

MOVING Forward



2022 - Brevard
Volume 1



Harvest of Hope



Garden Party

Presented by: Advent Health

November 12th, 2022

5:45pm - 9:15pm

Ocoee Lakeshore Center

Save the date!

The evening will begin at 5:45 PM with light hors d'oeuvres and progress with live entertainment, a silent auction, raffles and more!

As in past years, each table may create its own theme and compete for the coveted Best Dressed Table and Most Creative trophies!





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Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Firm Foundation Preschool & Daycare

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740 9th St,

Winter Garden, FL 34787

Monday - Friday 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Outreach Center

611 Business Park Blvd, St. 101

Winter Garden, FL 34787

Tuesdays & Thursday

7:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Matthew's Hope Chest Store

1027 S Dillard St,

Winter Garden, FL 34787

Monday - Thursday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday & Saturday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Brevard Location

825 Forrest Ave

Cocoa, 32922

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FOUNDER'S *Forum*

The Founder's Forum is traditionally the place where I share my perspective on the content you are about to enjoy and provide some ministry "points of pride." Yet, as I sat to author the Forum for this issue, I was wholly distracted by the Russian attack on Ukraine. I am horrified at the disregard for life by an attack on a peaceful, neighboring nation. This has and will continue to have an impact on our economy and those throughout the world. When one considers what our nation, and the world, has been through these past 2 years, it is hard to fathom any more hardship and economic uncertainty. Yet, amid this chaos, Matthew's Hope has managed to pivot, grow, and remain a relevant resource to those who need us the most--the homeless men, women, and children of our community.

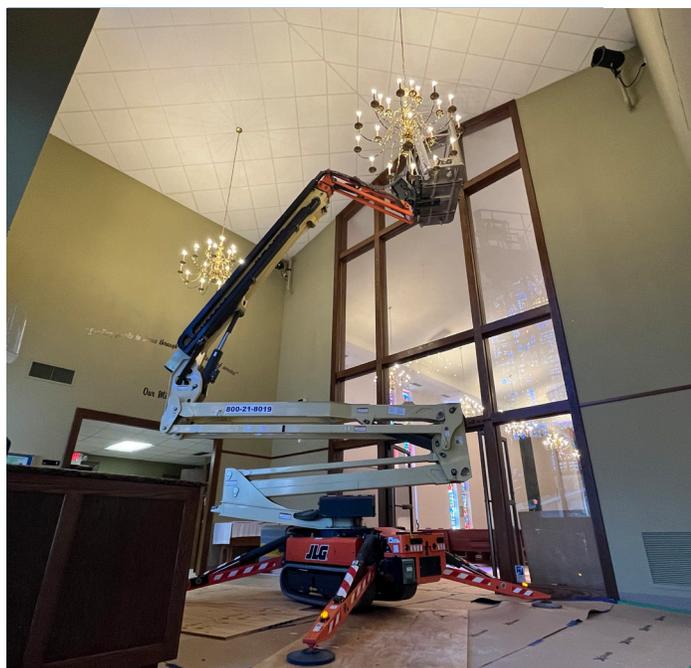
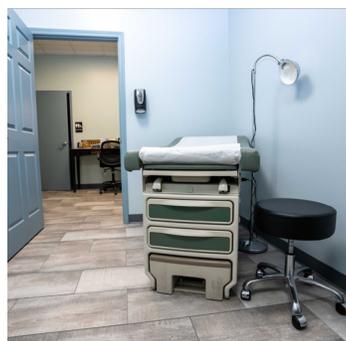
During the pandemic, we witnessed so many other nonprofits who either failed completely or were forced into dormancy throughout the pandemic. But Matthew's Hope blossomed--partly out of necessity and partly due to the unwavering support of our community. We have expanded both our services and coverage area to care for more than 1,000 homeless men, women and children living amongst us... and now we're happy to announce that we are expanding to Brevard County, FL.

In this issue you will read about the expansion to Brevard, learn about our Outreach Center, new Garden of Eatin' Food Pantry, and the formal opening of our Medical Home. You will learn about where our operating resources come from and how they are disbursed. There is also a wonderful article by one of our Board members on Estate Giving. We hope you will enjoy the pictures of our 2021 Garden Party Fundraiser and Community Christmas Carnival. The Hope in Action pictorial highlights our new home in Cocoa, our community partners doing their part by being the difference they want to see in their world. Megan Galamback, our Firm Foundation Preschool Director, shares her thoughts on caring for and nurturing our children during a pandemic. Our Spotlight Stories on Board Members, Community Partners, Volunteers and more will help you understand how we achieve our mission. But perhaps most powerful to me, are the Guest success stories peppered throughout the issue. These are how I define success!

We hope you enjoy our Matthew's Hope Moving Forward Magazine and find it informative. It is our desire to be transparent with all we do and to do it with excellence. This is only accomplished with the love and support of our donors, supporters, and readers. Thank you!



Prayerfully in Christ,





JIM DENSMORE

When you serve on a board, you have obligations such as duty of care which is achieved by participating actively in making decisions on behalf of the organization, duty of loyalty by putting the interests of the organization before professional and personal interests, and duty of obedience by ensuring that the organization complies with all laws and adheres to its mission.

For some, these responsibilities may seem overwhelming especially since being a nonprofit board member is a serious commitment that has personal and legal consequences should things go wrong.

Yet for Jim Densmore, this significant responsibility is one he fully embraces.

Jim's participation on the Matthew's Hope Board was one that Founder Scott Billue sought during a period of organizational transition. As an active member of the West Orange Chamber of Commerce, several Matthew's Hope board members recommended him for the position. "I think you have a real responsibility when you accept a position to be on a Board of Directors," said Jim. "I was not very familiar with Matthew's Hope, so I spoke with both former and current board members prior to making my decision. Through my research I learned much about the mission of Matthew's Hope and its foundation as a Christian, faith-based organization.

Then, prior to making a final decision, I volunteered to see the ministry in action. This is something I still do today as I feel that it is vitally important to be involved in any organization that you are helping to shape and lead. You truly need to know how it works to provide proper stewardship. It was through both my research and my direct experience that I felt strongly that I was a good fit for the board."

Other than a brief hiatus during the first wave of COVID, Jim has continued to volunteer twice a week on Outreach days. He willingly steps in to fill any role but especially enjoys the opportunity to join the mobile team. "It's just an amazing organization," he said. "You put something in, but you get so much more in return."

Since joining the board in 2017, Jim has been amazed with the evolution of the organization.

"I have seen this ministry grow and blossom. I've seen it go from a small ministry to what it is today," said Jim. "Scott sees a need and finds a way to make it happen. I just love that it's not a static organization. It's not the same old, same old--it grows! When I first joined, people found their way to us. Then when COVID hit, the ministry essentially pivoted overnight. First, we had one mobile operation with supplies and medical support and then two when we added the Apopka route. Recently I was both proud and impressed with Matthew's Hope response to the last cold snap. When other organizations didn't or couldn't step up to serve this at-risk community, the staff, volunteers, and our community partners established a cold shelter within hours. We filled a need, and our guests were just so thankful and incredibly grateful for what Matthew's Hope did--and continues to do for them."

