



**HOPE**

...preventing homelessness Since 2007 through  
**HOUSING • OUTREACH • PREVENTION • EDUCATION**  
[www.hopehelps.org](http://www.hopehelps.org)

**HOPE Helps, Inc.**  
**Resource Center & Food Pantry**  
812 Eyrie Drive  
Oviedo, FL 32765  
407-366-3422



**The HOPE Chest**  
**Thrift Store & Boutique**  
1802 W. Broadway Street  
Oviedo, FL 32765  
407-367-2989



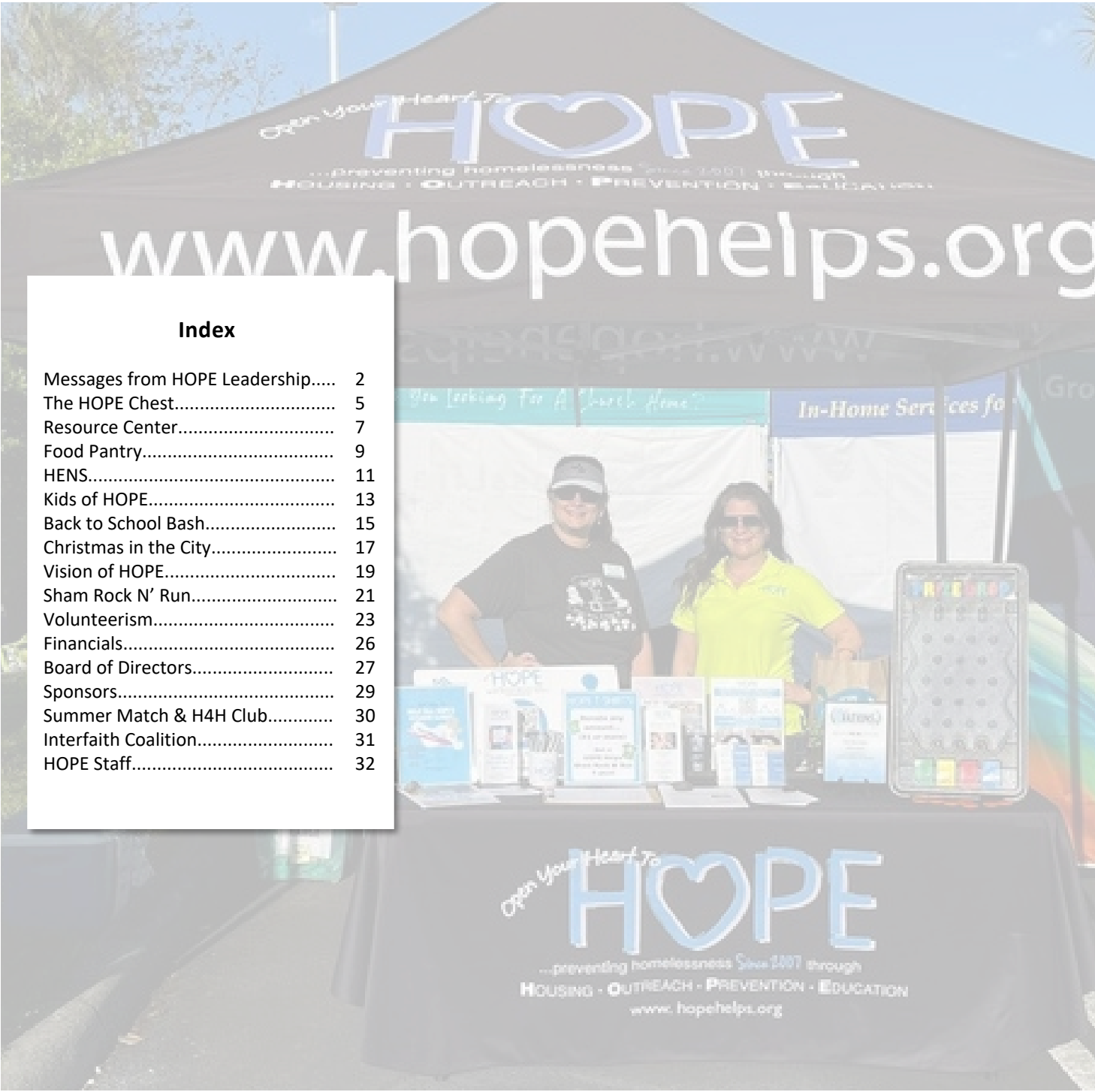
@HOPEHelpsInc



@HOPEHelpsOviedo

# Housing Outreach Prevention Education

**Annual Report 2024**



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As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense gratitude for our incredible HOPE family. Your unwavering support, whether as a dedicated sponsor, a generous donor, or a tireless volunteer, has been the cornerstone of our success. The increased involvement and strategic guidance from our board have been instrumental, setting a clear path forward and helping us navigate the future with confidence. Thanks to your collective efforts, we have not only been able to continue our vital prevention services for our community in need, but also to elevate our impact to the next level. Additionally, this year, our commitment to bringing education to our client families in need has been the focus of our mission, driven by the fundamental belief that education is the most powerful tool for breaking cycles of poverty and crisis. Our approach focused on enhancing financial literacy through 1:1 budget meetings, workshops and sessions focused on going back to school and holiday planning. Through strategic partnerships with local educators, HOPE has provided either on-site or virtual educational opportunities for those we serve. We are more committed than ever to our mission and look forward to building on this momentum together in the coming year. - Joan Faulkner, CEO/President



HOPE Friends & Colleagues,  
What an exciting 2024 year! I am proud to reflect on another year of growth, resilience, and mission excellence across Human Resources, Facilities, and Operations. In HR, we continued to prioritize staff well being, retention and development by way of All Staff events (team building meetings, staff retreat), increased employee retention through flexible scheduling, improving workplace culture initiatives and additional wellness resources, increasing our number of staff to the highest in HOPE's history & investing in our leadership team with continued education. Our facilities continue to improve, with a new roof installed in the Resource Center, new gutters to