

DRAFT



CITY OF FORT PIERCE CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CRA Advisory Committee Minutes

OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE CITY CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, **OCTOBER 18, 2017, IN FORT PIERCE 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, 100 NORTH US HIGHWAY 1, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Kristina Gibbons; Allan Reed; Al Johnson; Michael Brown, Jr.; Cindi O'Connell; Hoyt Murphy, Jr.; Chair Charlie Frank Matthews

Absent: Plythe Freedman; Junette Raymond

Staff Present: Vennis Gilmore, Planning Analyst
Alicia Rosenthal, Executive Assistant
Jose Maldonado, Fort Pierce Police Officer

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes from the August 16, 2017 meeting

Motion was made by Cindi O'Connell, and seconded by Al Johnson to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2017 meeting.

AYE: Michael Brown, Jr., Cindi O'Connell, Hoyt Murphy, Jr., Kristina Gibbons, Allan Reed, Al Johnson, Chair Charlie Frank Matthews

Passed

4. CHAIRMAN VIEWPOINTS

Chairman Matthews said he hoped everyone is up and well from the hurricane and he explained that the September meeting was cancelled due to the hurricane. Chairman Matthews said he would like for the committee to come up with business ideas for the empty spaces in the garage.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. **Update from Officer Maldonado**

Officer Maldonado stated he is creating a database with homeless information in order to get some of the funding that Vero is using on our behalf. He stated he is going to see if the Salvation Army can pick up the homeless for dinner, somewhere else, besides in front of the downtown library. Officer Maldonado said he is going to talk with the VA and Health Department to see if they can provide a common place to provide services. He said the average age of the homeless is between 45 and 60 years old and the homeless are not committing any crimes so there is no ordinance. Office Maldonado said he has added "No Parking on the Grass" signs at Pinewood Park to eliminate the feeding for the homeless.

Chairman Matthews stated he had a meeting with the administrative staff regarding a homeless ordinance and the city attorney needs to look into it and get back with the committee.

Motion was made by Michael Brown, Jr., and seconded by Cindi O'Connell to ask the City Attorney, City Manager and the City Commission to craft an ordinance addressing the homeless situation in the city that will allow Officer Maldonado and law enforcement to fairly address the issue in the CRA area.

AYE: Allan Reed, Al Johnson, Plythe Freedman, Michael Brown, Jr., Cindi O'Connell, Hoyt Murphy, Jr., Kristina Gibbons, Chair Charlie Frank Matthews

Passed

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Homeless Roundtable Discussion

Chairman Matthews would like to bring homeless providers, social service agencies, St. Lucie County school system and some homeless people together for a Homeless Roundtable discussion.

a. Treasure Coast Homeless Council - Louise Hubbard

Chairman Matthews asked Ms. Hubbard to speak about what kind of funds are being put into the city of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County.

Ms. Hubbard provided a hand out showing funding for Fort Pierce. Ms. Hubbard said the data provided shows that between \$300,000 and \$400,000 annually comes directly to the City of Fort Pierce residents through the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council.

Ms. Hubbard explained that the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council pays for shelter plus care and fair market rental housing in Fort Pierce, for people who are Fort Pierce residents or are picked up in Fort Pierce, who are subsequently chronically homeless. She also stated New Horizons does ride-a longs and provides monthly gratis pro bono services to the clients that are Fort Pierce residents, who have been picked up off the street, who are severely mentally ill, severely disabled and chronically homeless. Ms. Hubbard stated the agency also does rapid-rehousing, which is for an individual they find, who is not suitable for shelter plus care because they don't have a long term disability. Ms. Hubbard explained that the homeless are allowed to stay in fair market housing until the landlord throws them out.

Ms. Hubbard explained the Salvation Army jail diversion program location, where volunteers would do outreach to the homeless, was turned down by the City Commission.

Ms. Hubbard explained the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council is funded annually and

the point and time count for homeless is done with a standard survey by actually interviewing the homeless in the streets, woods and parks.

b. Graceway Village - Cathie Mouring, Executive Director

Cathie Mouring, Executive Director of Graceway Village, explained they have different numbers, a difference experience and a different focus on the homeless. Ms. Mouring stated Graceway Village has been independent since January 2016 and currently runs Hope's Closet for Children, clothing boutique for children in crisis, and Matthew's Cafe, a Sunday night food kitchen, which served 10,000 meals this year. She said they are just starting the capital campaign to build a transitional living facility for homeless families and on November 3, 2017 they are having a town hall meeting to share more details on the community issue.