Now on the Executive Board, Jim feels strongly that his primary role is to help guide the ministry and ensure good decisions are made to secure the future for the ministry. "Sometimes ideas come up with some board members not fully in agreement," said Jim. "I try and apply a technique I learned when I was with Darden Restaurants called 'consequential thinking.' I look at the benefits as well as the things that really aren't so beneficial. I evaluate the immediate impacts and those that may occur in the future. I consider impacts to our guests and our staff in addition to the ministry itself. I try and present my thoughts with this logic to create discussion and ultimately come to a decision with my peers on the board."

In addition to his responsibilities to Matthew's Hope, Jim is currently a realtor with Premier Sotheby's International Realty specializing in both residential and commercial real estate. This career is a departure from his 18-year career in the restaurant industry which included the successful start-up of the Olive Garden concept as a Vice President of Operations with General Mills, now Darden Restaurants. Jim also is a Lifetime Director and an Ambassador for the West Orange Chamber of Commerce where he further serves the community by advocating for strong business partnerships. Jim and his wife of 50 years, Susan, are the parents of three children Karyn, Jennifer, and James. After moving nine times in 18 years in support of Jim's career, they are now permanently settled in Clermont, Florida, and enjoy time with their nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Jim finds strength and peace through his strong sense of faith and the devotional he and Susan read daily.



Miguel

Blind. Addicted. Embittered.
Sighted. Recovered. Thriving!

The loss of his wife, his sight and subsequently his job, drove Miguel to self-medicate with alcohol. Once he committed to sobriety, Miguel was invited to work in Matthew's Hope Moving Forward program. His journey to reclaim his life, his dignity, his joy, his independence, and self-sustainability, led him to our carpentry shop where he developed skills that shaped him into the artisan he is today. Moving Forward magazine interviewed Miguel about the work he does for Matthew's Hope.

Moving Forward (MF): Miguel, did you work with wood before you started working at Matthew's Hope?

Miguel (M): I did larger construction projects and painting. I loved working with a nail gun and shooting those nails real fast all day long. It was fun! But my sight started deteriorating and I just couldn't see what I was doing. I started doing landscaping and stuff like that. My friends tried to help show me what to do but it was hard for me to work because I really couldn't see much of anything. I had severe cataracts.

MF: When you came to Matthew's Hope, did you start working in the carpentry shop even though you couldn't see?

M: Yes, the first day I came here they put me in the shop with Greg (lead) and Sharlene (manager) and they showed me how to stain just a little piece of regular wood. They said the project was nothing special so I could just stain the heck out of it. Greg told me to try and look for a certain purple color and I could see it turn wet, so I was just guessing, guessing, guessing. I hoped that I was doing it right. Greg checked it and thought that what I did looked good. Then I started memorizing how long it took me to do a certain thing. I'd do that thing the same amount of time over and over. I learned to time everything mentally even though I couldn't see it very good.



Your financial support has helped Miguel regain his independence back through eye surgery to give him back his sight, dental work to give him back his confidence to smile and assistance in classes and finances to reinstate his driver's license as well as the opportunity to learn and perfect new skills in our Hope Chest Shop that will translate to jobs after he graduates the program.



MF: How did you progress from doing small, simple projects to transforming solid wood furniture?

M: Sharlene gave me a wood chest and told me to see what I could do with it. It was an old chest and I started sanding it down. She said I wasn't going to mess it up because it was going to get painted anyway. I started sanding it down and I was working out in the sun. I could see it a lot better than in the dark shop. Outside I could see all the intricate lines and details, so I sanded it all the way down instead of just a little bit for painting. Then I stained it because I had memorized how to do that. We sent it to the store and it sold it in two days! That was the first real piece I did. Pastor Frankie started posting my work on Facebook letting people know that the work was done by a blind guy. As I worked more pieces, I was still guessing about everything I was doing and I didn't really know what it was going to look like. I just had to keep getting Greg in to check my work and he said it was looking okay. I just kept on asking Greg to check. But it wasn't always easy. Once I was doing a china cabinet with all kinds of hinges and all kinds of doors. I took it apart by myself and it had these little, tiny screws. I couldn't see them but I took them out. When I put it all back together, Greg checked it and I had put all the hinges on backwards! I had to take them all off and then I got help because I couldn't see the screws. But that china cabinet sold in three days. It was worth it.

MF: How do you select your projects?

M: Most of the time I get customer pieces. But whenever I don't have a project, I go look for something in the storage area. I figured out that I'm real good at tables. I can make a table look pretty no matter how old it is. I've done some pieces that I would never think in a million years that they would turn out because they were so beat up. I find something and put it to the side and then when I don't have anything to do, I start playing with it until before you know, it's a whole brand new thing.

The wood really surprises you. We had an item donated here and the people who dropped it off asked us to call them once it was restored. It wasn't a client piece but they asked to see

It was real beat up before I started working with it. When I finished it, it was amazing. The former owner came back in and bought it! It was 100 years old and had been in her family for a long time. They didn't think it could be saved.

MF: What have you enjoyed about the Moving Forward program?

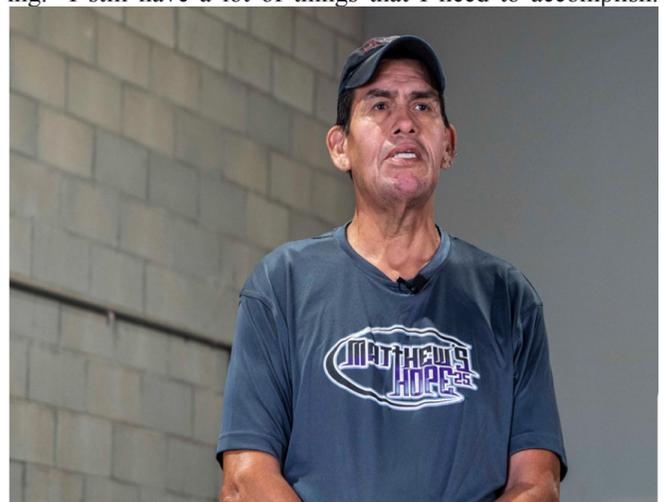
“ But as you can see, I've changed everything. I have made everything positive happen. I achieved the goals that I set for myself last year. And I'm happy. This is a nice place and I want to make the best next decisions for my life without rushing. I still have a lot of things that I need to accomplish. ”

