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helping families get back on their feet

.NEW. beginnings

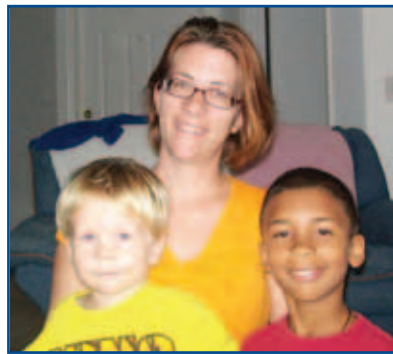
FALL
2009



HOMELESS FAMILY CENTER:

a family's success story...

Kim and her two boys, Tristen and Brayden, came to HFC in November, 2008. Kim attended the mandatory life skills classes at the Homeless Family Center and learned skills in anger and time management, conflict resolution, parenting, budgeting, and employment classes. She states that these classes helped her set appropriate boundaries and create a better support system for her family.



As part of the Homeless Family Center's Transitional Program, residents are required to volunteer, and work or attend school full time. Kim started volunteering at a local agency to gain new job skills while searching for employment. This move led her to a full time position with the same agency. In addition, Kim also registered and took online college courses to pursue a degree in forensics.

The Homeless Family Center requires all residents to save 75% of their income so they can ultimately move into a home of their own. Kim was able to save enough money to secure affordable housing and apply the budgeting skills she learned at the center. After a seven and a half month stay at the Homeless Family Center, Kim, Brayden, and Tristen moved into a beautiful apartment.

Kim is currently working full time at a local retail store and continues her online college courses. She plans to graduate next year with a degree in Forensic Science. Tristen and Brayden, ages 8 and 3, are both doing well in housing they can call "home".

Creative Fundraising

Please join us in planning one of the following events in your own home to support the HFC.

Awareness Reception

Invite friends, family, co-workers and/or neighbors over for cocktails, dinner or coffee to share the mission of HFC and tell why you support HFC.

Birthday Party

In lieu of personal gifts ask for donations and items on the HFC wish list to be donated to HFC.

Special Event

Need a reason to plan a special event? HFC is the reason to plan a special event! Get friends, co-workers, organizations, classes or teams together to raise money for HFC.

Start your plan today by calling Julia Keenan at 772.567-5537.



HFC 2009 AGENCY EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENT

by Tom Tierney, Esq., Board President

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff I'm proud to announce the Homeless Family Center received the 2009 Agency Excellence Award from the United Way of Indian River County. The Agency Excellence Award is presented to an agency who demonstrates excellence in achieving measurable results and who has made an impact on the community in their reach and in their vision. The award was presented to the Homeless Family Center at the United Way Community Leader's breakfast on September 10th.

For the past nine years I have been actively involved at HFC, and the rewards have been incredible. I've seen first hand the face of homelessness; families in need of support and guidance. Adults have entered the Center desperate with feelings of hopelessness, and children with emotional and social anxieties. As a Director and volunteer, I have come to understand personally how important the Homeless Family Center is to this community.

I've recruited family and friends to paint, clean, build, attend fundraisers, and sponsor events. It takes an entire community to support homeless families, and together we can provide approximately 64 families per year with an opportunity to be successful and live independently.

Please continue to help the Homeless Family Center be an Agency of Excellence; as a board member, volunteer, or donor. I invite you personally to tour the Homeless Family Center to learn for yourself the positive impact HFC has on this community. Please feel free to give me a call at work at (772) 231-4440 or call Julia Keenan at HFC at (772) 567-5537.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Julia T. Keenan



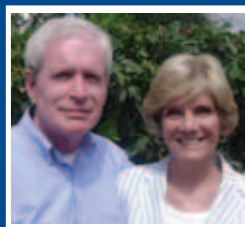
The Board of Directors and staff are grateful to our long-term supporters for assisting us during this tough economic climate. Your financial and in-kind support provided the following services this past fiscal year 7/1/08 - 6/30/09:

