

House of Hope

ANNUAL REPORT

OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

Published May 2026. Reporting on fiscal 2025
(10/1/24-9/30/25)

House of Hope is proud to share the results of another remarkable year of **empowering our community to overcome hunger and hardship**. The passion, dedication and generosity of our incredible staff, volunteers and supporters is making a tangible difference in the lives of the people we serve.

Your support continues to be the foundation of this work.

This year, House of Hope faced unprecedented challenges, with community need rising faster than ever during the extended government shutdown. With your steadfast support we were able to meet this surge head-on. You **delivered record-breaking food donations, invested in our programs, volunteered your time, and shared our mission with friends and neighbors**, ensuring households had access to the essential resources they needed most.

With government funding still limited and recent changes to federal social service programs, **our community is confronting greater challenges** in accessing food, healthcare, and stable housing. Thanks to your involvement, we can continue to provide critical resources and services, helping our most vulnerable neighbors stay housed, healthy, and safe.

Every initiative, every program, every service is driven by one goal: to provide hope, opportunity, and stability to our community at no cost.

From fresh food, educational gardens, and kindergarten readiness to workforce training, family-centered coaching, and innovative housing solutions, House of Hope is building stronger, healthier communities where every individual has the tools and support to thrive.

Explore the pages ahead to see how your support turns compassion into action and challenges into hope.



IMPACT OF HOPE

- **1,632,325 pounds** of food distributed = **1,360,270 meals** - 60% is fresh food
- **43,200 individuals** benefited across 5 counties
- **.90 of every dollar** directly helps people in need
- **\$274,978 provided** in financial assistance to keep **183 individuals** housed
- **237,036 items** of clothing, housewares, furniture, and appliances given to local people in need
- **27,777 client** choice pantry services provided
- **14,400 referrals** to essential community resources and external support

INCOME SOURCES



WAYS TO GIVE HOPE



VOLUNTEER

1,195 volunteers → **42,196** hours = **20** full time staff



ADOPT A CROP



EVENT SPONSORSHIPS



ESTATE PLANNING



STOCKS & IRA GIFTS



DONOR ADVISED FUNDS



**PROPERTY & VEHICLE
DONATIONS**



CONDUCT A DRIVE

Collect food, clothing, holiday items, toiletries, and more.
For more info visit hohmartin.org/give-help or call **(772)286-4673 ext. 1031**



MAKE A MONTHLY GIFT Steady support, lasting impact!



\$10 per month	1200 heads of lettuce grown locally at our Growing Hope Production Farm
\$25 per month	360 protein-packed sandwiches for clients experiencing homelessness
\$50 per month	24 weeks of nutritious groceries for a homebound senior
\$100 per month	financial assistance for rent or utility bills to help a household avoid eviction
\$200 per month	Project HOPE case management services over an extended period of time

For more information on ways to give HOPE,
please visit our website at hohmartin.org/give-help or call **(772) 286-4673 ext. 1002**

LEADERS IN PROVIDING HOP

WITH GRATITUDE to OUR MONTHLY DONORS

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A. Juanita Van Tilburg
Lori Vanhille
Christina Winzork
Women's Club of The Retreat

FOOD Partnerships

SPECIAL THANKS to these Partners of Hope for their impact on our food distribution capacity

- Boy Scouts of America Gulfstream Council
- Chick-Fil-A
- Colab Farms
- CROS Ministries
- Farm Share
- Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida Sea Star Service Unit
- Humane Society of the Treasure Coast, Inc.
- Martin County Board of County Commissioners
- Martin County Library System
- National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 1690
- Palm City Farms Produce & Market
- PDQ Chicken
- Pepperidge Farms
- Publix Super Markets
- Southeastern Food Bank
- St. Joseph Catholic Church and School
- Wawa