Ms. Mouring stated there were 708 registered homeless children in 2016 in the St. Lucie County Public schools and 944 registered homeless children in June 2017. She went on to say that this is a conservative number because most parents will not register their child as homeless because they are afraid the children will be taken from them.

Ms. Mouring explained that a transitional facility works the homeless very hard because the whole point is to grow them to self sufficiency and a healthy family unit. She stated it is a much longer process and a narrower window because not everyone is vetted for the program. Ms. Mouring said the program is 18 - 24 months and houses 20 families and 12 rooms are reserved for St. Lucie County.

Ms. Hubbard, from the Treasure Coast Homeless Council, answered the question on how it is determined that a child is homeless. She explained the categories of homeless and she stated that the parent has to indicate they are currently in domicile: Category 1 homeless is sharing a residence with another and Category 2 homeless is literally homeless, living on the street or in a camp setting.

c. Salvation Army - Clyde Preston, Regional Resource Development Director

Clyde Preston provided the back drop on the Salvation Army. He explained that the Salvation Army has focused on homeless since day one and they shelter over 30 million people a year throughout the United States. Mr. Preston went on to say the Salvation Army does wrap around case management counseling, where people follow the homeless person through the system, even when they get into stable housing, by encouraging them to make a life for themselves.

Mr. Preston stated the government has taken away funding for transitional housing and they are moving to rapid re-housing. Mr. Preston stated the data shows that if you can get a homeless person into their own apartment or home, support them enough that they don't have to go back into the woods in two days, they start to begin to catch on to that rebuilding of hope, dignity and purpose. Mr. Preston said the Salvation Army loves everybody without discrimination, whether it is one chance, ten chances or a million chances, as long as you are alive the Salvation Army is going to love you and help you.

Mr. Preston said the Salvation Army was approached to be the lead agency for the jail diversion program because they were the registered agency to receive funds. Mr. Preston was able to reinforce to the City of Fort Pierce Commissioners that the Salvation Army jail diversion program is not a walk in shelter and that individuals have to be brought in through one of three agencies: law enforcement, veterans or the American Legion.

Mr. Preston explained Fort Pierce Housing Authority offered a shelter for the jail diversion program and they are ready to start. He said they have thirty different partner collaborations set up. Mr. Preston said once the homeless are identified they are given a choice. If they fall

off the wagon and come back we will take them back 10 times because one of those times they are going to get to know us and they are finally going to say, let me go to the next step, which is continuum care.

Mr. Preston explained, Bill Turney, Philanthropist, has a passion for veterans and he wanted to build a house for the veterans on his property but it was not allowed so he gifted the first \$250,000 as a matching fund for the jail diversion shelter. Mr. Preston stated they are waiting on final approval and he needs additional funding, because the Salvation Army requires him to have a sustainable budget in place so the program doesn't start and stop and fall apart. Mr. Preston explained the Salvation Army is a jail diversion/veterans intervention shelter, housing 24 people at a time, starting with single men on a voluntary basis, brought in by police or other agencies they work with, to be housed for approximately 30 days or longer.

Mr. Preston explained that law enforcement put together an intake form, to be used for interviewing, wherever the people are confronted. He said that once they fill out the form they are told that they are eligible to not to have to be arrested, and then they are asked if they would like to go to the shelter. Mr. Preston stated they will take them if they are high on drugs and alcohol because they have a detox set up when they come in. He said they cannot be a hard criminal or it cannot be a major crime that was committed, only a misdemeanor or nuisance charge. Mr. Preston said this keeps a safe population and breaks the repetitive cycle of arrest, jail, get out.

Mr. Turney, Philanthropist, stated the facility in Fort Pierce is named "Adam's Place" and it is named for his son who is a recovering drug and alcohol abuser. Mr. Turney said his son had to hit bottom before he ever managed to start back up hill and that occurred over and over again.