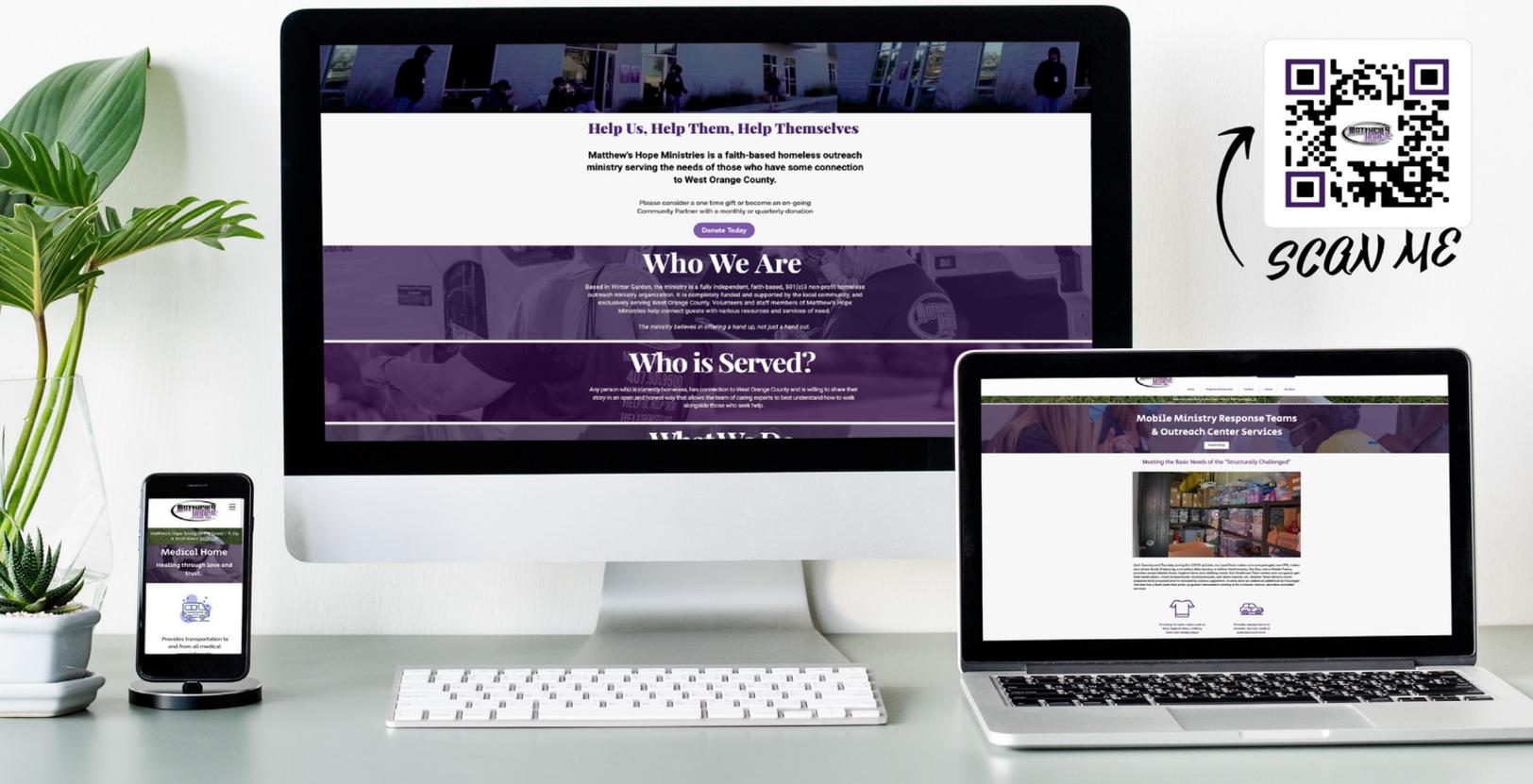
M: Matthew's Hope is a nice place. Like any place it has its ups and its downs and its frustrations. It can be challenging. My favorite moments here are really early in the morning when the sun's coming up. I don't care how cold it is, I will al-

ways beat the sun to work. I wake up, I work out, I take time to read a little bit of the Word, and then get ready to go. I enjoy the work and I'm at peace at what I'm doing.

MF: The intent of the Moving Forward program is to assist you into a life of independence and self-sustainability. You are close to graduation. What's next?

M: Maybe I will become a staff member, like Greg, or maybe I will find a job around here. I'm still undecided. I'm comfortable here now but I wasn't at first because I was barely into sobriety, and I was depressed. But as you can see, I've changed everything. I have made everything positive happen. I achieved the goals that I set for myself last year. And I'm happy. This is a nice place and I want to make the best next decisions for my life without rushing. I still have a lot of things that I need to accomplish.





New Year New Website!

By Marc Jablon

Have you seen me? It's been a while, but I promise it's worth a visit. It's a New Year and Matthew's Hope is proud to launch it's new website www.matthewshopeministries.org. The main purpose of the new website is to make it easy for our visitors to navigate the different programs and services we have to offer the homeless in our community.

The first thing you'll notice when you visit our website is our cover video. The team at Matthew's Hope has so much to offer from our Food Pantry to the new Medical Home, take a moment to watch the video to see the vast array of services that we provide. From there click on "Programs and Services". Each section is descriptive and tells the story of what Matthew's Hope has to offer.

Need to get in touch with Matthew's Hope? Click on "Contact". Our Administration section has an easy form to fill out as well as a list of our Board Members. The Contact Section also has links to our new Matthew's Hope Chest website and our Volunteer Interest Form.

Many people know Matthew's Hope in the community based upon our Events. Every year Matthew's Hope hosts 3 events; the Garden Party, Giving on the Green, and the Community Christmas Carnival. These Events are designed not only to raise money, but to build awareness regarding the homeless crisis in our community. Please take some time to learn about our annual Events and make plans to join us in the future.

The final piece of our new website is our Testimonials which is in the "Our Story" section. From Shannon to Hector, each of our homeless guests has a name and a story. Your contributions have helped give our guests hope and promise for the future. Our sincere wish is to fill our Testimonial page with success stories. Please consider making a donation and help us, help them, help themselves.

GET A JOB

Knowing What I Know Now, It Is A Much Deeper Issue Than Someone Just Showing Up To “Get A Job.”

By Shelley Bradford

Growing up I attended a large, “mega” church in Downtown Dallas, Texas. It was not unusual for us to see homeless people in the area. I would often hear people around me say, “Why don’t they just go get a job? Everyone is hiring?” Even then I remember thinking, “But don’t you see them?” I would think through the whole situation logically even with my limited knowledge as a little girl--They need a shower and maybe some clean clothes would help. They need to wash their hands, get a haircut and for goodness sake, they need to brush their teeth! What I didn’t know to consider is many times they have lost their ID or never even had it in the first place. It is impossible for anyone to get a job without identification. Knowing what I know now, it is a much deeper issue than someone just showing up to “get a job.”

One of the first things that drew me to Matthew’s Hope is how we “Help Them, Help Themselves.” We bring dignity back to individuals because we see their eyes and we listen to them. People can come to Matthew’s Hope and we will help them get cleaned up so they can function in society, hiding in plain sight. Helping people obtain their identification can be a several step process as we try and recover birth certificates and social security cards. I’ve always had these items and most likely you have too. We don’t know what life is like to not have regular identification. The first time I saw a man cry because we were able to get his birth certificate and then to get his social security card, I realized quickly that it’s not as simple as “getting a job.” I have watched lives change one at a time as we help people move forward simply by helping them obtain their identity---some the very first time.

The next time you look at a homeless person on the street and think, “Why don’t they just get a job?” I encourage you to be slow to judge and perhaps be willing to reflect on what you now know about my people.



Reverend Adam L. Barcott, with cross made at Matthew's Hope Chest Store

THE WAY *I See it*

By Rev. Adam L. Barcott

With a ministry like Matthew's Hope there are many ways to see it. Some see it as a place that cared for them on a cold night, in hunger and sickness. Others see it as a place that connected them to loving their neighbor in acts of service, generosity, and kindness. Still others see it as a place that employs them to the confusing and wonderful work of addressing ever growing needs with ever decreasing resources. A select few have seen it from all three perspectives. If you've been around for a while, at some point you've seen beyond what Matthew's Hope is doing and got a glimpse of what God is doing. From my perspective, having the eyes to see what God is doing is exactly what Matthew's Hope needs from you. Let me explain.

I've served on Matthew's Hope Board of Directors for over a decade and known its founder almost twice as long. I am well aware of the need for volunteers, resources, sustained giving, dedicated staff, and a sane CEO, but I'm a pastor. So, in predictable fashion I'm going to use a story from the Scripture to break down how I see the ministry at Matthew's Hope.

