5004

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**HOUSE OF HOPE
LOCATIONS**

Services and Resale Stores

Stuart - Main office

2484 SE Bonita St.
(772) 286-4673

Jensen Beach

1313 NE Jensen Beach Blvd.
(772) 225-1060

Indiantown

15516 Osceola St.
(772) 597-6397

Hobe Sound

11760 SE Dixie Hwy.
(772) 545-9342

www.hohmartin.org
info@hohmartin.org



An event you will love!

Just in time for Valentine's Day: Make a date for "Hearts for Hope," the 11th Annual Fashion Show, Luncheon and Auction to benefit House of Hope. The event — which mixes fun, fashion and philanthropy — will be held 11:30 a.m to 2 p.m. Feb. 12, at Mariner Sands Country Club in Stuart.

Volunteers will model designer fashions that have been donated to House of Hope's Resale Shoppes. The "upscale resale" fashions and more will be for sale after the show. Guests also will have a chance to bid on lavish auction items, including fabulous shopping sprees, restaurants, getaways, and spa and fitness packages.

Adding sparkle to the event is a chance to win a custom-designed necklace created exclusively for House of Hope by Diamonds by Terry. For a \$25 donation, you can buy a key that may open a jewelry box that contains a diamond, gold and gemstone necklace worth about \$1,850. Only 250 keys will be made, increasing the chance of winning this unique keepsake from the Hearts of Hope event.

Presenting sponsor for the event is the Pedersen Family Foundation. Other major sponsors include Bobbie Trimble and Lauri J. Goldstein. For information, reservations and sponsorships, call (772) 286-4673 or visit www.hohmartin.org.



Gail Pedersen Pfister, left, represents the Pedersen Family Foundation, the presenting sponsor of the Hearts for Hope fashion show. Elaine Matts, right, is chairwoman of the event committee.

Next Event on the Tee

The 15th Annual Golf Tournament of Hope is scheduled for April 23 at Piper's Landing in Palm City.