Mr. Preston said he is looking for a token donation from the city of Ft. Pierce for the shelter they can be built upon.

d. In the Image of Christ - Hazel Hoylman

Hazel Hoylman, Founder and Director of In the Image of Christ, stated they have been housing the chronic homeless off and on for the last 8 years. She said it started with Emergency Management asking her for a weather shelter. Ms. Hoylman said she would get in her car with one of her workers and try to find homeless people when it was cold outside to bring them into the shelter. She said she did not realize that by 4 PM or 5 PM the homeless had already found a place to go because they needed to be safe. Ms. Hoylman stated she realized that most people do not want to be homeless, whatever choices they have made in life, have gotten them consequences and some of them don't know how to come back out again. Ms. Hoylman explained for the past 4-5 years she has a shelter on Friday, Saturday and Sunday where the homeless come in at 5 PM, have a hot meal and a shower and at 7 AM the next morning they go back out again. She went on to say that they do not get brought in when they are sloppy drunk because it is a liability and they have had the Fort Police department, the Sheriff's department and the Port St. Lucie police department bring people to her shelter.

Ms. Hoylman explained for the past 4 years, In the Image of Christ, has been running the Hands Up program. She stated the space is big enough to house 9 families out of necessity. Ms. Hoylman said they are not partnering with other agencies and community services may call her to house a family up to 90 days. She said they connect the families with Mustard Seed, New Horizon, Help Me Grow Program and other agencies. Ms. Holyman said they also house veterans. Ms. Holyman said the weather shelter is to relieve what is going on downtown. Ms. Hoylman said this is all done without any funding and they are looking at hiring 2 staff members but funding is needed to continue the service to help the homeless people. She also said it is hard enough to get the homeless in the door but if you say the wrong thing they are walking out the door again. Ms. Hoylman said In the Image of Christ has two

locations: 707 N. 7th Street and a building on Avenue G and they have an agreement with Andrea at the Fort Pierce Housing Authority for emergency housing.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

8. STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

The committee members discussed how the homeless people end up in Fort Pierce, Port St. Lucie homeless services and homeless numbers, Treasure Coast Homeless Council budget and proper homeless feeding locations.

Chairman Matthews stated on the next agenda the Board will further discuss the homeless situation and discuss some ideas for a business in the parking garage.

The Board asked staff to look into any restrictions on the occupancy of the parking garage building because of the funding for the garage. A suggestion was made to send any questions they had for the speakers, to staff, so they can get an answer by the next meeting. The Board asked to be e-mailed a copy of the updated FPRA annual budget and the marketing paperwork for the HD King Power Plant. The Board asked for an update on the Power Plant and they also asked for an update regarding the commissioners meeting with the fire chief about using the Kings Inn as a training exercise instead of paying \$40,000 for the demolition.

9. ADJOURNMENT



TREASURE COAST HOMELESS SERVICES COUNCIL, INC.
 2525 St. Lucie Avenue
 Vero Beach, FL 32960

irhsc@chsc.org

www.tchelpspot.org

772-567-7790

The table below shows the financial assistance provided to prevent and end homelessness for households residing **ONLY** in the City of Ft. Pierce through the funding received by Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, Inc. for 2016-2017 and YTD for 2017-2018 which began in 07/01/2017.

Financial Assistance Provided to Households in Ft. Pierce ZIP Codes

Services Provided under PSH, ESG, Challenge and SSVF to household in Ft. Pierce, FL						
Grant	Type	Amount	Households	Adults	Children	Seniors
CoC Program	PSH	\$274,937.25	32	36	8	4
ESG 2016-2017	HP	\$6,315.57	7	8	12	0
ESG 2016-2017	RRH	\$45,146.66	32	47	48	4
ESG 2017-2018	HP	\$3,760	2	2	7	0
ESG 2017-2018	RRH	\$20,072	13	15	17	0
Challenge 2016-2017	RRH	\$7,278.20	9	17	14	0
SSVF 2016-2017	HP	\$11,483.98	11	21	2	2
SSVF 2016-2017	RRH	\$18,956.30	19	22	10	3

HP= Homeless prevention, RRH=Rapid rehousing of homeless household

WE PAY LANDLORDS DIRECTLY, WE DO NOT PAY CLIENTS.

We have W-9s, street addresses, landlord names, copies of checks and client files to prove the type and amount of assistance every household received in Ft. Pierce ZIPs.

