



the  
**Sharing**  
center

21  
22

# Bridging The Gap





**17,858  
Individuals  
Supported**





# Bridging The Gap



*In 2022, we set out on a mission to help bridge the gap for families and individuals enduring hardships, hunger, and homelessness.*

After 36 years of service, The Sharing Center has amplified its initiatives to better provide dignified solutions for our community experiencing the unforeseen pressures imposed by inflation, food insecurity, job displacement, and scarcity of resources.

The support from our community this past year has been overwhelming, playing a critical role in the strides we've made in the ways we are sharing resources with our neighbors. Our mission has expanded to greater heights, our Oasis and team have doubled in size, and the services we share with those in need are constantly growing.

We are committed to serving others through every season of life, and it is only possible with hearts full of dignity, compassion, and transparency.

We know great things are done when faithful and willing individuals come together. We are stronger together, and it is because we have you – our board members, donors, volunteers, shoppers, and ambassadors – at our foundation that we are able to serve our community year after year. As said in James 2:26, "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead." Your dedication serves our mission as the hands and feet of God.

In the new year, we want to challenge ourselves, with you at our side, to take **Daring Actions** to empower and share with those who need it most.

We are full of gratitude for your commitment to our mission and we hope to continue creating paths of progress for every person we can.

Nina Yon  
President & CEO

Steve Reed  
Board President





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# OUR MISSION



*Through Christ, we provide dignified solutions for those experiencing poverty and homelessness.*



*Impact Since  
1986...*

0  
5  
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4

INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED  
WITH GROCERIES,  
HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE, AND  
GUIDANCE TO REGAIN  
STABILITY





# Hope Starts Here





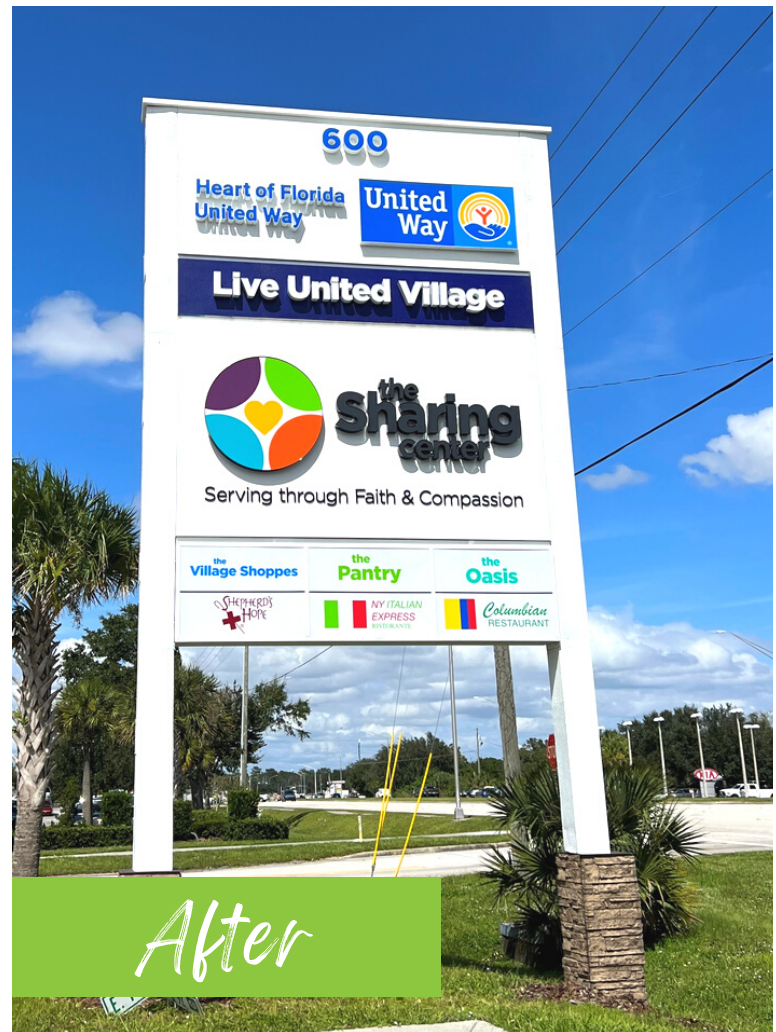
# 21FUND

*Lighting the way forward  
for families and individuals  
in need*



At the center of The Sharing Center's evolution into the most comprehensive social services hub in our community is the 21FUND. This initiative grew from aspirations of doubling the impact we share. Headlining the 21FUND is the RespiteFUND, ForwardFUND, and the VillageFUND, all designed with the goal of lighting the way for others to multiply the growth of critical human services.