In 2 Kings 6, there's a story where Elisha the prophet and his servant are surrounded by the Syrian army whose mission is to kill them. The servant asks, "Alas, what shall we do?" It's a great question, and one that has to be answered. What do we do in the face of overwhelming problems that demand immediate solutions?

Elisha offers the pastoral perspective and prays, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." Immediately the servant sees a huge angelic army fill the mountain with "horses and chariots of fire." The prayer changes the whole situation. The servant is able to see beyond his own reality to the reality of God. It infuses the servant with a new hope, confidence, and commitment to keep Moving Forward (see what I did there).

The answer to Elisha's prayer is what keeps Matthew's Hope alive.

**When God opens the eyes of a guest,
they are suddenly not alone in their recovery.**

**When God opens the eyes of a volunteer/supporter,
their gifts are multiplied.**

**When God opens the eyes of a staff member,
ordinary acts become extraordinary.**

So the way I see it, if you want to help Matthew's Hope, praying Elisha's prayer is a good place to start.

O Lord, open our eyes and allow us to see the reality of the angelic army fighting for us. O Lord, open our eyes to see your Son on the cross, saving us. O Lord, open our eyes to see each other the way you see us, with love. O Lord, we ask your blessing upon Matthew's Hope and that you would continue to fund it by opening eyes. Amen!



Matthew's Hope Ministries

Expands to Brevard

Matthew's Hope continues to provide faith-based homeless outreach services to homeless men, women, and children in Orange and Brevard County.

By Marc Jablon

Matthew's Hope Ministries is pleased to announce that it has received a financial commitment that will allow the Winter Garden based homeless ministry to expand its operations to Brevard County while continuing its services in Orange County, FL.

Matthew's Hope has located a property in Cocoa and plans to open for services this Fall. According to Amber Carroll, the Executive Director of the Brevard Homeless Coalition, the estimate of homeless individuals in Brevard is 1,500 people, almost double of the 2019.

"The problem is real and getting worse. With the rapid rise of the cost of housing, gas, and food, we are seeing more homeless guests every day and we need your help" stated Scott Billue, Matthew's Hope CEO.

Matthew's Hope is a fully independent, faith based homeless outreach ministry. The operations in Orange County, FL includes a Food Pantry, Mobile Outreach, Transitional Housing, Pre-School, Medical Home, and a wood working shop. Matthew's Hope plans to bring many of these same services to Brevard County in the next year.

"On behalf of our Board of Directors, I would like to thank our employees, volunteers, and donors who continue to give and believe in our mission to help us, help them, help themselves" stated Scott Billue.

About Matthew's Hope Ministries:

Based in Winter Garden, Matthew's Hope is a fully independent, faith-based, 501(c)3 non-profit homeless outreach ministry organization completely funded and supported by the local community, serving Orange and Brevard Counties. Volunteers and staff members of Matthew's Hope Ministries help connect guests with various resources and services of need. The ministry believes in offering a hand up, not just a handout. For more information and to donate, visit; <https://www.matthewshopenministries.org/>



HOPE IN ACTION



HOPE IN ACTION



Harvest of Hope

MATTHEW'S HOPE²⁵

Garden Party

We'd like to thank our sponsors for making the Harvest of Hope Garden Party a success!




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Valley

Polished BY QHAIRIS MATTHEW'S HOPE | 12



WHY WE HAVEN'T ACCEPTED GOVERNMENT FUNDING?

Charities, or non-profits, receive their funding from multiple sources. Most derive large revenue from earned income, membership fees, and government contracts. Matthew's Hope, however, derives revenue from private contributions such as individuals, foundations, grants, and corporations.

So why don't we seek government funding? Truthfully, this decision is a very thoughtful one on the part of Founder, Scott Billue, and the Board of Directors.

The Matthew's Hope Moving Forward program is one in which we require accountability from our Guests. We conduct background checks and random drug testing as a standard part of our program. These activities ensure the safety of our staff and Guests and validate compliance to our drug-free policy. They are an essential part of our effort to assist in understanding our Guests' stories and in helping them to move forward. In most cases, government funding, however, would impose a very restrictive environment for operations. We would not be able to conduct these verifications.

Another challenge is that often government funds are awarded for a specific service or activity. This would leave no option to shift those funds.

As we witnessed through the pandemic, most non-profits dependent on government funds had to cut back on their services to clients until they have no other choice.

Matthew's Hope, however, was very nimble through the pandemic. Overnight we transformed our on-site services to a mobile operation---one which has grown throughout these past two years. Unfortunately, as government funding is reduced, our fellow charities have run out of alternatives. They were forced to shutter their operations.

Matthew's Hope provides crucial health and human services to our most vulnerable citizens. Government funds include burdensome tracking and reporting requirements. We have a small staff, and the cost impact of these requirements or to hire an additional resource to process paperwork is a cost that we feel is wasteful. Matthew's Hope will certainly continue to evaluate government funding. But we will do keeping our mission and the community we serve in mind. Our intent is to regularly evaluate all funding options that will carry Matthew's Hope into the future and enable our ability to serve the homeless men, women, and children of west Orange County and now Brevard County.

ASK PASTOR SCOTT

Q. Is it true that homeless guests prefer Old Spice body wash and deodorant?

A. Yes, they do. Our guest community has learned that there is an ingredient in Old Spice that deters mosquitos. We aren't sure exactly what it is but respect the feedback that we receive from our guest community.



WHERE DOES *all it go?*

By Scott Billue

With this first issue of 2022, I want to thank each of you, who has supported us for the last dozen years. The time has passed quickly, and we would not still be open and operating without your support.

Since I always strive for full transparency, I want to share with you some data on where our financial support comes from and how it is used. It is important to me that we share this information openly with our thousands of supporters.

Before I go into more detail, I found it amazing that as we were putting this issue together, we were compelled to revisit the Matthew's Hope roots by opening a Freeze Warning Shelter in January. We have not needed to do this for several years. It was in 2010, as a response to inclement weather with temperatures dropping into the 30's, that a few friends and I asked local churches to temporarily house our homeless population. Although many turned us away, the West Orange Church of Christ eagerly agreed to allow the homeless of our community a warm and safe refuge from the winter weather.

The rest is history. Our history!





Matthew's Hope now assists with medical, dental care, optical and mental healthcare, IDs, birth certificates, social security cards and benefits, food stamps, phones, showers, haircuts, and laundry service, and more. God is good, and He used you to help bring it all together! Back then, I could never have dreamed that Matthew's Hope would now be in the position to provide all the fore-mentioned services. Our first budget was \$75,000 which, at the time, a number most felt it was a target impossible to reach. Our budget today is well over \$1.5 million in cash and another \$3.5 million in donated goods and services. In 2010, my hope was to just provide fresh new socks and underwear, gloves, and a beanie hat to every homeless man, woman, and child living in our community. From that point forward, the dreams and vision only got bigger. I believe that as we stay determined to be good stewards and transparent with all that God has provided, that He has in turn entrusted us with more, thus allowing us to add additional services and opportunity through the years.

In 2020 we experienced a 300% increase in weekly visits. We needed to find more efficient ways of doing things and have a greater and more immediate understanding of what it takes to accomplish our mission. They say that necessity is the mother of invention and our team, though pushed to the limits, stepped up. By the grace of God, Matthew's Hope is now better than ever as we move into the future.