Financial Assistance to Chronically Homeless in Ft. Pierce, FL. CoC Program

Permanent Supportive Housing: The Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, CoC FL-509, has 3 permanent supportive housing projects serving people from Ft. Pierce. Rents are paid directly to local landlords to house severely disabled, chronically homeless persons, some with children. **\$274,937.00** was provided to Ft. Pierce landlords so far this year.

Financial Assistance to House Families in Ft. Pierce, FL, ESG Program

Emergency Solutions Grant: The Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, CoC FL-509 utilizes its ESG grant to provide rent and utility assistance under the homeless prevention and rapid-rehousing components. **The STATE is the grantee**, TCHSC is a sub recipient, and receives funds only through a complete application process. **\$75,293.00** was provided in one year to Ft. Pierce families to prevent evictions and rehouse families who were homeless. 2nd year of grant began July 1, 2017.

Financial Assistance to House Families in Ft. Pierce, FL, State

Challenge Grant: Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council requested funds under the State's Challenge Grant for direct financial assistance for homeless clients on the Treasure Coast. **\$7,278** in funding assisted an additional 9 households in the City of Ft. Pierce.



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Financial Assistance to House Veterans in Ft. Pierce, FL SSVF

Supportive Services for Veteran Families: The CoC partnered with St. Lucie County Veterans Services to provide financial assistance to Veterans in St. Lucie County, including those in Ft. Pierce. **\$30,349.00** was paid to landlords on behalf of 30 Veteran households with Ft. Pierce Zip codes. 19 households with 25 adults and 10 children were literally homeless.

Access to Assistance in Ft. Pierce- The CoC uses PATH Outreach workers and CoC intake staff to do pre-screening and to meet people in Ft. Pierce, including SLC Community Services Office, Ixoria Offices of New Horizons, and Mustard Seed Ministries. Many screenings and applications are completed by telephone, scan and fax. CoC Staff inspect ALL properties for habitability or HUD housing quality depending on funding source. New Horizons assists with some inspections in Ft. Pierce.

ESG sub allocation-As part of the ESG program, Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council solicited participation by other community Agencies. **198 members of the CoC Mailing list received an application through E-mail. It was also on the Agency's website.** Nicholas Mimms, City of Ft. Pierce City Manager is on our CoC Mailing list and receives all meeting minutes and notices. The CoC received no application from the City of Ft. Pierce to participate in the ESG program. St. Lucie County Community Services, DCF and Mustard Seed, make direct referrals. PATH outreach workers from New Horizons are working with Ft. Pierce residents for the assistance year beginning 07/01/2017.

Continuum of Care Council Meetings

18 Ft. Pierce Persons/Agencies involved with providing services to the City who participated in our last CoC meeting. Council Meeting Sign-In Sheet is attached.

Stacy Malinowski – Mustard Seed Ministries

Rhonda Corrods- Ft. Pierce Housing Authority

Jeanne Bunten – Department of Children and Families

David and Kelly Long – Angels of Hope

Carolyn Fabrizio – Florida Rural Legal Services

Robert Gonzalez – Career Source of the Research Coast

Cindy Seipel – Children's Home Society Wave Crest

Karen Knapp – St. Lucie County United Way

Cathie Mouring- Graceway Village

Carl Muti - St. Vincent DePaul - Adam's Place (Jail Diversion Project)

Tracy Jahn - SLC Community Services

Loren Johnson- SLC Community Services

Rozanne Brown- CareBag Inc.

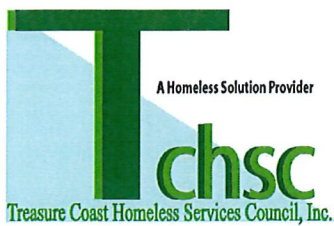
Jessica Munoz – Veterans' Services, SSVF

Soledad Dorminier – New Horizons of the Treasure Coast (Ft Pierce)

Stefanie Myers – St. Lucie County United Against Poverty

Kim Johnson – Salvation Army of St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee Counties

Renee Deschenes – Public Defender's Office



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Fort Pierce Program Development/Assistance

The Jail Diversion Shelter in St. Lucie County (Adam's Place) originally resulted from a public forum held by the CoC with Lt. Frank Amandro from the Fort Pierce Police Department. There have been multiple meetings at the CoC with Bob Carey and Carl Muti. This project was moved to Salvation Army to discuss solutions to avoiding time consuming booking procedures and jail time for chronic homeless. Law enforcement, Sarah's Kitchen and eventually, SLC Salvation Army took over project. Ft. Pierce Public Housing Authority is now providing a facility for one dollar a year lease.