With the support of our community, we've made life-changing shifts to the way we serve others. Our campus has expanded to become the Live United Village through the generosity of the Heart of Florida United Way. The Oasis has also relocated to a larger space to amplify the services we share on a daily basis, and plans of expansion are underway for The Village Shoppes. Progress is being made every day at The Sharing Center to enhance our ability to share dignified solutions.





# 21FUND

When offering respite, hope, and relief from the constant hardships burdening our underserved neighbors, we aim to create a welcoming space for all.

With the compassion extended by those who supported the 21FUND, we revamped our signage, technology, and transportation fleet to better serve and embody the idea of being a home for those who are without one.

These advancements contributed to receiving the Community Beautification Award by the City of Longwood.



## Live United Village





# Building a stronger community



*"If we didn't have you guys, we would've been out and who knows, we would've had to go back to the space that we were trying to get out of."*  
-Jocelyn

*"ProjectRISE gave me an outlet to discover different parts of myself."*  
-Phyllecia

*"You all got me out of my box. I can smile again."*  
-Britton

*"The Sharing Center has been a big help for us when getting over our financial hump."*  
-Shannon

*"I can honestly say that this program has been lifechanging and I am forever grateful."*  
-Samantha



# PROGRAM

## Impact

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*

*Philippians 2:3-4*



For so many families and individuals, challenges and hardships surfaced throughout 2022. The Sharing Center remained a center of hope for Seminole County. Our programs underwent a great deal of expansion this year in order to meet the growing needs of our community and promote progress towards bridging the gap for those experiencing hardships, hunger, and homelessness.

**1.9M**

POUNDS OF GROCERIES SERVED  
TO COMBAT FOOD INSECURITY

**17K**

INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED WITH  
HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE

**\$4.2M**

FOOD, CLOTHING, AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS  
OUTREACHED TO FAMILIES REGAINING STABILITY





# OASIS

## Transformation



Searching for a place that offers restoration is a daily hardship for the members of our community impacted by homelessness. The Sharing Center sets out to lighten this heavy burden through The Oasis, our respite center sharing essential services – hot showers, laundry services, mail accessibility, fresh meals, and haircuts. All of which, no one should have to go without.

Over 9,109 of these services have been shared this year. Since the unveiling of the new home of The Oasis in July, we have seen an 11.6% increase from last year. With a greater need in our community and with the incredible partnerships of Heart of Florida United Way, AdventHealth, Wharton-Smith, Orlando Health, Miles To Go Charities, and the Three Sixteen Charitable Foundation, we expanded our center to maximize our impact. Today, we are able to share with more than double the number of guests we ever have at the Live United Village.

Our updated facility truly captures the heart of our mission – to serve others with dignity and compassion. Every day, our guests are welcomed to a space that provides a welcoming atmosphere and allows us to cater to the individual needs of each guest. Private office areas have allowed our case managers to dedicate more time to each guest, one-on-one, when serving as a guide and mentor towards financial stability and economic mobility.

Regardless of the hardship faced, The Oasis's services care for the whole-being of the individual. It continues to be a place for those who are experiencing a season of their lives without a home.





**9,472**

**ESSENTIAL SERVICES - HOT  
SHOWERS, LAUNDRY SERVICES,  
& FRESH MEALS - SHARED THIS  
YEAR**

**48%**

**OF FAMILIES IN CENTRAL  
FLORIDA ARE ONE SETBACK  
FROM HOMELESSNESS AND  
POVERTY**



# ProjectRISE

## Creating Paths to Possibilities

ProjectRISE is our newest initiative, a workforce development program developed to support those who are under-employed or unemployed, homeless or housed. During the four-week program, participants focus on the curriculum to grow emotional intelligence, critical thinking, and the necessary soft skills to regain financial stability and economic mobility. Local businesses give their time and talents to help participants prepare for the workforce by conducting mock interviews and resume-writing workshops.