The HOPE Chest, and adjusting our overall parking & pantry operations to align with new city requirements. We've also strengthened our emergency preparedness and safety protocols, providing CPR training to all staff in 2024. Operationally, we have increased collaboration with IT to boost cybersecurity protocols & ensure data integrity across departments. We've also improved our supply management, reducing supply expenses over the previous year by 12%. It is a privilege to support the incredible mission of HOPE by creating a strong, supportive, and efficient infrastructure. I thank our staff, volunteers, and community partners for their dedication and collaboration throughout the year. - Diane Isla, Chief Administrative Officer



**Oviedo Medical Center Food Drive**



**HOPE Tabling at ServiceNow**



**Oviedo Rotary**



**Fifth Third Bank Grand Opening**



**Basket Brigade**



**Christian Bros. Auto free oil changes for HOPE clients**



This year, our talented and dedicated Volunteer Manager, Rachel Mann, Graduated from Leadership Seminole!



In 2024, HOPE was named "Best Nonprofit" at the Oviedo Winter Springs Regional Chamber of Commerce's Ovation Awards.



This year, one of our quarterly staff meetings had its first painting lesson from "Yes You Canvas Oviedo". This was a colorful team bonding exercise for all.



Back row (L to R): Francisco Delarocha, Jim Morical, Romain Casanova, Sue D'Aulerio, Charlotte Yates, Linda Smart, Betti Formet, Andrea Tchetschot, Dominic Zononi, Steven Vanderwolf  
Middle row (L to R): Patricia Genao, Helen Godoy, Joan Faulkner, Logan Landry-Jennings, Nicole Silverstein, Sara Nowak, Lucia Quintero, Riana Sukhu, Cindy Hollenbeck, Lourdes Thrash, Rachel Mann  
Front row (L to R): Diane Isla, Jeannene Guerra-Dickson, Kelly Kritikos, Gabriela Velez, Janine Morales, Diana Elenz, Erin Montgomery, Gabrielle Espinet, Jolie Hodge

HOPE has a staff of highly talented and educated individuals who work together to prevent hunger and homelessness in Central Florida. The staff have opportunities for growth and development with continuing education, quarterly staff meetings and more. HOPE's annual staff retreat is a full day of team-bonding, fun, informational games and a chance to give input on HOPE's direction and future.



Starting the year off right, the HOPE team enjoyed a "Wellness Day" at HOPE, complete with healing sound baths, massages, and more.



HOPE's annual Holiday Staff Party was hosted at Rock N' Brews this year, employees enjoyed great food, drinks, and laughs throughout the night.