In 2021, God expanded our territory. In doing so we were able to add an additional transport vehicle, a second mobile pantry, expand our outreach center and buildout a larger and more efficient food pantry. In addition, we launched our much needed Medical Home. We did all of this with no government funding and stayed true to our core belief that our mission serves the least of these of our community. We also implemented a new inventory and tracking system that allows us to get our data in real time! We can now digitally track the value of all goods and services on a single ministry day and know exactly who received services and support. This not only helps us to maintain our various inventories, but it also provides daily reports of exactly how many people were transported, seen by our mobile teams, visited outreach, and the values of those goods and services. We can provide exact counts of the number of services provided on any given day! This is a huge time and money saver going forward, especially as we do our annual independent financial audit.

The easiest items for us to report are those that we began tracking during the Pandemic. To date we have provided over 100,000 Pandemic masks and 16,000 hand sanitizers to our guests! I hope that some of what we are sharing in this issue will give you a better understanding on how we use your generous gifts to accomplish the "miracles" witnessed at Matthew's Hope every day. We do believe in miracles, and we also believe God uses you to participate in such miracles.



Estate Giving

By Jennifer Englert

Planned giving can have a major impact on how an organization like Matthew's Hope is able to plan for its future and sustain itself in the long run. This is also an excellent way for people to create a legacy and help others no matter what their resources are now.

Planned giving is the term that nonprofit organizations like Matthew's Hope use to refer to the process of donors committing to a gift to the charity as part of their estate plan. While there are a few different ways to give via planned giving, bequests are by far the most popular and easy type of planned gift. Bequests are gifts that are left in a donor's trust, will, or estate plan, and given to a nonprofit upon the donor passing away.

Planned giving can have a major impact on how an organization like Matthew's Hope is able to plan for its future and sustain itself in the long run. This is also an excellent way for people to create a legacy and help others no matter what their resources are now.

Because planned gifts do not impact everyday cash flow, these types of gifts are accessible to everyone — from those whose incomes rarely permit them to give to major, loyal donors.

Contributions in estate planning can be a game changer to Matthew's Hope and its mission but they help the person donating also in a few ways.

First, these gifts help the donor leave a legacy. Making a bequest in a will is a powerful way to leave a lasting impact that supporting a favorite organization for years to come. Donors can allocate how or where they want that money to be spent. Because wills are fairly easy to update, donors can also keep their bequests up to date, checking in with Matthew's Hope personnel on where their donations will make the most impact. A donor can decide he or she wants part of the gift to go to Matthew's Hope's housing, medical clinic, preschool or any combination of the services it provides. Contributions can also just go to the organization in general to use as it thinks best.

Planned gifts can come in a variety of forms from simple bequests to complex trusts — all with different requirements and advantages depending on a donor's circumstances. There are a few common ways to give with the first being bequests which are a popular and fairly simple way to make a planned gift. These 'outright' gifts are charitable contributions left as a bequest in a legal will. They are usually given as a specific amount, a remainder of a donor's estate after other bequests have been paid, or a percentage of a donor's total wealth.

Jennifer Englert is the founder of The Orlando Law Group, a full-service law firm with offices throughout Orlando including one in Winter Garden near Matthew's Hope. She is also a Matthew's Hope Board Member who truly believes in its Mission.



If the donor has investments he or she can use a charitable gift annuity which allows a donor to give a large amount of cash or securities in exchange for a fixed income payment for life. The nonprofit keeps any leftover funds as well as any income it makes from investing those funds.]There are also a couple types of charitable trusts, but in each, the remaining funds go to the nonprofit after the trust is terminated. A charitable remainder annuity trust pays the donor a fixed amount based on a percentage of the initial assets used to fund the trust. A charitable remainder unitrust pays the donor a percentage of its principal and is revalued annually, so that payments increase over time. There are also charitable lead trusts which pay an 'income' to the nonprofit for a specified number of years or for the donor's lifetime. When that term is up, the assets are given back to the donor or their beneficiaries.

Other gift types are non-cash assets, such as stock or real estate, giving from IRAs (also known as Qualified Charitable Distributions), and Pooled Income Funds. In summary almost any asset can be left to the charity to sell or use as it sees fit.

So, as you can see there are many ways to give to Matthew's Hope either while you are alive through trusts and investments or after you pass through gifts in your will or your trust. If giving a gift to help your legacy carry on through helping others is something that excites you, it is not difficult to begin. If you first want to talk to the people who are executing the mission of Matthew's Hope each day to see how your gift can best help, you can speak to Pastor Scott Billue or Nancy Deskins.

After deciding exactly how you want to help Matthew's Hope, it is time to get assistance from the professionals on your team. If you have investments and may want some of them or their proceeds to go to Matthew's Hope, you should consult your financial advisor. Your accountant can also help guide you on how to reduce the taxes you or your heirs must pay by using charitable gifts. Finally, if you have a will or even if you do not, an estate planning attorney can help you add a gift to Matthew's Hope in your will or trust. If you do not have any estate planning documents, giving a gift to help the guests of Matthew's Hope is a great reason to start one.

MAKING A GIFT *Of a Lifetime*

It's hard to think about what might happen to the causes we support once we pass away. End of life planning for many includes intentions for family, heirs, and perhaps funeral arrangements. But often the causes we are passionate about and support aren't included in that planning and left to the grieving family to determine.

One of the most meaningful ways to leave your legacy and help provide for the future of Matthew's Hope Ministries is by making a planned gift, a gift whose benefits outlast your years. Making a planned gift can be as simple as making Matthew's Hope a beneficiary of your will or estate, or the beneficiary of a current financial account. Your commitment to the ministry will continue and your legacy will live on in a truly tangible manner.

If you are interested in making a planned gift or learning about other ways to financially support the ministry, please contact at; brevardinfo@matthewshopeministires.org or at 407-905-9500



**Aflac is
here to help**



Aflac
Denise Fisher

Denise_Fisher@us.aflac.com
(407) 294 - 8988



Hygiene Items We Need

(all in Travel Size, please. We prefer no Hotel Size)

- Comb/Hair Brush
- Shampoo
- Hair Conditioner
- Cotton Swabs
- Razors – Male/Female
- Shaving Cream
- Toothbrush
- Dental Floss
- Denture Cleaner
- Denture Cream
- Lip Balm
- Body Wash – Male/Female
- Deodorant – Male/Female
- Body Powder
- Body/Hand Lotion
- Toilet Paper
- Tissues
- Wet Wipes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Nail Clippers
- Gold Bond Powder
- Feminine Products



Christmas Carnvial 2021

**“The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.”
A Visit from St. Nicholas by Clement Clarke Moore**

Homeless and underprivileged children have the same wishes and dreams for Christmas that any child has but often these dreams go unrealized due to the reality of their circumstances. Matthew’s Hope recognized that our community had the desire to support these deserving children and their families and, a number of years ago, partnered with local churches, organization, businesses, and families to host what is now our annual Community Christmas Carnival. In 2020, due to the pandemic, the event was cancelled. This year, however, Matthew’s Hope and our community partners were committed to ensuring a safe and joyful event! Toys and games of all kinds were donated. On the day of the event children and their families enjoyed carnival games, fun foods, live music, and a festive atmosphere. But the highlight of the day was the walk through the North Pole Workshop and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus!





Harvest of Hope MATTHEW'S HOPE 25 Garden Party



The Matthew's Hope Garden Party was held on a beautiful November evening at the Ocoee Lakeshore Center. The annual fundraiser moved this year to an indoor venue for the 400 attendees. The evening commenced with a reception in the Silent Auction annex filled with over 80 donated items and creations by the artisans of the Hope Chest Shop. Guests were entertained by the Mt. Eleanor trio, led by none other than Board Member, Adam Barcott.