"ProjectRISE has blessed me with stability, not only in shelter but knowing that if I needed someone to speak to or simply guidance, I can always contact a staff member," said Samantha, a ProjectRISE graduate from the program's second cohort. The impact made by ProjectRISE goes beyond employment and the standard professional trainings with the help of facilitators that embody our values of sharing compassion through life's mounting pressures.

Samantha and Britton are among the graduates who received job offers from our local partners and are moving towards achieving their professional goals while overcoming personal hardships.

*Reach. Inspire. Sustain. Empower.*

If you or your company is interested in becoming a cohort sponsor, mock interviewer, or resume writing partner, visit [thesharingcenter.org/projectrise](http://thesharingcenter.org/projectrise).







"After four short weeks, I've made connections that I never thought I would have," Britton said in reference to his journey to becoming a correctional officer with the Department of Corrections and Samantha's employment offer from AdventHealth.

Critical thinking and emotional intelligence are crucial skills when navigating long-term stability, yet they are among the skills that get lost in the gap for our underserved neighbors. By taking the time to strengthen each individual's soft skills, ProjectRISE is promoting lasting results and a path for participants to follow when working towards a life-long dream that previously seemed out of reach.



*"It's never too late to be who you might have been." -George Eliot*



# TheThrift PROGRAM

Where shopping gives back



Gently-loved items adorn our shelves and draw in the support of our community.

Before our items are rehomed at The Village Shoppes (the Thrift, Boutique, and Furniture stores) our volunteers and team members at the Distribution Center work faithfully to sort, inspect, and test each donated item. This detail and dedication are crucial to our efforts. Revenue generated from The Village Shoppes goes back into our programs to provide essential resources to families and individuals in our community who are experiencing hunger and homelessness.

The reach of our Thrift Program does not end there. Fill-A-Trucks are the newest addition to our retail program. This model allows us to visit our local communities to pick up donations to bring back to our Distribution Center. Since introducing Fill-A-Truck at the Lake Forest Community, we have hosted 18 Fill-A-Trucks this year in 11 different communities. By expanding our reach and visiting the communities that are eager to serve, we are able to amplify our impact.

The sky is the limit, and soon we will be expanding our stores and program. More news to come in 2023!

## Partner Communities

Lake Forest  
Village on the Green  
Heathrow  
Alaqua Lakes  
Oakmonte Village  
Sylvan Lake Reserve

## Caring for our community



# The Thrift Program by the Numbers



**Had Over  
17,000 Donors**



**Sorted 189 Tons  
of Clothing**



**Hosted 17  
Fill-A-Trucks**



**Outreached \$509,144  
Worth of Goods**



**Generated Over \$56,400  
from Salvage**



**Raised \$81,750 From  
Fill-A-Truck Donations**





# VOLUNTEER

## Program

*"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud."*  
- Helen Dyer





Sorting mountains of donations in our Distribution Center, washing and folding laundry in The Oasis with personalized care, and filling the shelves of The Pantry with hand-picked groceries are all among the services our volunteers selflessly share with our families in need.

Our volunteers are the foundation of our mission. "I just enjoy serving," Jim said, a loyal volunteer since 2015. Jim and Ann share a similar sentiment when they dedicate their time and energy to The Sharing Center. "You're actually helping somebody," Ann said, "I love that."



Jim, Ann, and all our volunteers demonstrate compassion, respect, transparency, accountability, dignity, community, and integrity, core values that are visible to all the moment they step through our doors.

With a family of 5,440 volunteers at the heart of every service, our mission is carried out with the helping hands of seasoned volunteers, newcomers, and young helpers from across Central Florida. This past year, we saw new levels of kindness from our community with more than 50,469 hours shared, an equivalent of \$1.5 million in in-kind services donated!

This impact is immeasurable, and it leaves us with an indescribable feeling of gratitude to witness the dedication our volunteers showcase every day.

*Our volunteers are the heart behind our mission.*



To become a volunteer, visit [thesharingcenter.org/volunteer](https://thesharingcenter.org/volunteer).





# #HashtagLunchbag

The number of those impacted by the hunger crisis continues to skyrocket. In the United States, nearly 3.4 million people face a degree of food insecurity – having a lack of access to nutritious food.

In an effort to meet people where they are, we launched #HashtagLunchbag. This international movement is dedicated to empowering and inspiring humanity to reap the benefits of giving. Members of the community of all ages shared their time and energy. We believe no one deserves to endure the uncertainties of not knowing where their next meal will come from.

