
These words dominated the lexicon for all of us in 2020. Families living in poverty were hit hardest by the response to the Coronavirus pandemic, and the entities of Hope Partnership had to pivot (quickly) to ensure our community's needs were met. While we had always provided some supplemental food to our active clients as needed, food insecurity was the greatest need, and Hope Cares stepped in to fill that gap and provide emergency relief to thousands of newly unemployed workers in our region.

Despite the obstacles presented by COVID-19 the Partnership served more heartbeats than ever before and secured housing for some of our most vulnerable neighbors living on our streets for many years. We continued to grow and expand, launching a new name to better represent the holistic continuum of services we have always provided, and we expanded our team to include new Rapid Rehousing services for individuals and additional housing stability support.

2020 also saw the realization of our new brand and name, Hope Partnership. When we embarked on the rebranding process, our clients and partners insisted we keep "hope" as a core tenet of our brand. Hope Partnership encompasses the continuum of services we've been providing since day one and provides room for our continued growth. We are excited to see what is to come for the entire Partnership.

**Looking Back**

provided meals to almost 40,000 heartbeats

300 heartbeats provided identification services

moved 165 heartbeats into stable, permanent housing

over 3,000 hours of service given by volunteers

increased our service capacity by adding 5 new team members

**Why Heartbeats?**

This reflects the number of individuals in each household we have served. We say heartbeats because each and every person seeking assistance is a living, breathing, human with a heartbeat just like you and me.
The Partnership is ready to strengthen our community, empower our neighbors, and build hope in the coming year. We will be working even harder toward bringing affordable housing units to Central Florida by embarking on a campaign to convert a hotel into apartment units. Our priority is to make sure families have dignified housing, and until we can build the affordable and attainable housing we've dreamed and designed we want to convert hotel rooms into livable apartments for families to thrive and live a stable life.

We will also be launching a new entity for the Partnership, Hope Works, designed to be a pathway to employment and stability for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. Thank you to AdventHealth for providing this opportunity.

2021 is set to be an exciting first year for Hope Partnership and I am grateful to have you along with us on our journey to strengthen our community, empower our neighbors and build hope in Central Florida.

Blessings,

Mary Downey
Chief Executive Officer and Founder
Strengthening Communities.
Empowering Neighbors.
Building Hope.

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