Graceway Village , Dana Allin -Original plans for family shelter developed with First Presbyterian. CoC provided plan revisions, program guidance, project costing, supported and attended public hearing in Ft. Pierce. Permits now expired. CoC is now working with Cathie Mouring who is attempting to revitalize the project and purchase the property from First Presbyterian. CoC is assisting with expertise and non-HUD support, as CoC funds are not for construction of emergency shelters or transitional housing.

Self Sufficiency in Place, Ft. Pierce Housing Authority, project is being developed to move families with children from poverty to self sufficiency by using up to ten units of public housing which can be made available to qualifying families with children. Application was submitted this year for consideration as a HUD new project under eligible tenant based rental assistance.

User Licenses – Ft. Pierce Programs-Homeless Management Information Systems

The Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council provides and pays for **14** user licenses for the Homeless Management Information System for Ft. Pierce programs. These user licenses are currently charged to the Council at \$750 per user per year. The Council provides end-user training and Help Desk for all HMIS end users and provides one on one training to anyone who asks. Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, Inc. Assistant Director recently worked with Mustard Seed Ministries for specialized training and support and report gathering from the system.

NOTE:

HUD CoC Programs do not fund the development of Emergency Shelters. Since the Hearth Act, HUD's focus is on Rapid Rehousing, Diversion, Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronics, Systems Performance and Coordinated Entry. HUD's CoC funding is directed to end chronic homelessness, end Veteran's homelessness and end homeless among special populations, including victims of human trafficking and homelessness in families, including youth under 24. Housing First is HUD's means of requiring low barrier housing which means that programs cannot demand sobriety, compliance with pre-entry criteria, drug or felony free status, employment, etc. as a pre-requisite to receiving a bed. Thus, CoC program funds are not available for shelter development.



Hope's Closet 4 Children

Hope's Closet provides gently-used clothing for children, age birth to 17. Created for the children of families in poverty, clients are able to shop for free in a boutique-style setting.

Matthew's Café

Matthew's Café allows families in need to receive a free meal in a friendly atmosphere on Sunday evenings in order to help prepare people to start their week off right.



Getting Ahead

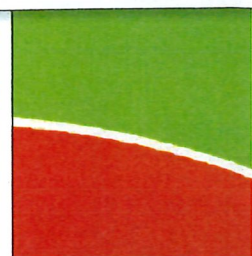
Getting Ahead provides a way for individuals in poverty to assess their own resources, make plans for the future, and choose a team to help them fulfill their dreams and goals.



Help us reach our funding goal for the new Family Transitional Living Facility

Grace Way Village
1780 Hartman Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34947
772.925.3074

info@gracewayvillage.com
www.gracewayvillage.com



Community families in crisis!

Sobering Statistics:

St. Lucie County homeless children increased

33% from 2016 to 2017.

The children of our county need your input!

Please join us!



TOWN HALL MEETING

Friday, November 3, 2017, 6:00 pm

Grace Way Village

1780 Hartman Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34947

You are cordially invited to attend this important **informational meeting**, presenting the vision of a **Family Transitional Living Facility** for **homeless** families in St. Lucie County.

Join Community Leaders and current stakeholders in this unique opportunity to collectively share knowledge and ideas aimed at helping these families achieve healthy self-sufficiency.

These are our children.

You are needed.

Please come.

No RSVP necessary.

Questions? Contact Cathie Mouring, Executive Director at info@gracewayvillage.com.

1780 Hartman Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34947
www.gracewayvillage.com
info@gracewayvillage.com
772-925-3074



Grace Way Village desires to serve all with grace who come its way from the "village" that surrounds it. Each program is an integral part in helping the community it serves. Please take a few moments to catch up on the latest. You will be impressed!



GRACE WAY VILLAGE RESPONDING IN A TIME OF CRISIS



Three local nonprofits joined the work at Grace Way Village on the Wednesday immediately following Hurricane Irma, preparing, serving, and delivering meals to those in need within our community. Chamber of Commerce, United Way, and Fort Pierce Women's Club served walk-ins with Grace Way Village, delivered meals to the residents at Sabal Chase Apartments, the Boys & Girls Club, and a senior/disabled public housing community. All involved were greatly impacted by the great need around us, counting it a privilege to come together to help our neighbors in need.