SERVICE CENTER LOCATIONS

Stuart Service Center /Main Office

2484 SE Bonita Street, Stuart, FL 34997
(772) 286-4673

Hope Shop Stuart Thrift Store & Service Center

2525 SE Federal Hwy., Stuart, FL 34994
(772) 286-4673, x1500

Hobe Sound Thrift Store & Service Center

8937 SE Bridge Road, Hobe Sound, FL 33455
(772) 286-4673, x1200

Indiantown Thrift Store & Service Center

15549 SW Warfield Blvd., Indiantown, FL 34956
(772) 286-4673, x1302

Jensen Beach Service and Enrichment Center

1090 NE Jensen Beach Blvd., Jensen Beach, FL 34957
(772) 286-4673, x1400

Golden Gate Center for Enrichment

3225 SE Dixie Hwy. Stuart, FL 34997
(772) 286-4673, x1600

KinDoo Family Center for Enrichment

14557 SW 174th Ct., Indiantown, FL 34956
(772) 286-4673, x1900

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www.hohmartin.org (772) 286-4673

Donations: ext. 1002

Volunteering: ext. 1013

Food drives: ext. 1031

Furniture pickup: ext. 1019



\$10,000 and higher

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\$5,000 - \$9,999

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\$1,000 - \$4,999

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Coldwell Banker Realty
Community Fund at TCFMSL
Lucy Corley
Bob & Mary Agnes Correll
Timothy & Maureen Cotter

PROJECT HOPE (Helping Othe



Project HOPE encompasses our team of skilled case managers and support staff who help guide clients along their path to self-sufficiency. Through this initiative, clients complete a comprehensive assessment, forming the foundation for personalized improvement plans that connect them to the full spectrum of House of Hope's wrap-around programs and services including basic needs assistance, financial assistance, and Family Centered Coaching. Beyond what we provide in-house, Project HOPE serves as a critical bridge to community resources, **ensuring clients can access the support they need to overcome obstacles and move forward with confidence.** By combining individualized guidance, practical assistance, and strong community connections, Project HOPE empowers individuals and families to build stability, improve well-being, and create a stronger foundation for the future.

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

We help our community find:

Hope... "You helped me stay focused on gratitude and moving forward. Without the healthy food you provide, I don't know how I would eat."

Dignity... "You restored my faith in people. The fresh, high-quality food gave my family a sense of dignity right when we needed it most."

Empowerment... "Your clothing voucher saved me from choosing between my electric bill and a prom dress, allowing me to provide both essentials and joy for my daughter."

Client Choice Food Pantries & Food Lockers



At House of Hope, our **Client Choice Food Pantries** provide more than groceries—they provide a foundation for stability. We know that food is usually the first step toward self-sufficiency, as it's the primary reason 70% of our clients reach out to us. Each month, families shop in our pantries, which feel like neighborhood supermarkets, and

select almost **\$500 worth of groceries**, including fresh produce, meats, dairy, and pantry staples, to meet their unique household needs and tastes. Clients who cannot visit the pantry during the day due to work or transportation challenges can access our **afterhours food lockers in Stuart**, ensuring they never miss a healthy meal. For neighbors experiencing homelessness, we offer daily access to fresh and healthy meals and other essentials.

Family Centered Coaching

For families that have moved beyond an immediate crisis, our **Family Centered Coaching Program** empowers them to set self-defined goals focused on lasting household stability. Each family works with a dedicated Family Coach to create a personalized plan tailored to their priorities. Plans may include improving finances, advancing education or career opportunities, accessing childcare, or finding safe, affordable housing. Through coaching, **families gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence to self-advocate, navigate complex challenges, and make decisions that strengthen their household and future.**



By addressing the **root causes of instability**, Family Centered Coaching **helps families achieve independence and build stronger, healthier communities.**

Progress through Empowerment)

HOME Sharing

For residents seeking housing stability and homeowners looking for support, our **HOME (Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone) Sharing Program** creates safe, affordable, and mutually beneficial living arrangements in Martin County. HOME Sharing is a simple arrangement where homeowners rent out a private bedroom and bathroom while sharing spaces such as the kitchen and living room. Home seekers gain stable housing, affordable rent, and companionship, while home owners receive extra income, support to remain in their homes, and the opportunity to build meaningful connections.



Matches are carefully vetted for safety and compatibility, ensuring dignity and independence for all involved. By fostering these mutually beneficial arrangements, the program strengthens neighborhoods, promotes financial stability, and helps more residents access the housing they need to thrive.