By adopting this initiative, The Sharing Center conducted #HashtagLunchbag events throughout the year to assemble hundreds of sandwich lunch bags that were then distributed around the area to homeless camps, shelters, and supportive housing units.

Members of the community of all ages shared their time and energy. We believe no one deserves to endure the uncertainties of not knowing where their next meal will come from.





# Exploring Poverty Summit



According to Heart of Florida United Way's ALICE Report, nearly half of Florida's population is facing the harsh realities of being one setback away from poverty and homelessness.

With a mission to spread awareness and thoroughly investigate the underlying issues of poverty, food insecurity, and homelessness, The Sharing Center launched our inaugural Exploring Poverty Summit at the beginning of 2022.

During the summit, thought leaders and advocates from across Central Florida gathered to discuss the important conversations highlighting affordable housing, job accessibility, education, and the climbing pressures affecting our neighbors.

Together, we can unite and alleviate the burdens of poverty, but progress is not possible without informing and educating our community. The event's speakers and activities were designed to teach attendees that anyone – secretaries, firefighters, and CEOs alike – can be a changemaker for those who need it most.





# SIGNATURE

## Events



As a part of our mission, The Sharing Center sets out to encourage and inspire every member of our community to be a beacon for those in our community navigating towards new paths of stability. Good Samaritan Luncheon helped raise over \$312,000.

We invited committed individuals from around the region to encourage their fellow community leaders, professionals, and mission partners to participate in a moving afternoon of sharing hope and compassion. The boundaries for change are limitless when influential and dedicated people come together to share essential resources and dignified solutions.



## Good Samaritan Luncheon





# Share The Light Gala



A bold and retro fusion extravaganza where philanthropists celebrated a night full of prosperity. Share The LIGHT Gala unites changemakers from across the region to raise awareness and funds for Seminole County's underserved members every year.

Following the theme of Bridging The Gap, the gala highlighted the strides we've made toward helping families and individuals regain stability while navigating through situational homelessness and financial instability.

With the support and generosity of the event's attendees, the Share The LIGHT Gala raised enough funds to prevent homelessness for nearly 230 families.



## Thank you to our wonderful Sponsors!

Addition Financial, Inc.  
Alphagraphics  
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Burke Family  
Celebration Restaurant Group  
Cox Family  
CPH Corp  
Designers Seconds, Maitland  
Duke Energy  
Fairwinds Foundation  
Foundation for Seminole State College  
Grafton Family  
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Miles To Go Charities  
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Purvis, Gray & Company, LLC  
Reed Family  
Seminole County Sheriff's Office Community Foundation  
Sherris Legal, PA  
Smith Family  
Southland Construction, Inc.  
SouthState Bank  
The Law Office of Cipparone & Cipparone  
Turnage and Schwarzmunn Family  
Waste Connections of Florida  
Wharton-Smith, Inc  
Young Family





Since 1986, our presence in the community has seen many changes. From a small organization with limited resources to a comprehensive hub of social services, our 36-year-old organization has reached unexpected heights with the support of our stakeholders, volunteers, and team members.

The foundation that was laid by the 17 churches that came together to give light to The Sharing Center is still present in all we do today. For this reason, we restructured our mission statement to highlight the core message we want to share with our community, our commitment to faithfully serving those experiencing hardships, hunger, and homelessness. This gave way to the following mission statement: Through Christ, we provide dignified solutions for those experiencing poverty and homelessness.

*Serving through faith & compassion.*

## The Journey Model



Through all changes, we want to ensure that our mission is clear to all serving from within and outside our organization. With the creation of a model of service, we were able to clearly describe the paths we aim to create for our neighbors who are moving towards stability with the services we share.



# The expansion brings growth!



It takes a village to care for those who need it most!

Here at The Sharing Center, our village of loyal employees has nearly doubled in size over the past year. With the commitment from our team members to provide the services we share on a daily basis, we have not only multiplied but have also increased the individualized care we share with our community. Finding a team of dedicated individuals with the utmost degree of compassion and dignity is rare, but we are full of gratitude to have achieved that this year.

Creating a nurturing atmosphere with members that embody our core values creates an impact on the lives of those we serve. "It makes me feel like I have a family here," said Phylicia when reflecting upon the care our team members have shared with her during moments of hardship.