# HOPE's INTERFAITH COALITION



*Ethan Johnson*  
Seminole County Health  
Department



*Janine Morales*  
HOPE Case Manager

HOPE Help's Interfaith Coalition, founded in 2008, is a grassroots initiative that cooperatively and compassionately addresses poverty, hunger and homelessness in our community. The coalition provides volunteers, coordinates food and clothing drives and provides financial support for individuals and families in crisis. As an Interfaith Coalition, we set aside theological differences to focus on solutions to challenges that affect our community. Meetings are held monthly with guest speakers on the third Tuesday of each month.

Action Church  
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints  
Church of the Incarnation  
Crosslife Church  
Epiphany Lutheran  
First Baptist of Chuluota  
First Methodist Church of Oviedo (host B2SB)

Grace Oviedo  
Integrity Church  
Most Precious Blood Catholic Church  
Nativity Church Longwood  
New Covenant Anglican Church  
Oviedo City Church  
Oviedo Presbyterian  
Palmwood Church  
River Run Christian Church  
Sikh Society of Central Florida

St. Alban's Anglican Church  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church (host 5k)  
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
St. Stephen Catholic Community  
Temple Shir Shalom  
Tuskawilla Presbyterian Church  
Tuskawilla United Methodist Church  
University Carillon Church (host CITC)  
Vital Church

For more information, email [development@hopehelps.org](mailto:development@hopehelps.org).

HOPE provides access for those in need of essential resources (food/vouchers), comprehensive support services (financial literacy/outreach events), all while fostering a sense of community to encourage personal growth. HOPE does this through its own programs and direct referrals to partner agencies.

The internal work of HOPE Helps fall into four pillars:  
Housing, Outreach, Prevention & Education.

# H

**Housing:** Providing vital support to at risk populations by way of financial assistance, a choice food pantry, individualized case plans/goals & referrals to affordable housing agencies in order to *keep people in their homes*. HOPE's mission & vision empowers individuals to become and stay self-sufficient, avoiding homelessness...which only creates more homeless specific programs, increased housing/living costs & adds to the weight of human tragedy and disparity.

# HO

**Outreach:** HOPE's outreach approach focuses on building awareness of the assistance, services and the prevention model HOPE provides in the community. This benefits our clients by alleviating immediate needs for school & holidays with HOPE's outreach events. HOPE also has a voucher program where our case managers issue vouchers to our clients to obtain clothing and houseware needs free of charge at HOPE's Thrift Store, The HOPE Chest.

# HOPE

**Prevention:** HOPE's strategic mission revolves around proactively preventing hunger and homelessness. We are dedicated to addressing root causes of vulnerability with intervention, developing a unique case plan and services. By equipping our clients with the skills and resources they need to achieve stability, we contribute to a community-wide safety net that prevents the easy slide into poverty which, in turn, fosters a more resilient community.

# HOPE

**Education:** Here at HOPE, we use strategy to empower individuals in need to chart their own path to success. We're committed to providing educational materials, interactive workshops & personalized coaching. We believe in fostering a sense of accountability & confidence to take charge of their future. Through these initiatives, we create a supportive environment that boosts their chances of success and equips them with the tools necessary for sustained self-sufficiency, leading to a more powerful life journey.



"Due to the generosity of the community and the hard work of the staff, sales continue to achieve record breaking growth. Volunteers continue to bring new ideas and knowledge to help us maximize the space we have in the store. A viral social media post sharing the amazing treasures you can find at The HOPE Chest helped welcome in hundreds more loyalty members excited to support the community and dedicated to supporting our mission.

Words cannot express how thankful I am to see the continued support of the community. Whether it be from donations of items, your volunteer time, or the weekly shopping trips of familiar faces, your dedication is unmatched!"

-Erin Montgomery,  
Director of Thrift Operations



## The HOPE Chest Goes Viral!

A customer (@beercutieandfoodie on Instagram) came to the store, and saw the amazing deals, Disney lost and found items, and more. She posted a video, featuring the inside and outside of the store on her Instagram page, and the post itself has since received over 75,000 likes.

With this exposure, HOPE's page went from 900 followers to 10,000 in one week! This expansion of our reach brings in new customers and donors to the store, and boosts our reach for announcements on upcoming events and needs. This, folks, is the power of social media!



@beercutieandfoodie



## HEARTS for HOPE CLUB

The Hearts for HOPE club is for those who give the gift of a monthly pledge totaling a minimum of \$1,000 a year. By pledging monthly, you are allowing HOPE to better plan, sustain and consistently meet the needs of HOPE's programs that support our clients.