Workforce Development

Our **Workforce Development** program helps local job seekers build skills, gain experience, and secure living-wage employment. Through one-on-one and group career coaching, participants receive guidance in resume writing, interview preparation, and job readiness—all at no cost. The program also offers hands-on job-skills training internships across fields like social work, agriculture, culinary arts, warehouse and distribution, retail, and more, using House of Hope's facilities as training grounds.



Last year, **260 individuals benefited** from these services, gaining the knowledge, experience, and confidence to advance their careers and achieve financial stability.

Copper Key Scholarship Promise

The **Copper Key Scholarship Promise** opens doors to higher education and career training for talented 6th and 7th graders in Martin County with financial need and a dream for the future. In partnership with Nina Haven Scholarships, Inc. and The Community Foundation Martin-St. Lucie, the program currently has 25 students enrolled and provides each scholar and their family with extensive **case management, life skills mentoring, financial education, and health and nutrition guidance** from middle school through their post-secondary programs.

In June 2026, the program will celebrate its first graduating class, with three scholars being offered a **four-year scholarship to one of 40 Florida colleges, universities, vocational schools, or certificate programs**. One parent recently summed up the transformative impact this program has had on their household: "Our lives have changed for the better in so many ways since we entered this program!"



The Centers for Enrichment

Our Centers for Enrichment in Golden Gate, Jensen Beach, and Indiantown are more than community spaces—they're dynamic hubs where learning, connection, and opportunity come alive for people

of all ages. Each Center provides **no-cost programs in education, literacy, health and nutrition, career support, technology, and the arts**, along with computer labs, free printing, library resources, and books.

Participants don't just attend classes—they **engage, explore, and grow**. From English as a Second Language and Kindergarten

readiness to STEAM, homework help, and youth book clubs, our programs equip children and adults with the skills, confidence, and knowledge to succeed. Our Centers also **partner with local agencies** on community events and learning opportunities. These collaborations give families access to practical resources and experiences that make a real difference in their daily lives.

And we're growing: a **fourth Center for Enrichment will open in Hobe Sound in late 2026**, bringing even more opportunities for families to learn, connect, and thrive.

Nutrition & Wellness

Our Gardening to Grow Healthy Communities Program isn't just growing fruits and vegetables—it's **growing a healthier future for our community**. The program now includes **six nutrition education gardens**, including three new raised bed gardens, plus the Traveling Nutrition Education Garden. These hands-on classrooms bring evidence-based nutrition education directly to children and adults across the Treasure Coast, creating spaces where learning is active, fun, and practical.

Last year, we reached **12,299 individuals**, teaching participants how to make healthy meals, choose nutritious foods, and build habits that last. In our gardens, learning happens through planting, harvesting, cooking, and tasting—engaging all the senses while strengthening knowledge and attitudes around healthy eating. Participants gain practical skills, try new foods, and leave with the confidence to make healthier choices at home.

Many of the communities we serve face disproportionately high rates of diabetes, obesity, and heart disease. Our program is helping people make informed choices, improve health, and adopt lasting healthy habits. By combining hands-on experiences with practical guidance, we are **empowering children, families, and adults to live healthier lives and build stronger, more resilient communities**.

“

I loved the snack we made in class so much that I made it for my family last week!

- Nutrition Education Student



1,193 individuals benefited from 7,231 services in dozens of different classes and programs.



Growing Hope Farm & Packing House



“
Healthy children are better learners and healthy adults are better earners.

Our production farm in Palm City is more than a place where food is grown—it's a cornerstone of our work to improve health through access to fresh, nutritious food. With the addition of an innovative freight farm hydroponic greenhouse—equivalent to four acres of traditional growing space—we've expanded our capacity to nearly **100,000 cubic feet of hydroponic growing area**. Alongside our greenhouses, our orchard includes 70 fruit trees onsite and 80 more at a partner location. The farm grows a variety of fruits and vegetables including leafy greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, celery, broccoli, cauliflower, strawberries, melons, herbs, mangoes, bananas, avocados and more to ensure our clients and partners have consistent access to fresh, healthy options.