Costumed guests celebrated their creativity as they moved into the event ballroom and were seated at the themed tables they had decorated earlier in the day. Clue, Grease, Vegas and Rock Starts were among the many creative tables that enhanced the evening's festivities. The Anita Drink band carried partiers into the second half of the evening and dancing began even before emcee, Trooper Steve, formally welcomed the guests!

Sincere thanks are extended to the wonderful sponsors, donors, silent auction contributors, and supporters who made this evening successful. This is truly a community event. Mark your calendars now for November 12, 2022, as we expect another sell out!



Firm Foundation

How Do You Navigate Child Care and Learning Environments During a Pandemic?

By Meagan Galamback, Preschool Director

In the early days of the pandemic, most parents didn't have a choice about childcare. As the virus spread, many day cares and preschools closed entirely, leaving parents scrambling to balance work and taking care of young kids who were suddenly home all day. Now, a year and a half later, parents of children too young for primary school are still making decisions about childcare in an ever-shifting framework. The vaccination rollout has reduced infection risk for childcare workers and the children they care for but still, daycare centers and preschools are overwhelmingly privately run in the U.S., meaning that safety protocols vary widely, especially based on geography.

Which is all to say that, for many parents, navigating childcare decisions in a pandemic is still a source of significant stress. For many, keeping their children at home while they try to work stopped feeling feasible a long time ago. How risky is it to send young, unvaccinated kids to daycare or preschool? What about babies? And if you do decide to send them, what happens when there's a COVID exposure — or if your child is turned away simply for having a cold

What about the parents who don't have a choice?

Firm Foundation Preschool understood that for many parents, the nature of their jobs and their financial situation meant that childcare was never a choice. For many families that Firm Foundation Preschool serves, the option to work from home or do their job remotely was not an option. So many of our families during this pandemic have not had the option of being worried about childcare, they have only had the option of being worried about not having childcare

What "making it work" looks like

Firm Foundation has remained committed in doing the right thing for our children, families, and staff, and that meant ensuring that communication with families was a priority and working together as a school family to keep our learning environment as safe and healthy as we possibly could.

Tours of the preschool are scheduled while children are out on the playground or in the evening when the children have all gone home. It is important that families see classrooms



ratio's smaller, we modified drop-off and pick-up procedures, we have taken full advantage of our beautiful Florida weather by doing lessons outside, limited outside visitors into our learning environment, and have maintained a very thorough classroom/materials cleaning schedule. Most importantly, we have kept communication lines open with our families and have been very candid with school illness and exposures. We have followed CDC guidelines to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, but there is no way to physically distance all the time. If our children are crying or just need a hug, we are going to pick them up and nurture them.

We have participated in lessons on germs and continue to give our students opportunities to share their thoughts on masks, people becoming ill, and most importantly their feelings and how to cope through difficult feelings like not being able to share holidays with grandma's and grandpa's and close family and friends. Often you will hear people say that children are resilient, "they will be ok." That is not true. Children are fragile, human, and coping and working through their big feelings in their little bodies is an especially important developmental need that often gets brushed off as "they are resilient." Both of our classrooms

ASK PASTOR SCOTT

Q. Why does Matthew's Hope prefer to receive travel size hygiene items?

A. Although it may seem more fiscally responsible to get the larger sizes, we ask for the Travel Size (not hotel size) as they fit easily into a backpack. Also, travel size items have no true street value and can't be used to trade for alcohol or illegal drugs. But more importantly, we are trying to create a regular interface with our Guests and this size will last the few days between our Outreach days. Small sized items encourage their return and as we build trust between us so that we might help them move forward toward a life of independence and self-sustainability.

have areas dedicated to feelings and emotions and have special tools for breathing exercises and tools for helping to work through those big feelings that they have that need nurtured.

Uncertainty Looms Large

When it comes to the future, we place that in God's hands as we continue to provide a loving, academically rich learning environment for our community to bring their children to. Despite all the uncertainty, our preschool has had a waiting list for two school years now. When people come to your home, they may say, "Oh I love your floors. I love your furniture." No one ever walks into your home and says, nice concrete. But the reality is, that's what Firm Foundation Preschool is doing – we are building a Firm Foundation. Without that foundation, your beautiful home does not stand. And without a foundation, children are not as successful in life.

We want to thank our entire Matthew's Hope family, our school families, our staff, and our community for prayers and support during this time. We continue to put our faith and hope in the plans that God has in store for us. Open enrollment for the upcoming school year begins on February 7, 2022. Please feel free to email me to schedule your family tour or with any additional questions that you may have about our preschool to;

Meagan@matthewshopenministries.org

In Christ,

Meagan Galamback
Preschool Director





Clothing Items We Need

(Think, if I slept in my car with this on, what would I look like in the morning)

Please No Dress Clothing.

- Jeans (male and female - New or Gently Used)
- Shorts (male and female - New or Gently Used)
- Pull Over Shirts
- Tee Shirts
- Running Shoes, Work Boots (New or Gently Used)
- Brand New Men's Boxer Briefs (all sizes)
- Men's White Crew Socks (New)
- Women's Undergarments
- Belts, Ball Caps, Accessories
- Feminine Products

PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

With Their Time, Talents and Treasure

So much going on during a typical Matthew's Hope Outreach Day. We are so very grateful for all of our volunteers, supporters, and community partners who help make it happen!

Are you looking for a way to serve your community? Volunteer with us! We have volunteer positions available for Ministries Services Day, Skilled Volunteers, Group Service Projects, Design a Project and Prepare and Serve Meals. For more information scan QR Code



ASK PASTOR SCOTT

Q. Why does Matthew's Hope encourage donors to become Sustaining Partners in the ministry?

A. As you know, Matthew's Hope takes ZERO Government funding and relies 100% on community partners for support. Nearly 70% of all funding comes from individuals, many whom have committed to an ongoing monthly or quarterly gift. This creates a solid financial foundation upon which we conduct daily operations. In December we receive 30-35% of our annual donations. These monies are then used to upgrade equipment, close needed gaps, and hopefully grow and expand. Our Sustaining Partners help us keep the doors open and enable us to offer our full services 365 days a year.





John

Your generosity enabled Matthew's Hope to facilitate John's life changing hand surgery. He is now an artisan in our Matthew's Hope Chest Shop, debt free and moving forward towards a life of independence and self sustainability.

(MF): What brought you to Matthew's Hope?

Due to the sale of the home I was living in, I unexpectedly found myself without housing. The housing market is crazy and I couldn't find anything I could afford. And even though I was driving with Uber, I couldn't even afford an apartment. I tried to find a place to live and tried to hang on to my personal things that were in a Pod while I rented a room. Then I lost that place and I was in a hotel but it was just too expensive. I was out of money and homeless. That's how I end up at Matthew's Hope.

(MF): John, did you work with wood before you started working in the Matthew's Hope carpentry shop?

(J): I got a lot of my talents from my mother and my father. My father was an engineer and used to go out and work in the garage and make things. I used to build models like crazy when I was a kid and I think that's where I got the talent to build things and understand how things are put together. My mother was primarily a housewife, but she was also very creative. She took an interior decorating course so that's where I got my eye for color. But the true "artsy" part of me just came out in really the last few years.