In honor of your pledge, you will:

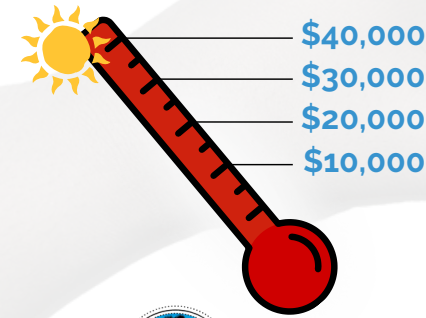
- ♥ Be formally recognized at HOPE's Vision of HOPE annual fundraiser in November
- ♥ Be invited to intimate quarterly events to talk with HOPE's CEO and the Leadership team to share information and get your input in helping shape HOPE's future
- ♥ Receive a commemorative pin to recognize your commitment to HOPE Helps and improving the lives of those in need, and represent yourself as an ambassador of HOPE



## Annual Summer Match

**MATCH** the Moment

**All New and Designated Gifts Doubled!**



The Summer Match is a yearly fundraiser for HOPE's programs in which each individual donation is "matched" by a sponsor for a limited period of time, effectively doubling their contribution! In 2024, HOPE Helps was blessed with the generous sponsorship from The Father's Table and other private donors.

Through their participation, and the generous donations of the community, the 2024 Summer Match raised over \$40,000 between June 1st and July 31st.



## 2024 SPONSORS

This list denotes \$1,000 and up in sponsorships



## 2024 HOPE in the Community



**Leadership Summit**  
Leadership Seminole Hosts their annual Summit



**Mid-Florida Mustang Club**  
The 19th Annual American Muscle Car Show for HOPE- Check Presentation



**Taste of Oviedo**  
Oviedo Mall hosts Taste of Oviedo in March 2024

## The HOPE Chest Thrift Store/Boutique

The HOPE Chest Thrift Store/Boutique enables HOPE to meet the needs of the community in many ways. Blessed with many quality donations from the community, customers can find amazing bargains while benefitting HOPE's mission. Individuals and families in crisis can be given a voucher to receive necessities from The HOPE Chest without charge.

- Disney donates lost and found items including cameras, sunglasses, tablets, bags, Mickey ears, collectibles and more
- Proceeds from The HOPE Chest make up 48% of HOPE's total Budget
- Working alongside HOPE's Resource Center, the HOPE Chest provides items to clients in need—such as clothing, housewares and furniture. 643 vouchers were provided in 2024, for a total value of \$20,476
- The HOPE Chest Thrift Store got a new look, complete with a refreshed color scheme and new fence

**\$20,476**

Worth of vouchers given to individuals and families in crisis

## Resource Center

HOPE serves the working poor, many clients who have never been in crisis before, and the homeless. We believe in equipping individuals and families with the tools necessary to get them through their crisis by offering case management, financial assistance and access to additional resources.

- \$125,757 paid in financial assistance for rent and utilities
- Our Financial Freedom Series offers clients workshops throughout the year including one-on-one, group classes, and financial literacy counseling
- HOPE now has 13 financial counselors who conducted 122 sessions in 2024 to help with client budgeting
- HOPE's Case Managers meet with clients to identify needs and create a personalized case plan to help them return to self-sufficiency
- Education/Computer Center for resume building, food stamp and job applications
- HOPE Hosted 88 financial literacy classes, with 461 signups
- 1,282 individual clients from 446 families received \$21,113 worth of hygiene products in 2024
- Collaborative partnerships / education on-site include:
  - Second Harvest Food Bank Nutrition Classes
  - Benefits Connection
  - Department of Health
  - DCF / ACCESS (food stamp assistance)
  - Oviedo Medical Research
  - Dedicated Senior Medical
  - SCPCS/ Families in Need Program (FIN)
  - Addition Financial—Literacy Classes
  - SafeLink Wireless
  - Fifth Third Bank