CLIENTS	NUMBER OR %
Families	64 (unduplicated)
Adults	87 (unduplicated)
Children	129 (unduplicated)
COUNTIES	
Indian River Residents	60%
St. Lucie Residents	30%
Martin Residents	9%
Okeechobee Residents	1%
PROGRAMS	
Emergency Families	43 (67%) unduplicated
Transitional Families	21 (33%) unduplicated
ROOM / MEALS	
Bednights	25,313
Meals	24,118
PROGRAM SERVICES	
Obtained New Employment	48%
Adult Education Classes	42%
Obtained Independent Housing	63%
Children's Education Increased	83%
TURN AWAY	
Turn Away	1963 individuals

All of us at the Homeless Family Center are proud of the services we've been able to provide with your support. This year we continue to raise awareness through special events, appeals, and community awareness opportunities. I encourage you to continue to support this agency as we work to provide the skills needed for homeless families to become independent citizens in this community.

Donor's Perspective

"My husband I became interested in the Homeless Family Center through friends who were involved. But our sustained support grew out of learning how many residents at the Homeless Family Center were children....close to 60%. Our stereotype of who might be homeless was erased as we learned how one misfortune...loss of a job, a divorce, or a death...could cause people to become homeless. We saw the wonderful results achieved at HFC and knew our donations were being wisely used and were getting families back on their feet. We are thankful to the HFC staff and all the donors who help in this wonderful mission."



Suzanne and Lee Bertman

BECOME A FAN OF THE HOMELESS FAMILY CENTER FACEBOOK PAGE.



OPENING NIGHT...

A red carpet evening of dinner, mystery, and intrigue ...

The Homeless Family Center will hold its 4th Annual Dinner event on Monday, November 9, at 6PM at the Quail Valley River Club in Vero Beach.

The evening will include Orlando's Sleuths Mystery show, cocktails, dinner, and a silent auction. **Corporate Sponsor** is the George E. Warren Corporation. **Best Supporting Actor/Actress Sponsors** are Nelson Wealth Management at Merrill Lynch, Suzanne Bertman, John and Pamela Halvorsen, Michael and Kathleen Catanzaro, Redeemer Lutheran Church, and Rossway Moore & Taylor. **Best Director Sponsors** include Burger King, Fort Pierce Jai Alai, Maya Peterson, and Larry Landsman, MD PA.



VERO'S TOP CHEF CHALLENGE

slice, dice & spice!

The 2nd Annual Vero's Top Chef Challenge... slice, dice & spice two day event will take place Monday, Jan. 25th at Pointe West and Monday, Feb. 22nd at Quail Valley River Club.

Competing chefs to date include: Nick Bradbury – Quail Valley River Club, Jim Cunningham – Willouby Country Club, Mitch Dembrowski – Regency Park, Michelle Hennessey – River Grill, Andrew Keller – The Club at Pointe West, Brian Lavergne – Disney's Vero Beach Resort, Ray Munford – Costa d'Este, Kitty Wagner – Undertow Restaurant, Neil Williams – Lakes at Pointe West, and Brad Willits – Cobalt / Vero Beach Hotel & Spa. **Corporate Sponsor:** George E. Warren Corporation, **Dice Sponsor:** Rossway, Moore & Taylor; **Spice Sponsors:** Merrill Lynch – Andrew J. Molloy, Island Pediatrics, and Republican Women Aware. **Media Sponsor:** Vero Beach Magazine.

2009 - 2010 HFC UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3	LoPresti Aviation Breakfast	Sebastian, FL
October 17	German Dinner - Redeemer Lutheran Church	
November 9	"Opening Night"- Quail Valley River Club	\$125pp
November 17	HFC Homelessness Awareness Day	
November 20.....	Twilight Saga: <i>The New Moon</i> Premiere Night	
January 25.....	Vero's Top Chef Qualifying Event	
	Pointe West	\$30pp
February 22.....	Vero's Top Chef Challenge...slice, dice & spice...	
	Quail Valley River Club	\$175pp
	Both Top Chef Events	\$195pp

For more information on all event tickets, sponsorship, and interested chefs, call Julia Keenan at 772-567-5537 or visit www.homelessfamilycenter.org.

