HOUSE of HOPE
OF THE PEE DEE

Hope In Action

The House of Hope's Newsletter
Spring 2021

1020 West Darlington Street, Florence, SC 29501 Post Office Box 7129, Florence, SC 29502 www.hofh.org 843.667.9000

A Place to Call Home

- Bryan Braddock

It's the end of a long hard day for a young mother. Her day had been filled with appointments, job interviews and the emotions that come from the thoughts of starting all over. She waits anxiously for her children to be dropped off at the bus stop. Her children get off the bus and run excitedly to the young mom as they talk rapidly about their day. They go through the community gate and walk in their front door setting their things on the table. The mom then lets out a deep exhale as her shoulders relax and she falls into her chair. Her little family is now home safe in their place of refuge that they call home. This was the vision that I had etched in my mind after seeing a newly developed tiny home village for the homeless in Easley, SC. The community is appropriately called The Dream Center.

Providing this type of environment to men, women and children going through the difficult journey out of homelessness has been my dream and the dream of the board and staff of the House of Hope.

Over the last three years with the help of the City of Florence, several donors, local churches, building supply companies and prayer, we are now only months away from opening the HOPE Tiny House Village. I am personally overwhelmed by the local community support for this project. There has been such an outpouring of resources and support that have gotten us to this point and I know that God will provide the funding necessary to finish. As with all projects, especially the ones with the potential to change lives, there have been several obstacles to overcome along the way. The term "bad dirt" is a new one in my vocabulary that I wasn't familiar with, but after having to replace all the dirt for the construction site at a cost of over $200,000, it is one I will not soon forget. The impacts of COVID on the cost of building materials has been another unexpected challenge, but where God guides He provides. We are moving forward, faithfully believing that we will have the funds available to complete the 24 home tiny house village by the end of the year. We are currently on schedule to open the first 4 to 6 tiny homes this fall.

Our purpose in building these tiny homes is to partner with the Hope Village residents to focus on their development of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ while reestablishing their security, dignity, and hope for their family's future. If you would like to come along side of us to make this eternal life-changing community a reality, please give Julie Maxham or myself a call at 843-667-9000. There are several ways to be our partner financially and we would love to give you a tour of the construction in progress.

The Inspiration

Three years ago, this tiny house village in Easley, SC came to our attention. It seemed to be the answer we had been looking for to offer hope to women and children for dignified, long-term, transitional housing. The Dream Center was just that for us, the dream of what could be for the homeless of the Pee Dee. They welcomed our visits and questions on multiple occasions, and offered us their experience. This is where it all started, the inspiration.

The Dream...

So we began the prayerful consideration. There's no point in moving forward if this wasn't part of God's plan. We took hundreds of baby steps forward. We talked to the city planners to see if our property was a candidate for re-zoning, and what would that even look like? We had site plans drawn up, and had the entire project put out for bids. A tiny house "model home" was built out. And finally last September we broke ground. While it might seem that tiny houses have sprung form nowhere on our property, this has been a long time coming. Prayerful support from many in this community has taken this project from dream to...

...The Reality!

Every day the campus at our property on Darlington Street changes and everyday we can't help but thank God. The needs of women and children weigh heavy on our hearts and everyday we are a step closer to being able to move them into homes and futures to call their own. What will this program be? This will be long-term housing, for up to 24 months. Offering women the opportunity to get the training necessary to support their families away from these tiny houses. This is not their forever home, it's a stepping stone to their independence. Not only do we change the trajectory of their lives, but the lives of their children. When all 24 houses are complete, these homes will also offer our graduates from the men's home the opportunity to have a place to go for additional financial assistance before complete independence back into the "real world". We thank you so much for your help in making our dream a reality!

Be a Part of the Dream!

A leaf in our donor tree may be the perfect way to honor a friend or family member. We will have a tree (or similar) in the community building of HOPE Village on Darlington Street, with the name of your choosing engraved on it for only $250.

In our courtyard we will have engraved bricks to make your family a permanent part of HOPE Village! For $500 you can honor your loved ones and family in a brick with up to three lines! Fill out the sponsorship form below and send it in!

Every house will need operational partners. In this sponsorship level we are looking for 24 families that will commit to 1-3 years of $200 a month in giving. This can be paid monthly, annually or all at once. Each house will have a plaque inside with the name of the community partner that is supporting the operations of that house.

In the front garden we will honor our "Community Partners" who donate $10,000 in a granite monument. Including family names or businesses. These special donors will always have a place in our hearts and a place in the garden. Please contact Julie (Jmaxham@hofh.org) or Bryan (Bbraddock@hofh.org) directly for this donation and recognition.

For larger naming opportunities including streets, playground, or the entire HOPE Village, please get in touch with Bryan or Julie!

NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

PHONE NUMBER:_____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____@_____

YES, I/We would like to support HOPE Village.

- ❑ $250 as a "Leaf" Sponsor Name on Leaf _____
- ❑ $500 as a "Brick" Sponsor. Three Lines (16 characters per line)_____

_____

_____

- ❑ $2400 ($200/Month) House Sponsor One year
- ❑ $4800 ($200/Month) House Sponsor Two years
- ❑ $7200 ($200/month) House Sponsor Three years
- ❑ **I will Pay total today**
- ❑ **I will Pay monthly** I would like my gift drafted on
  - ❑ 1st or ❑ 15th of each month.
  - ❑ Use my credit card information below.
  - ❑ Use my voided check enclosed.

Payment by: ❑ Check to House of Hope ❑Visa /MasterCard ❑ Discover

Card #_____

Exp. Date_____ 3 Digit Security Code_____

Name as it appears on the card: _____

Signature: _____

Golfing for a Cause!

The House of Hope is thrilled to partner with Community Broadcasters in raising money for the tiny houses through a golf tournament at Traces golf course on June 16th! A “fore”some is $300 and will include lunch! This fundraiser is supporting Ayden Hemmingsen in the completion of his sponsorship for the tiny house he is getting to honor his mother. Come out an support this project and have some fun! Sponsorships are available from $100 Sign Sponsor to $500 cart sponsorship! Come highlight your business at a hole and meet our golfers as a Hole Sponsor! E-mail Julie Maxham at jmaxham@hofh.org for all the information!

Meet Our Newest Staff Member!

Hi, my name is Vicki and I'm very grateful to be a part of the amazing staff at the House of Hope. Originally from NY, I have lived in different areas of SC for over 25 years and definitely consider myself a southerner now. I have two children, Erika is 26 and Michael is 24 and they both live in Mount Pleasant, a quick 2 hour drive away so I am able to visit with them often. I am an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys exploring community parks, going for walks and spending as much time as possible at the Charleston area beaches. As a woman in recovery I have a deep compassion to help those who are still sick and suffering come to know the healing power of Jesus Christ. Through my employment at the House of Hope I am offered the opportunity to be an example of how God can use our pain for His purpose if we let him.

Vicki will be working with the Development Team with Julie planning events, writing grants and being the voice of the House of Hope on Social Media. Feel free to reach out to her at vmcvey@hofh.org

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Visit us at:
www.hofh.org