**93%**  
of HOPE Clients  
stayed in their  
homes

**18,883**

Services touches  
in 2024  
through HOPE's  
Resource Center



## Board of Directors 2024



**Steve Chihos\***  
Change Adoption Consultant  
theBigRocks, LLC



**Vivian Cook\***  
Senior Manager Volunteer Services  
AdventHealth



**Karen R. Copeland**  
CPA  
Karen R. Copeland and Assoc., PA



**David J. Duda, Treasurer**  
President  
A.Duda & Sons, Inc.  
(Retired)



**Joan Faulkner**  
CEO/President  
HOPE Helps, Inc.



**Karen Gibbons\***  
Product Owner/  
Scrum Consultant



**Scott Gibson**  
Assistant Store Manager  
Publix



**Philip S. Kaprow\***  
Owner  
Kaprow Law PA



**Dave Kutlenios**  
Solutions Engineer  
(Retired)



**Sean Newman, Board Chair\***  
Senior Vice President for Operations  
Aon



**Melissa Payne\***  
Administrator, Allied Health  
& Support Services  
Orlando Health



**Cathy Perry, Secretary**  
Director, Communications and  
Community Involvement  
Oviedo Medical Center



**Marcnell Pierre**  
Engineering Project Mgr, Principle  
Lockheed Martin



**Kris Siegmundt Vice Chair**  
Leadership Consultant/Coach  
Lockheed Martin  
(Retired)



**Brian Tadros\***  
Owner  
Law Offices of Brian D. Tadros, PA

\* Denotes Outgoing Board Members



*HOPE's Board of Directors has spearheaded the Comedy Night fundraising event, which raises several thousand dollars that go directly toward HOPE's programs.*

"I'm honored to serve on the Board of Directors for HOPE as we work to fulfill our mission of preventing and reducing hunger and homelessness in Central Florida. Over the past 18 years, HOPE has supported thousands of individuals and families in crisis through a wide range of essential services.

With a dedicated team and a strong network of volunteers, HOPE provides critical support including food assistance through our pantry, financial counseling, help with utility bills, and vouchers for essential items through our thrift store, The HOPE Chest. We also host impactful community events like the Kids of HOPE Back to School Bash and Christmas in the City, helping families during key times of the year.

During my time with HOPE, I've witnessed not only the organization's incredible growth, but also the rising needs of our neighbors—driven by population increases and the sharp rise in housing and food costs. Thankfully, HOPE is well-positioned to respond, with the experience, infrastructure, and passionate staff and community support needed to make a difference. But we can't do it alone. Our work depends on the generosity of individuals, businesses, and community partners. Together, we can continue to bring hope to those who need it most and work toward a future where homelessness is no longer a reality in Central Florida."

Kris Siegmundt,  
2023-2025 Chairman of the Board



HOPE is dedicated to providing comprehensive financial literacy education to those who may be receiving financial assistance. Through HOPE's Financial Freedom Series, individuals can access free workshops that cover essential topics like budgeting, establishing savings, and credit counseling, all designed to foster financial stability and empowerment. To offer personalized support and a tailored approach to financial goal-setting, HOPE also provides one-on-one coaching sessions, which can be delivered virtually or in-person, ensuring that those in need have access to the resources and tools required to build a more secure, and self sufficient future. HOPE's financial literacy team is comprised of dedicated financial experts and financial banking institution partners.



"Wow what a year 2024 was! I am happy to report that HOPE's Resource Center continues to serve our neighbors here in Seminole County consistently. No matter what issue got thrown our way, whether it was severe weather, code enforcement changes, transportation problems or economic changes, we were determined to be available to continue to serve. We have grown our educational offerings to help prevent hunger and homelessness and have strengthened partnerships with other community organizations to assist clients in getting all their needs met. Thank you to the over 35,000 hours of volunteer time, including 3 masters level student interns from UCF's School of Social Work, to keep us running smoothly. Thank you to the over 2,900 clients who trusted us to assist them in various ways. We are proud to report that 93% of the households who received financial assistance from us remained in their homes. Our goal is to find a "yes" to help anyone who reaches out to us in one way or another and we did so nearly 19,000 times. I look forward to seeing what we can do together in the future!"

Patricia Genao LCSW,  
Director of Client Programs

# Food Pantry

HOPE's Food Pantry is one of the only choice food pantries in Seminole County that provides healthy nonperishable food, produce, meat and fresh bread, 4-days per week, all at no charge for those in need. The pantry is supported by local businesses, individual donors, faith groups and food drives, along with weekly purchases at Second Harvest Food Bank.