LET'S GO GREEN

Please send an e-mail with your name and contact information including your e-mail address to mlument_i_hfc@bellsouth.net



planned giving

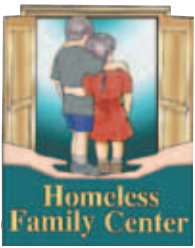
A donation through a planned gift is a great way to create a legacy of support for the HFC while providing for your own future.

Through our Endowment Fund, our supporters have the opportunity to make planned and major gifts, as well as contributions. Stock, real estate, and life insurance policies are popular ways to consider contributing to the HFC Endowment Fund. Individuals of all financial circumstances can participate in, and benefit from, our planned giving program.

Depending upon the assets and the gift arrangement selected, a donor can expect to obtain some or all of the following benefits:

- Reduce income tax through a deduction for the gift
- Avoid capital gain tax on gifts of long-term appreciated property
- Retain a stream of payments for the life for the donor
- Reduce federal estate tax burden

If you would like more information, please call Adam Bolinger or Julia Keenan at the HFC to discuss various options.



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www.HomelessFamilyCenter.org



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OUR MISSION

To provide opportunities for homeless families to end homelessness by achieving self-sufficiency through education, living wages, and permanent housing.

changing children's lives...

The Children's Program has been busy this summer. From graduation, summer camp, summer activities and back to school preparation, the Children's Program Manager together with the staff and volunteers have been there to provide support to each family.

Each week, school aged children attend math and reading instructional classes and volunteers oversee activities to assist with character values and self esteem. One young resident of the Center raised her grade in three school subject areas and received a 100% on two projects. Another child received a trophy for the Most Progress and Achievement and was recognized as being on the Honor Roll. These are just two of the academic successes that we can attribute to the addition of the Children's Program.

The Homeless Family Center (HFC) is grateful to the following donors who provided summer camps for the children at the center: Boys and Girls Club, Riverside Theatre, and McKee Botanical Gardens. The children truly enjoyed all the summer activities including a

surfing camp scholarship and tickets to the Riverside Children's Theatre courtesy of John and Kathleen Simpson. Transportation was not a dilemma this year thanks to the Knights and Dames of Malta of Vero Beach who donated money to purchase a van, which helped provide transportation to and from camp location for the children.

HFC is grateful to all our sponsors and volunteers who made the summer events possible. Donna Maness and the Fishin' Chicks who provided the second annual "Take a Kid Fishing Day". Children over 5 years old went on a fishing adventure at the Barber Bridge catwalk and had a great time. The Back to School Bash collaboration between the Homeless Family Center and the Samaritan Center to get the families together for a fun-filled day before school starts was a success. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers: IRC Fire and Rescue team Lieutenant Brad Ashley, Engineer Kevin Gibbons, and Fire Medic Steve Greer for the fire engine exhibit. Eden Family Band who provided the music. HFC volunteers: Board

members, Roger Sobkowiak, Fraulein Jaffe, Denise Finizio, and Liz Mayo. Volunteer, Gloria Durand along with the staff members, Leeanne Honey, Jason Kittendorf, Douglas Crouse, Richelle Cluck, and Connie Utter. Special thanks to Christ By the Sea United Methodist Church and their Christian's Clothing Children team for the generous donation of back to school supplies and clothing including a special meal for all the families. The children looked great on the first day of school.

The Children's Program is a great addition to meet the needs and provide tutorial support and recreational activities for the HFC children. If you are interested in volunteering or sponsoring children's events, please contact Leeanne Honey, Program Director at 772-567-5537 x 33.