Phylicia arrived at The Sharing Center in late Spring. She and her 6-year-old daughter have been moving forward after facing a season of homelessness and limited resources. From visiting The Oasis after living in her car, Phylicia has made strides to create a better future for her daughter, and she attributes the encouragement of our team as a motivation to rise above it all. "This place should be all over because you guys are so kind," Phylicia said, "I am beyond blessed to have you guys."





# BOARD

## Recognition

*Our board members give us their time, heart, and endless support. We are grateful and blessed for their dedication to our mission.*

**Andrew Lannon**  
L5 Law

**Bob Turnage**  
Retired

**Brian Cox**  
Merrill Lynch

**Brigit Zamora**  
Orlando Health South  
Seminole

**Chief David Dowda**  
Longwood Police  
Department

**Gail Bittman**  
Community Volunteer

**Kenneth Hoffmann**  
DynaFire  
(Retired)

**Larry Bonner**  
Duke Energy

**Lee Johnson**  
AdventHealth

**Linh Dang**  
Addition Financial

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FordHarrison, LLP

**Mary Sherris**  
Sherris Legal, PA

**Michael Eastam**  
Fellowship  
Financial Group

**Michael Heald**  
Purvis, Gray &  
Company, LLP

**Michelle Smith**  
Source 1

**Patrick Rzeszut**  
Waste Connections  
of Florida

**Ricardo Alicea**  
Wendover Group

**Rich O'Brien**  
First Colony Bank

**Pauline Ho**  
Laus Consulting

**Pastor Paul Hoyer**  
Holy Cross  
Lutheran Church  
(In Memoriam)

**Ron Davoli**  
Wharton-Smith, Inc.

**Ryan Cipparone**  
Cipparone &  
Cipparone, PA

**Steve Reed**  
Ross Stores, Inc  
(Retired)

## *In Memoriam of Our Dear Friends*

**Kenneth Hoffmann**  
Board Member

**Alex**  
Oasis Guest

**Tyler**  
Oasis Guest

**Steven**  
Oasis Guest



# CONTRIBUTIONS DRIVING CHANGE

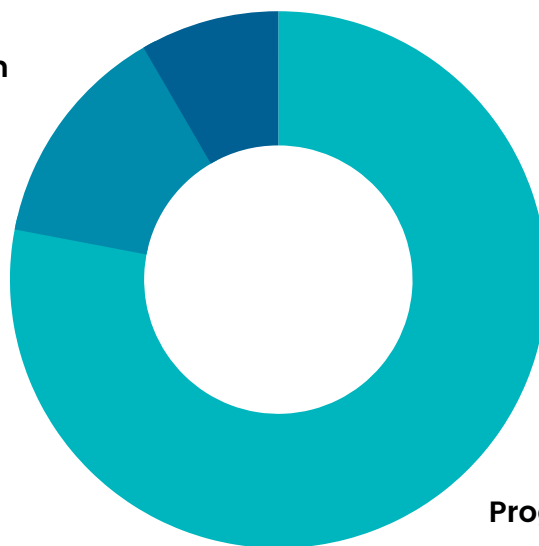


## Costs For Real Impact



General Administration  
\$1,078,192

Fundraising  
\$663,142



**Total Expenses**  
**\$7,912,730**

Program Services  
\$6,171,396

**EXPENSES**

The financial information above is in the process of being audited as of January 31, 2023. All finalized audited financials are available online on GuideStar, Charity Navigator, and the Central Florida Foundation websites.



# Community Partners

## Vision Trustees



Heart of Florida United Way



**Leslie L. Alexander  
Foundation**



**Aayla & Vjolca,  
LLC**

**ORLANDO  
HEALTH®**

**Salmo  
Investments  
LLC**



## Torch Bearers



**Katherine Mergenov  
Revocable Trust**



**Old Florida Family**





# Community Supporters

## School Group

The Master's Academy

## Community/Civic Group

Alaqua Lakes Ladies Association  
Rotary Club Of Altamonte Springs  
Rotary Club of Maitland  
University Club Of Winter Park  
Women's Club of Winter Park, Inc.