2024 included:

- 9,944 visits to the pantry, including emergency food distribution
- \$32,500 donated for fresh produce by private donors
- 520 emergency food bags distributed
- Clients are led through the pantry by a "Shepherd" to choose their food each week including items like fresh produce, bread, meat, and more
- Supported by a large team of dedicated volunteers and faith, civic, business, and individual groups that participate in **Pantry Takeover Days**
- Dozens of food drives held by community members, faith groups, schools, civic groups, and businesses throughout the community
- At HOPE, we are committed to providing food services to anyone who walks in to our facility. The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is an option provided by HOPE to ensure no one leaves empty-handed

**\$1,503,813**

Worth of food distributed in 2024

HOPE's financial health is strong and well diversified, relying on a mix of monetary and non-monetary support. The organization's financial stability is rooted in its varied revenue streams. The HOPE Chest Thrift Store is the primary revenue driver, accounting for roughly 48% of the total revenue (excluding in-kind donations). Based upon HOPE Chest's continued growth, this solidifies its position as the top revenue source. Monetary contributions coming from a mix of individuals, corporations, and faith groups make up 31% of the organization's revenue, showing significant community support. Grants contribute another 13% while fundraising events account for the remaining 8%.

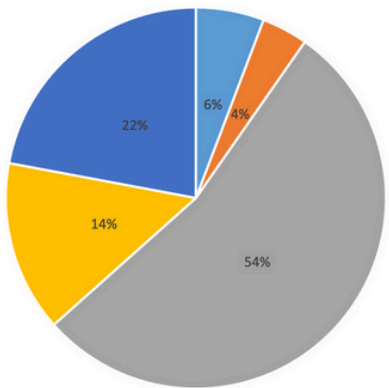
HOPE continues to see a growth in in-kind donations. These non-monetary contributions, which include food, hygiene products, and volunteer hours, are a critical component of HOPE's operational capacity. This trend indicates not just financial strength, but a deep and expanding level of community engagement. The combination of a successful thrift store, consistent financial contributions, and a rising tide of non-monetary support paints a clear picture of a healthy and well-supported organization.



**Deb Jones**

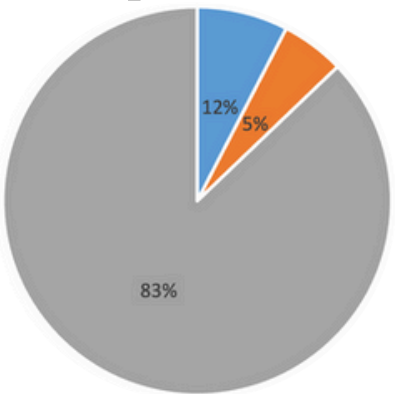
Director of Finance

## Income



- Grants
- Fundraising Special Event
- In-Kind Contributions
- Financial Contributions
- The HOPE Chest Thrift Store

## Expenses



- Management & General
- Fundraising
- Program Services

## TAKEOVER DAYS

HOPE offers a unique experience to volunteer groups and businesses in the form of “Takeover Days”. Since 2018, HOPE has been welcoming teams, such as civic, business or faith groups. Under the guidance of HOPE staff and volunteer leads, Takeover Days are a great team building experience, while helping serve those in need.



Most Precious Blood Church



Your Oviedo Dentist



Oviedo Rotary Club

### HOPE Pantry Takeover Days

Serving our clients through shepherding families through the process, stocking shelves, or handing out meat and produce, this team building exercise serves the community and strengthens the bond between the colleagues participating.



Your Oviedo Dentist

*“We wanted to follow up with you and personally thank you and everyone at HOPE for welcoming our team and allowing us to do a Pantry Takeover yesterday! It was the first opportunity for a pantry takeover for all of the team members who attended, other than myself and Dr. Lopez. Once we returned to the office, the team had only great things to say about the experience and how amazing it all was! What this allowed us to do was see the value that it has for our newer team members to not only understand where our monthly donations go but also to have the opportunity to ‘Serve Others First’ which is one of our office’s core values!”*

### HOPE Chest Takeover Days

Volunteer groups get a chance to work together through the various operations of our renowned and beloved “community treasure”; taking in and sorting donations as they arrive, welcoming customers, and displaying items on the sales floor. The store’s donations are also used in HOPE’s voucher system through case management.