Pictured l to r: Andrea Pohl, Jerry Dodson (Chamber of Commerce), Terissa Aronson (Chamber of Commerce), Cathie Mouring, (Grace Way Village), Mark Tremblay (Chamber of Commerce), Esperanza Morales (United Way).



Pictured l to r: Esperanza Morales (United Way), Loretta Millan (Chamber of Commerce)

Partnerships such as these allows so much more to be accomplished. Thank you each and every one!

Grace Way Village remains very active in serving our neighbors in need. Community Care Partners are vitally important to our ability to help as we do. Thank you so very much for your continued support to Grace Way Village! For more info about how to become a Community Care Partner, see the next page.

Cathie Mouring
Executive Director

A Look at Our Week at GWV

Monday: Surveyed needs and provided water to all 119 senior/disabled public housing residents at the high rise on Ave B.

Tuesday: Delivered 21 hot meals to Grace Way's Homebound guests.

Wednesday: Served lunch on-site in Matthew's Café, delivered meals to Sabal Chase Apartments residents in need, delivered meals to the Boys & Girls Club on Avenue J, and delivered meals to 28 Homebound guests in another public housing community for seniors/disabled.



Friday: Visited the Red Cross Shelter, providing information and resources to displaced hurricane victims.

Reaching out to those at the Red Cross Shelter

Sunday: Collected and distributed tents and sleeping bags for Matthew's Cafe guests, sharing some also with Angels of Hope, a local nonprofit that goes into the homeless camps.

Grace Way Village will continue to assist with clothing, food, and other needs in the community as we are made aware of them. Please feel free to contact us of any needs you might know about.



Andrew & Shea Webb delivering food to public housing apartments.

Contact Us

Grace Way Village

1780 Hartman Rd Fort
Pierce FL 34947

772-925-3074

info@gracewayvillage.com

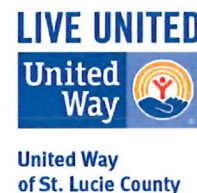
Visit us on the web at
www.gracewayvillage.com

Visit us on Facebook at
[www.facebook.com/
GraceWayVillage/](http://www.facebook.com/GraceWayVillage/)

If you would like to become a Community Care Partner, please go to our website at www.gracewayvillage.com to schedule your monthly contribution.



While all donations are welcome, the regular monthly contributions are what keeps our doors open. Won't you consider being a partner with us in serving the community of St. Lucie County?

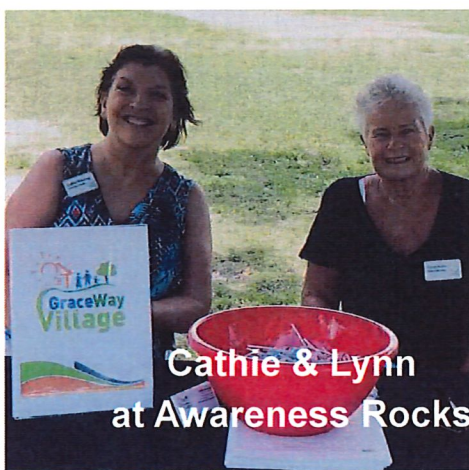


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GRACE WAY VILLAGE MOVING FORWARD

Grace Way Village has been busy participating in a number of community events in order for more in our community to learn about all that is offered. It always amazes me when people haven't heard of us or any of our programs. We helped close to 10,000 of our neighbors last year, how could they not know? Be sure and stop by any time you see us out and about; we'd love to say hi! If you are on Instagram, be sure and "follow" us, so you can see all that is happening almost as it happens!



Introducing Our 2017 Board of Directors

Chris Morhardt, President	CEO, Pharus Group
Jim Pond, Vice President	Co-owner, "the bug guys"
Lynn Hahn, Secretary	Retired teacher, IRPC member
Tom Long, Treasurer	Accountant, Lynch, Johnson & Long LLC
Allen Moore	the bug guys
Penny Morin	Senior Market Manager, Seacoast Bank
Kenon Williams	Pastor, Bread of Life Harvest
Kerry Padrick	Chief Communications Officer, St. Lucie Public Schools
Paula Lewis	Retired County Commissioner
Clyde Tiger	Owner, Fit Fixin's
Stacy Cooper	HR Dynamics
Bryan Wenger	Pastor, Indian River Presbyterian Church

This board has a vitality towards the ministry and future goals of Grace Way Village that is infectious. I can honestly say that they are the "wind beneath my wings" as we continue to serve our neighbors in need!