Each week, our team of staff and volunteers harvests, packs, and distributes fresh produce grown both in the ground and in our greenhouses, with more than **25,000 plants in production at any given time**. The farm yields over **1,600 packages of fresh produce weekly**, with reliable, year-round production made possible by climate-controlled growing environments that protect crops from extreme heat and storms.

Our **on-site packing house serves as a central hub** for cleaning, packaging, and storing produce grown onsite, gleaned from local farms, or received through bulk donations. We are building partnerships with small, local growers to provide safe, efficient packing solutions that strengthen the local food system.

Sustainability is built into every aspect of our operation. From rainwater capture and recirculating irrigation systems to water reuse and natural pest management, our practices reduce waste, conserve resources, and ensure long-term, responsible food production. **Together, we are increasing access to fresh food, supporting local agriculture, and building a healthier, more resilient community.**

The Elisabeth Lahti Nutrition Center

The Elisabeth Lahti Nutrition Center is a critical part of how we deliver high-quality, nutritious meals to our clients and partners. Powered by dedicated volunteers, the program prepares pre-cooked frozen meals, sandwiches, salads, and side dishes; repackages recovered food from local markets and restaurants; and produces nutrient-dense, shelf-stable options through freeze-dried meals and snacks.



The Center also serves as a hands-on training space, equipping clients and partners with practical skills for employment in the food service industry.

Last year, the Center produced **25,365 meals**, helping ensure our most vulnerable neighbors have consistent access to nutritious food.

Food Bank Services

House of Hope provides essential food resources for **35 nonprofit partners across five counties, reaching 26,200 people each month**. With our reliable support and infrastructure, partner soup kitchens, shelters, youth programs and regional pantries in Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, Indian River and Palm Beach Counties are able to distribute more **high quality food** that improves the health of our communities.

Our food bank distributions, some of which are delivered by our team, are provided **entirely free of charge**, allowing our partners to direct their resources toward their own frontline missions. Last year, we moved almost **1.2 million pounds of food** through these partners, including 60% fresh food items like fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, eggs and dairy. Our commitment to nutrition allows all of our partnered soup kitchens to include a healthy, fresh salad with every meal they serve.



Expanding Our Regional Impact



Artistic rendering

A major expansion is on the horizon! Thanks to a generous land donation from Ashley Capital, House of Hope will be building a new **15,000 square foot warehouse and distribution center** strategically located near the I-95 corridor, off Martin Highway in western Palm City. This new facility will significantly increase our capacity to accept and distribute large-scale food donations, drastically increasing our capacity to support existing partners and expanding our reach to serve more communities across the region.

From Our Farm to You



Many supporters have asked for the opportunity to purchase our farm-grown produce, and we are able to offer it within the community. Lettuce-mixes, herbs, tomatoes, and other fresh produce are currently sold at The Hope Shop in Stuart and Palm City Farms Produce & Market. Our produce is also featured in menu items at some local restaurants that support our mission while highlighting "farm-to-table" quality.

A new line of value-added products is coming soon to public markets, including freeze-dried fruits, gourmet sauces and preserves, herbal teas, and ready-to-eat meals. Products will be created as part of our **vocational internships at the farm, packing house, and nutrition center**, giving participants hands-on experience in food production while building skills for future employment. Every item sold will highlight our mission of empowerment and generate sustainable revenue to support our vital food and basic needs programs.

The Hope Shop

House of Hope operates **three thrift stores** across Martin County with the **Hope Shop in Stuart** serving as the largest at more than **14,000 square feet of retail space**. Additional locations at our Hobe Sound and Indiantown service centers expand access to affordable goods while supporting our mission. These stores do more than generate revenue—they are central to our **Clothes Closet program, distributing 237,000 items annually**. Clients can access clothing, household items, linens, and more at no cost several times each year. The stores also provide free medical equipment, including canes, crutches, shower seats, and wheelchairs, as available. **Generous community donations fuel this work**, helping us meet immediate needs while sustaining our broader programs.