# A Story of HOPE- Jack

*HOPE's HENS program provides assistance to clients that are elderly, disabled, or homebound and cannot get to HOPE's facilities.*

Jack, who was living on a limited income from social security disability, sought assistance for food from HOPE Helps. This need was met compassionately by our HENS (HOPE's Emergency Network System) program. Suffering from Post-Polio Syndrome and other debilitating medical conditions that confined him to a wheelchair, Jack faced considerable challenges in accessing basic necessities.

Our HENS program, specifically tailored for individuals who are homebound due to medical issues, stepped in to fill this gap for Jack. Our dedicated team ensured that he received not only weekly food deliveries to his apartment but also monthly hygiene products. This service transcended beyond physical aid; one of our volunteers who regularly delivered these necessities forged a deep bond with Jack, offering companionship and emotional support alongside the material assistance. This relationship exemplifies the spirit of community and empathy that drives HOPE Helps.

The HENS program not only addressed his immediate needs for food and hygiene products but also provided him with invaluable case management support and a sense of belonging. His experience underscores the transformative power of our programs and the generosity of our volunteers and donors, whose contributions enable us to continue making a real difference in the lives of those like Jack.



**HENS**  
**HOPE'S EMERGENCY NET**



## Volunteerism at HOPE

HOPE is supported by thousands of volunteers each year. We simply could not serve HOPE's mission without their selfless support. In return, we continuously honor their dedication to prevent hunger and homelessness in our communities.

- A value of 35,000 in volunteer hours were donated in 2024
- Volunteers support HOPE's Food Pantry / Resource Center, The HOPE Chest, Events, Outreach, and Programs
- HOPE's 17th Annual Volunteer Appreciation event recognized volunteers from 2023 with food, entertainment, and a fun Olympic theme
- HOPE's diverse volunteer opportunities include Bright Futures community service hours to teens
- Volunteer opportunity to host a food, hygiene, or clothing drive
- Volunteers and organizations can take part in Pantry and HOPE Chest Takeover Days, in which participants get a great team building experience while serving those in need

**\$1,172,150**

Worth of  
Volunteer hours  
donated in 2023



## HENS

HOPE's Emergency Network Service, HENS, provides outreach to those who are elderly, disabled, or suffering from medical issues, and are home-bound and unable to access HOPE's Services on site. This includes food and hygiene products.

- Over 1,196 home deliveries made to elderly or disabled home bound clients
- Case Managers meet with clients at their homes to learn about their needs, then pair them with a volunteer delivery driver
- Volunteers visit clients and report back to case managers, notifying them of any additional needs
- Volunteers prepare food bags from HOPE's Food Pantry, adhering to their dietary needs (gluten/sugar free, etc.,) and deliver to the client's home each week

**\$97,440**

Value of food  
distributed to  
HENS clients in  
2024



## Sham Rock N Run 5k

On Saturday, March 9th, 2024, HOPE's 13th Annual Sham Rock N' Run 5k, presented by Oviedo Medical Center, took place at St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Every year, hundreds of participants of widely varying age and athletic ability come together dressed in their St. Patty's best and complete the course in support of HOPE. This event raises funds to help families in crisis in our community through HOPE's various programs. Each individual who walks, runs, skips, or hops their way to the finish line has a hand in keeping families in need in their homes.

- All finisher's received a custom Sham Rock N' Run medals and t-shirts
- Virtual and "Snooze for HOPE" options were made available for participants who could not attend on race day
- Residents from Lutheran Haven cheered on racers through the 3.1 mile course, hosted by St. Luke's Lutheran Church/School
- The Little Leprechaun Lap, a free race for young children, is also available...promoting a family-friendly event
- Contests and prizes for best costume and largest team
- Local businesses and churches sponsored the event

To learn more about sponsorships for future events, email [sponsor@hopehelps.org](mailto:sponsor@hopehelps.org).

650+

Registered  
participants  
in 2024



## Kids of HOPE Enrichment Program

- Kids of HOPE food bags are distributed weekly during school breaks at the Resource Center, which include fresh fruit, dairy and easy open items for children who may be home alone while their parents work.
- Parents have the opportunity during bag distribution to meet with a case manager and discuss any personal situations or needs, all while creating a personalized case plan to meet their overall goals.
- In 2024, Orlando Health sponsored the Kids of HOPE Enrichment Program, providing more than 2,797 breakfast & lunch bags to 636 children during the 14 weeks a year children are out of school.
- The Kids of HOPE program has alleviated hunger and reduced costs by a total of \$88,664 for families.
- HOPE partners with Seminole County Public School's Families in Need (FIN) program, co-hosting a semi-annual Kids of HOPE registration event at HOPE, connecting as many families as possible to these services.
- In 2024, hundreds of volunteers and groups decorated KOH food bags, a volunteer opportunity HOPE offers to all age groups.