Grace Way Village remains very active in serving our community in need. Community partners are vitally important to our ability to help as we do. Thank you so very much for your continued support to Grace Way Village!

Cathie Mouring
Executive Director

Grace Way Village Reaching Out to St. Lucie County Schools

Area non-profits are joining together and inviting teachers to come and learn how their services can help students and their families. Community leaders are also invited to stop by to mix, mingle, and show appreciation to the teachers.

Back-to-School Teacher/Non-Profit Expo

Purpose: *To provide all SLC teachers an opportunity to discover the many non-profits in our county that will help their students.*



All St. Lucie County School Teachers
(public & private) are invited to attend at no cost!

Thursday, July 27, 2017

11:00 am—3:00 pm

Grace Way Village

1780 Hartman Road, Fort Pierce

The snack bar will be open.

Drinks, snacks, & lunch will be available for purchase.



United Way
of St. Lucie County

Here's how you can help!

- ➔ Volunteer in the kitchen
- ➔ Provide items for raffle baskets that will bless teachers
- ➔ Donate small teacher-focused items to give away (school paper, copy paper, tissues, pencils, pens, hand wipes, etc.)

Please drop items off any
Wednesday (9:30 am-4:30 pm)
or Sunday (1:30 pm-6:00 pm in
the kitchen).

**Your support and
partnership are
appreciated!**

Hope's Closet 4 Children



Beginning in 2017, all Hope's Closet clients are required to attend 2 workshops before returning for their next shopping opportunity. They may attend approved workshops that local nonprofit entities host. Starting in July, the Parent Academy will be offering two different workshops at Grace Way Village every Wednesday in an effort to make this requirement less of a burden on the families. Essentially, if a client has forgotten the requirement, they can either stay, if time allows for one or both of the workshops, as well as enjoy a free lunch, or they may return when it is more convenient for them. We are excited about this new partnership with the Parent Academy, knowing how much our clients will be blessed.



While donations to Grace Way Village's Hope's Closet have been abundant, we find that we still **need school uniforms, shoes, and skinny jeans for teen girls**. We are so very grateful to all who have given so generously already! Your efforts greatly bless us!

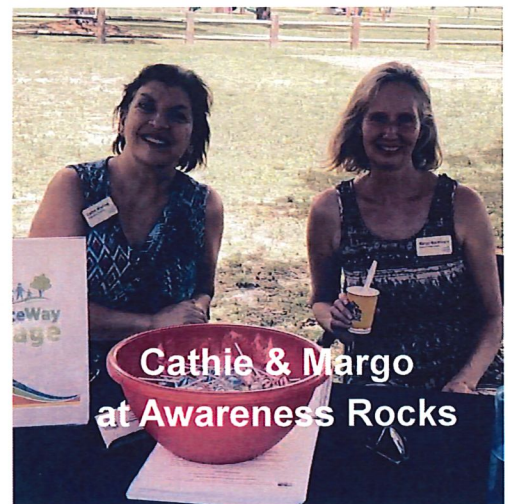
Volunteer opportunities in Hope's Closet include assisting our clients as they shop for their child's clothing and sorting clothes. As the summer progresses, the need will increase for volunteers as parents start preparing for the upcoming school year. The shifts are 2 - 2 ½ hours on Wednesdays. You are welcome to do it on a monthly, bi-weekly, or weekly basis. Consider joining us! For more information, please call us at 925-3074.

A Word from Margo MacKenzie, Hope's Closet Liaison



I moved to Fort Pierce from Tucson, Arizona in May of 2016 and found that Grace Way Village was the perfect fit to continue my volunteer path that I had begun in Tucson. One of the most compelling verses in the Bible is Mathew 25:38, "and when did I see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you." Soon after moving here I learned of the great need to help clothe many children in St. Lucie County. Grace Way Village has allowed me to become their liaison with the schools to spread the word about Grace Way Village with the hope that no child in St. Lucie will be bullied or kept home from school because they do not have shoes, uniforms or proper clothes.