## Corporate

A. Duda & Sons, Inc.  
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Mid-Florida Air Conditioning, INC.  
Purvis, Gray & Company, LLC  
Sherris Legal PA  
SouthState Bank  
The Law Office of Cipparone & Cipparone  
The Miller Group of Keller Williams Realty  
Whole Family Healthcare

## Foundation

Ali's Hope Foundation  
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Enterprise Holdings Foundation  
Foundation for Seminole State College  
Race Time Foundation  
Seminole County Sheriff's Office Community Foundation  
The Kling Family Foundation  
Wells Family Charitable Foundation

## Nonprofit

Drusilla Farwell Foundation

## Faith Partners

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Asbury United Methodist Church  
City Church of Orlando  
Community United Methodist Church  
First Baptist Church of Longwood  
Grace United Methodist Women  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Lake Mary  
Maitland Presbyterian Church  
Markham Woods Presbyterian Church  
New Covenant Anglican Church  
Oviedo City Church  
Saint Andrew's Chapel  
Sanlando United Methodist Church  
Sanlando United Methodist Church Women  
St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church  
St. Stephen Lutheran Church  
Summit Church  
The Foundry Church  
Upsala Presbyterian Church  
Westview Baptist Church  
Willow Creek Church  
Winter Park United Methodist Women



# Compassionate Supporters

## Vision Trustees, \$10,000+

Megan and Kenneth Aldridge  
Gail and Michael Bittman  
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Jill Croom  
Zorely Faneite and Doug Kegler  
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Lee and Nicole Moore  
John and Ultima Morgan  
Mark and Robin Ogier  
Steve and Jane Reed  
Dona Tannler

## 1986 Club, \$50,000+

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Brian and Linda Cox  
Lars and Diane Eriksson

Mike and Bonnie Good  
Mike and Natasha Morgan  
Charles and Sharron Nelson  
Donna Nickel  
Dave and Diane Sutter

## Torch Bearers, \$5,000-\$9,999

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Tyler and Jen Carr  
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John Elmore

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Myrtle Paulsen

Tim Smith  
Steven and Caitlin Soldati  
Terecita Weis  
Ola Williams

## Path Finder, \$1,000-\$4,999

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Alberto Cruz  
Wayne and Tara Culver  
William and Debbie Damm  
Linh Dang and Steve Vo  
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Adia Dickinson  
Patricia and Frank Dillman  
Dewey and Barbara Dixon  
Ralph Drtina  
David and Carolyn Duda  
Dana and Diana Eagles  
Michael and Vickie Eastham



# Path Finder (cont'd)

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Casey Evans  
Edgar and Ivy Fernandez  
Randolph Fields  
Richard and Jean Florell  
John and Katherine Gatch  
Erik Genrich  
David Gergick  
Dave and Kirsten Germana  
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Justin Konforte  
Darrin Kruse  
Dan Lacich  
Mark Lang  
Thomas Langmann  
Andrew Lannon  
Amy Lewandowski  
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Elizabeth Miller  
Jane Miller  
David Mitchell  
Barbara Moehring  
Shawn and Susan Molsberger  
Stacey Monzon  
Marilyn Moran

David Mullen  
Tom Murphy  
Rebecca Murray-Shouldice  
Cedric and Kristine Nakamura  
Stephen and Charleen Nash  
Sonia Nebel  
Danielle and Chad Newbold  
Hai Nguyen  
Mary Nielsen  
Kristi Nowrouzi  
Jennifer and James Nunn  
Gail and Roger O'Connor  
Marco Oosterling  
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Christian and Pauline Pedersen  
Dorene Pfeifer  
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Brigit and Alfredo Zamora

## Thank you!





Serving through Faith & Compassion



Heart of Florida United Way



## Hope Starts With You!

Become a **Circle of Care** member with a monthly gift of \$250, \$125, \$75, or \$40. Go to [thesharingcenter.org/circleofcare](http://thesharingcenter.org/circleofcare).

Make a one-time gift of any amount online at [thesharingcenter.org/onetimegift](http://thesharingcenter.org/onetimegift).

Mail a check using the enclosed return envelope to:

The Sharing Center  
Live United Village  
600 N. Highway 17-92  
Longwood, FL 32750

Learn more about gifting a legacy online at [thesharingcenter.org/sharingalegacy](http://thesharingcenter.org/sharingalegacy).

### \$250

every month means three individuals or families can have a place to call home

### \$75

every month means 30 individuals or families can fill their pantries

### \$125

every month means five individuals or families can keep their lights on

### \$40

every month means 96 people can take a warm shower in The Oasis

The Sharing Center is a section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. EIN#: 59-2744535