During each break throughout the school year, children who typically receive free or reduced meal plans at school may go without. The Kids of HOPE Enrichment Program fills the gap, allowing parents to register to receive healthy breakfasts and lunches for their children. When parents arrive at HOPE they are then given education about additional resources at HOPE.

**\$47 per month: Provides nutritious Kids of HOPE food bags for one child for one year.**

**\$94 per month: Provides two children Kids of HOPE food bags for one year.**

**\$234 per month: Provides five children Kids of HOPE food bags for one year.**



# Vision of HOPE

Each fall, HOPE supporters gather for an informative and inspirational program to hear about HOPE's successes and challenges of the prior year, and vision for the future. In 2024, attendees not only enjoyed delicious cocktails & dinner, sponsored by Stefanos Trattoria, but also partook in silent auction bidding for local treasures and high end travel experiences. The 2024 Vision of HOPE fundraiser, hosted by HOPE's Board of Directors, was held at the Oviedo Wedding Barn, and helped raise funds towards HOPE's programs. Guests heard from HOPE's CEO, Joan Faulkner, about the current climate of our clients' needs as well as the success we've achieved in keeping families in their homes. This is all due to the generosity of our donors, like those at this event, who help us retain sustainable funds. Attendees also viewed a video montage of several long-term volunteers and donors sharing their story of connection to HOPE and its mission. Many were part of the early years and were integral in the growth of each program, such as Financial Literacy, HENS, Pantry, Kids of HOPE & Thrift...and still, many of these same supporters were in the room that evening. Afterwards, there was also a Live Auction on a beautiful piece of handmade pottery, to include a pottery lesson, donated by Faulkner Pottery as well as a James Bond European Travel Adventure for two. The goal of Vision of HOPE is to introduce our mission to new guests such as community members/business owners and encourage support by monthly giving to help sustain operations and budget for the future of families we serve.

***HOPE is 'person to person'... while the food makes a real difference, and the financial contributions to keep people in their homes is absolutely critical, what makes HOPE special is that heart to heart that affirms people as people, and not just a number that needs help.***

**Jim Riley  
12+ yrs Volunteer & Donor**

## Kids of HOPE Back to School Bash

HOPE's Back to School Bash, presented by Orlando Health, provides disadvantaged children with an opportunity to choose everything they need to start their school year off right.

- During the event, preregistered children receive new backpacks, pencils, pens, glue, notebooks, paper, socks, underwear, hygiene and more
- In 2024, children received free vision screenings and glasses from HOPE's partner, Lions Club Right to Sight
- More than 200 volunteers helped put on this event at First Methodist Church of Oviedo
- Local businesses and churches hosted school supply collection boxes to provide over \$91,467 worth of school supplies for children in Seminole County
- \$384 worth of clothing was distributed through The HOPE Chest Thrift Store/Boutique, and \$11,070 of new socks (from Bombas) and underwear distributed at the Back to School Bash event

*"We would not have been able to purchase school supplies for our daughter, thank you. Saved us money and provided much needed supplies + clothes"*  
-HOPE Client, 2024

# 369

Children received everything they needed for school in 2024

## Christmas in the City

Each year, HOPE staff, our Interfaith Coalition and hundreds of volunteers support Christmas in the City. This event, presented by Advent Health, is for registered clients and relies on the help of local businesses and churches who sponsor the event and host donation boxes. Despite the rain, the 16th annual Christmas in the City persevered to serve our community.

- More than 400 volunteers were needed for this event at University Carillon Church in 2024, with some volunteering to sort and organize donations prior to the event
- Children received toys, games, books, holiday meals, blankets, socks, underwear, hygiene, coupons for The HOPE Chest, family photo ops, gift cards for teens, and more
- Over \$189,305 worth of clothing, hygiene, toys and food were distributed
- All of HOPE's HENS clients were included in receiving holiday items and food at the event
- All families received holiday meals to take home and were welcome to enjoy a hot fresh meal at the event

621

Children and families received gifts and necessities for a happy holiday