In Tucson, I spent time fundraising for children's charities, working with homeless youth, and volunteering as a substitute teacher for teachers who had maxed out their sick leave yet were not able to return to work. Finding Grace Way Village was like being reconnected with a lost family; a place where compassionate people carry out the work of Christ.



Matthew's Cafe



Grace Way Village's Matthew's Café Homebound Delivery program is in need of teams of 2 to package and deliver hot meals to seniors and disabled living in public housing (we deliver to 3 public housing communities solely for them). Most teams deliver once a month, although some do bi-weekly or weekly. The time for this ministry is 4:00 pm-6:00 pm on Sundays. Please contact Grace Way Village at 772-925-3074 for more information or to sign up. We would love to have you join us! It is very sobering yet rewarding!

Speaking of the Homebound program, Grace Way Village has partnered with **Ginger's Pet Food Pantry** to provide dog/cat food to those in the program with a pet. What a sweet dual blessing this will be to our guests!

As always, **non-perishable food items** are needed for our food pantry. Donations can be dropped off on Wednesdays, 9:30 am-4:30 pm or Sundays, 1:30 pm-6:00 pm. Thanks so much for helping us keep food on the tables of our clients!



Thank you to **Dr. Susan Sanders of Papa Chiropractic & Physical Therapy** for caring about and for our clients at Grace Way Village by coming to Matthew's Café and providing health checks! We are grateful for her precious gift of time

Save the Dates

Saturday, January 20, 2018

Beboppin' Sock Hop

Friday, March 2, 2018

An Event You Won't Want to Miss!

Watch for more info soon!

Contact Us

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info@gracewayvillage.com

Visit us on the web at
www.gracewayvillage.com

Visit us on Facebook at
[www.facebook.com/
GraceWayVillage/](http://www.facebook.com/GraceWayVillage/)

LIVE UNITED



United Way
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In the Image of Christ, Inc. has been providing shelter services in Fort Pierce, Florida, in various forms (as needs necessitated) for over eight years. After much prayer, investigative study, and collaborative input from the St. Lucie County Fire District, Mustard Seed Ministries, the City of Fort Pierce, our local Fire Marshall, our local Florida State Representative, and the Fort Pierce Housing Authority, we are proud to announce our latest shelter project for the benefit of all in our community:

The Hands Up Emergency Shelter Program

This program has new supportive components that mark it as a (long-awaited) needed service that every growing city should have available for its citizens.

This shelter has two full-time shelter managers; along with trained volunteer support staff.

The Saint Lucie County Sheriff's Department has agreed to provide the latest in "rapid-response" background screenings for all shelter residents.

The "Hands Up" philosophy guiding this program means that this residence is temporary. Each resident is guided toward forward movement in their lives; whether it is vocational, educational, financial, legal, mental, emotional, and/or spiritual movement. Each situation is unique; but the 90-day maximum stay limitation allows for these shelter resources to be shared among current and future residents in an equitable fashion.

Future housing plans, along with attainable goals, are developed immediately between the shelter managers and the residents; with revisions as needed.

All shelter rules and regulations are posted and explained in detail to new residents by shelter managers. A copy of these rules and regulations (in contract form) are signed in agreement by new residents, including consequences/violation agreements.

Safety is priority. Staff and volunteers continually attend mandatory in-service trainings covering all shelter management skills, including health risks, cultural awareness, harassment scenarios and response, law enforcement involvements/support, and basic emergency management.

The following yearly budget is essential for full support of our Hands Up Emergency Shelter Program:

2 Full-time Employees @ \$15.00/hr. Plus 20% (payroll taxes/insurances) = \$74,880.00

Toiletries and Food @ \$5.00/day X 20 Residents (average) X 365 Days = \$36,500.00

Support Supplies @ \$250.00/month X 12months = \$3,000.00

Total Yearly Budget = \$114,380.00

This budget assumes minimal (or no) costs associated with facility locations (rental fees); including utility expenditures.

Once again, In the Image of Christ, Inc. is excited for this program; and is awed by how so many leaders in our community have come together with their ideas and support so that we can fulfill this much-needed service for our Fort Pierce community.