MF: Where do you get your inspiration?

J: A lot of my inspiration comes from my travels. I've been all through Europe. I've seen the Sistine Chapel. I've seen more stuff than most people so when I'm looking at something, I see it from a well-traveled perspective. I also research ideas on the internet. Sometimes an idea starts with somebody else's design then I just develop it.

MF: What do you enjoy most about working in the carpentry shop?

J: I like the challenge of taking an item and turning it into something useful. I also really enjoy developing a process and making a process efficient. I get really bored with repetition but I can make a template that is efficient. I think that's why I like these computers in the CNC area of the shop because the process is always changing or evolving.



MF: What pieces are you most proud of?

J: I'm very proud of the Wine Time Swings. We sold one and I built a second that's in the store now. I also liked the bar I made from a baby crib. You simply couldn't tell that it was made from a baby crib; it had a brass footrest and tapestry on the front. It was beautiful and all made from donated items. To take something that was going to be thrown away and make it useful again is pretty cool.

MF: You've developed fine woodworking skills and have created a CNC machine room for production pieces. How did that come about?

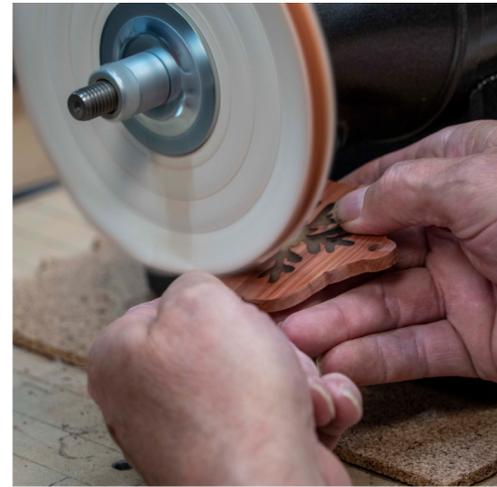
J: I have a technical background. I started my first job as a material handler and I worked closely with one of the engineers. I was helping him with a process he was trying to automate. So started there and then I went out to the oil fields and I ended up being the guy who ran the computers in the computer van. We connected them all to a central computer. That was in the early 80s so that was pretty advanced for then. My career progressed and I moved to Florida and I did a couple of cool jobs, one of which involved chemical cleaning and hydraulic systems. I wrote software to interface computers and oversee operations. I had the aptitude to figure these things out without formal training. Matthew's Hope was really receptive to purchasing equipment I recommended we get. I was able to show Pastor Scott that I could set up processes to produce multiple items like Other Guest are able to sand and stain those items as they learn to work with wood. As time passed, Matthew's Hope invested in other machines that help us produce some of the beautiful items available at our auction events and in the Hope Chest store.

MF: Have you thought about what you want to do after graduating from the Moving Forward program?

It's hard to know what you want to do in this climate with COVID and the job and housing uncertainties associated with it. I've moved around around a lot and I wasn't scared to move where the work was before, but now I'm older and I really have to be thoughtful so

I'd like to take the skills I have learned here and my love of setting up processes and see if I can find a job or a business partner. The good thing is that Pastor Scott and the team are here to help and support me as I make these decisions.

that I don't end up back here. I'd like to take the skills I have learned here and my love of setting up processes and see if I can find a job or a business partner. The good thing is that Pastor Scott and the team are here to help and support me as I make these decisions. In the meantime, I like working here and getting the processes up and going. I enjoy working with the wood and the creative process.



Community Matters

Thank you Orange Technical College for your Community Partnership!

Are you looking for a way to serve your community? Volunteer with us! We have volunteer positions available for Ministries Services Day, Skilled Volunteers, Group Service Projects, Design a Project and Prepare and Serve Meals. For more information; Scan Below





In my journey, I had to have a change of perspective. I had to learn how to overcome being a victim. I needed to conquer this program because I knew that this was my last chance. I had lost almost everything and the only thing I was going to lose next was my children. That thought brought me to my knees so when I got in the program, I really had to just sit and process what was being taught to me and try to do what they wanted me to do. I knew that I was going to have to dig my way out and that nobody was going to do it for me. I had to be the one to get up every morning and make sure that I met all the program expectations without making any excuses

I would also tell them to not give up on themselves and to show themselves some grace. I would tell them that they are going to make it; they must give the program a chance. Everyone at Matthew's Hope is there to help you be successful. They will help you with your credit, they'll help you find housing, they help you in many areas so instead of trying to be a fighter, work the program and recognize what it is going to do for you. I was homeless. And I had the choice to move forward or return to homelessness and risk losing my children. I could not bear that. I chose to work the program and I am so happy that I did!

To some of our Guests, the Matthew's Hope Moving Forward Program may seem to have a very restrictive structure with too many rules and expectations. It seems like when you were in the program, you were frustrated with it. What are your thoughts about that now?

At the time I hated the program. I absolutely hated it. But it changed my life. I remember all the conversations I had with the staff. They made me angry with the rules and the endless expectations to attend classes and work. The volunteers will love and nurture you and do what mothers do to their children. Alternatively, Scott and the staff are going to demand you meet the requirements that everybody else in the world meets. For instance, you must pay your bills, buy your groceries, stay sober, take care of your family, etc. Who was I to not have those same responsibilities? But that was my mentality when I got in the program. The Matthew's Hope staff did the tough love and I either needed to work the program or I would get kicked out. Scott was very straightforward with me and told me that I either do as he requires, or I leave. He gave me two simple options and it was that tough love that got me on this path to success. Everybody else will love you, especially with having a special needs child. I could have played that card to the hilt, but I didn't want to.

It took God first, then this program to help me move forward. I complained and whined to God. I hated Scott for making me work at the Hope Chest woodshop on a Sunday because I didn't make my hours. I was crying as I worked on a dresser and asked God why they were being so mean to me. And in that moment on that day, I had a realization, and I carved a poem on a piece of wood that I gave to Scott. It is still in his office to this day. I stayed in this program for me and my children. It was tough. But I stayed and I grew, and I have continued to grow.

Sherry, who graduated from Matthew's Hope Moving Forward Program in 2018, lived for two years in our Transitional Housing with her daughters Kelly and Alivia, who has special needs. She worked at the Outreach facility and in the Hope Chest Shop during her time as a Guest. Sherry was featured in our Summer 2019 magazine just after her graduation. Moving Forward recently sat with her to get an update on her life.

(MF): It's been four years since you graduated. How would you describe yourself now?

(S) I am much more confident! Matthew's Hope taught me to be goal oriented, so I now set goals for myself and try to achieve them every day. Instead of living in the moment I am more focused on my retirement and am trying to prepare for Alivia's future. I used to do everything for her because it was easier but now my goal is to make her independent and self-sufficient so now whenever I'm doing laundry, housework, or whatever, she's right there with me and she's doing it with me. It's great for both of us.

One of the things you talked about in the Summer 2019 article is fear and how that emotion took you to a very dark place. In these four years since you left, have you encountered fear and how do you manage it differently?

Yes, I have, and I still do but I learned that I just have to walk through it. I have learned that I've been through so much that I now see myself as a stronger woman than I did before. Before I was in the program, I was in a group home and then I was married for 30 years. I had no sense of self as I saw life only through my husband's eyes. I was never independent or self-sufficient. The program taught me how to take care of myself and appreciate myself. I know to be thankful for where I'm at even when I'm lacking in something because at least I'm not homeless. I'm no longer walking in fear because I can't pay my bills, nor do I need a man to take care of me. I love this about me now.

What advice do you have for those who are in our program now---especially our single mothers?

Trust the advice that Scott and the staff provide. The journey will get worse before it gets better. And have a crock pot because you will never have enough time to cook!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Valary and Bruce Brett

By Amanda Brett



On a typical Winter day, Valary Brett was scrolling through her Facebook feed when she came across a question from a stranger, Pastor Scott, asking the general void of social media if anyone else saw the need to act in the face of the growing homeless population in Brevard County. After sharing this information with her husband, Bruce, they were both astonished to find that these people echoed and shared similar beliefs and the desire to help others. Unbeknownst to all involved, this call to aid would spark a jubilant partnership.

When Valary Brett was a young girl, her mother, Vicki, held her hand as they walked underneath sweltering boardwalks and through cold streets, their arms full of clothes and supplies for the homeless families they sought to help. Vicki would often invite these struggling people back to their home, offering the promise of shelter and the comfort of a home cooked meal, Valary a constant companion at her side. In 2014, Bruce and Valary moved to Florida in order to support and care for Vicki through her fight with diabetes, where they were with her in her final moments. Through her mother's numerous displays of compassion, a deep sense of kindness and a desire to help everyone she comes across was instilled in Valary.

While recovering from an intense surgery after a debilitating injury, Bruce experienced a potent vision: the promise of creating a proper Christmas for homeless children, providing them with curated gifts as an illustration that they were cared for and loved. Through his recovery, he and Valary created a nonprofit organization, where they worked tirelessly to build a truly spectacular Christmas for these displaced kids. After collecting countless wishlists and raising \$10,000, Bruce's wonderful vision became fully realized as the children opened their gifts on Christmas morning.

Together, Bruce and Valary Brett are a joyful, affectionate couple — their conversations are peppered with inside jokes and a deep understanding of their other half. Underneath this hard fought peace lives the prevalence of a multitude of struggles, of surviving a life full of trauma. They intimately know what it is to watch your loved ones and your own children battle with mental and physical illnesses, some of which have led to homelessness. Their faith in and love for their family and for God, as well as their passion to extend this light to others, has kept them stalwart in the face of pain.

As the brisk chill of Winter settled into the familiar warmth of Spring, Valary, along with her friend Denise, toured the grounds of Matthew's Hope in Winter Garden. As the tour ended she recalled all that she saw, and remembered that Bruce and Valary walked through the grounds of the Brevard campus several times prior to knowing about Matthew's Hope, praying constantly that, if not them, then that someone would be called to serve the community and those who needed it most. With tear filled eyes Valary explained everything she encountered to Bruce who later took the tour and they both knew they had to be part of this ministry. To say it was a dream realized would be a falsehood — rather, it was a living manifestation of the legacies of those who influenced them, a mirror to the work they did and the work they wished to continue. By discovering and working for Matthew's Hope, Bruce and Valary have been able to truly fulfill their dreams and their destinies of helping others in need.

Matthew's Hope is very excited to share that we have added Dr. Sarah Blizzard DNP, PMHNP, FNP to our Medical & Mental Healthcare Team! Sarah is a highly trained psychiatric nurse practitioner with 24 years of experience working with patients in emergency departments and other psychiatric settings.

Dr. Blizzard is very passionate about easy access to care, accepting patients of lower-income levels, and ensuring they get the care they need. She specializes in depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, as well as dementia, Alzheimer's disease, and specialty care for geriatric and adolescent patients.

Sarah shared, "I am so honored to be a part of Matthew's Hope and the great team here. I have always had a heart for reaching people for God wherever they are in their life. If seeing them for a medical or psychological condition can bring them one step closer to knowing Jesus, I am all in. Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity, compassion, and respect and I know this place offers all of that and more. I consider it a privilege to be here serving God along side all of the volunteers and staff."

Dr. Blizzards private practice Excel Psychiatry, here in the Winter Garden, is welcoming new patients.

After earning her bachelor's degree, Dr. Blizzard received a master's degree in nursing at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. She obtained a post-master's certificate as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner (PMHNP) at Maryville University in St. Louis, Missouri, and is dual certified as a family nurse practitioner and a PMHNP.

Dr. Blizzard earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) at Maryville University. She holds advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license in Florida as well as Texas, New Mexico, Virginia, and Arizona. She is highly skilled in emergency medicine, psychiatric services, outpatient clinics, urgent care, and inpatient care. Due to her diverse background, Dr. Blizzard is able to care for patients with a wide variety of needs and is experienced in treating those with medically complex cases.



Dr. Sarah Blizzard
DNP, PMHNP, FNP

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



"God gave me a gift and I need to use it," shared nurse Mary Hudson who volunteers her services every Tuesday at the Matthew's Hope Medical Home. If guest have cuts or scrapes that need attention, high blood pressure, diabetes, or any other medical concern, they may request an appointment for evaluation in the Medical Home.

Mary assesses problems from stickers in feet to a problem with eyes. They might need ibuprofen or may have a more severe problem that needs assessment by Dr. Salil Gupta, the Matthew's Hope Medical Services Officer and lead physician.

"Because of COVID," states Mary "the need has exploded. We have seen a lot of new faces and noted a lot of need."

Mary's enthusiasm for the job is so contagious that her husband, Travis, began volunteering too. He now works in the Fulfillment area where guests may request clothes and hygiene items. Volunteering is in her blood. Mary has been on four medical mission trips to Jamaica, and several home repair missions to South Carolina. She volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, and has volunteered with Shepard's Hope for 16 years, and Family Promise too.

A native Floridian, Mary was born in Stuart, and moved to Central Florida to attend the Orange Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, now the Orlando Regional Medical Center. She has been in nursing for 51 years with 16 of those years in pediatrics and another 28 years at MD Anderson Cancer Center.

When not at Matthew's Hope, Mary and her husband enjoy kayaking and bird watching. They have lived in Ocoee for 33 years. She also enjoys quilting.

"It is very fulfilling to volunteer at Matthew's Hope," said Mary. "I do it because it is important and there is a need here. I've been so blessed in life, and I should now be blessing other people too."

Mary Hudson, R.N
By Marlana Morton



Brevard Bus Sponsorship Opportunities



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 3 Year \$600 (S) \$1200 (M) \$2400 (L)
 5 Year \$1200 (S) \$2400 (M) \$4800 (L)



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1 Year \$250 (S) \$500 (M) \$1000 (L)
 3 Year \$500 (S) \$1000 (M) \$2000 (L)
 5 Year \$750 (S) \$1500 (M) \$3000 (L)



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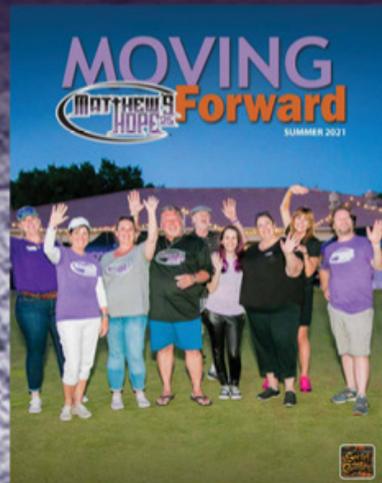
1 Year \$400 (S) \$800 (M) \$1300 (L)
 3 Year \$750 (S) \$1275 (M) \$2500 (L)
 5 Year \$1000 (S) \$1875 (M) \$3750 (L)

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