

# THE *Hope* REPORT

from Hope Villages of America Addressing Hunger + Housing + Abuse



## *Affordable Housing Receives New Appliances*

Thank you, Pinellas County, for awarding us a generous grant to acquire brand-new appliances for our affordable housing units!

This incredible support will go a long way in ensuring the comfort and well-being of the families we serve.

## *Team Xerox Volunteer Days*

We are incredibly grateful to the amazing team at Xerox for dedicating their time and effort to volunteer at our food bank!

Your commitment to helping those in need is truly commendable and has made a significant impact on our mission to combat hunger in the community.

Thank you, Xerox, for exemplifying the true spirit of giving back to the community.



## *Todo Tampa Bay Interview*

We are overflowing with gratitude for the fantastic opportunity to chat with Todo Tampa Bay about our Christmas in July food drive! Your support and coverage have truly helped us spread the spirit of giving during this special event.

Thanks to our community's immense generosity, our Christmas in July food drive a tremendous success. Stay tuned for the results!



## Great Day Live Interview

Our President & CEO was a recent guest on Great Day Live and talked about our Diaper Drive & Giveaway event. During the interview, we discussed the importance of supporting families in need and how something as essential as diapers can make a huge difference in their lives.

Thank you, Great Day Live, for this amazing opportunity!

## Meet & Greet

We were thrilled to see so many familiar faces and meet new friends who share our passion for serving the community. Your support and enthusiasm are the driving force behind our mission, and we are inspired to continue making a positive impact together. Let's keep this momentum going!

Together, we are a force for positive change, and with our new President & CEO leading the way, the future looks brighter than ever.



## Diaper Drive & Giveaway



We're elated to share the wonderful news of our recent Diaper Drive & Giveaway event, made possible by the incredible support of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin!

Their generous \$1,000 grant enabled us to purchase diapers and formula, allowing us to extend a helping hand to parents in need. With the backing of the Junior League, we were able to make a significant impact, providing much-needed support to families in our community. The smiles and gratitude we received from parents during the event touched our hearts, reminding us of the profound difference we can make when we come together.

A special shout-out to Lutheran Services of Florida for their partnership and for generously allowing us to use their space for the event!

## HVA Board Retreat

We are excited to share the highlights of our recent Board Retreat, where our dedicated team came together for a day of reflection, planning, and collaboration!

During the retreat, we delved into insightful discussions, exploring new strategies to further our mission and better serve the community. We're incredibly grateful for the commitment and dedication of our board members.

Their unwavering support and engagement drive our mission forward, making a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.





# STAFF & VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS



## *Meet Ed Tomlinson*

We are honored to introduce you to Ed, a remarkable individual with an inspiring journey of resilience and compassion. Born in Panama, Central America, he is the youngest of four siblings. Seeking better opportunities, Ed and his family came to the US, determined to build a brighter future. Ed's determination and hard work led him to pursue higher education, and he worked his way through college, graduating as an architectural engineer.

He began his career at a small architectural firm, honoring his skills and expertise for 1 ½ years before embarking on a new path in the IT field. With his unwavering dedication and entrepreneurial spirit, Ed built a successful IT consulting firm and ran it for an impressive 18 years. His tenacity and leadership helped countless clients navigate the world of technology, earning him well-deserved respect in the industry.

One day, while Ed and his wife were out for a ride, fate led them to discover the RCS Food Bank. Intrigued by the opportunity to make a difference, Ed decided to stop in and offered his help as a volunteer. His dedication and passion quickly caught the attention of the food bank team, and before long, he transitioned from a volunteer to a beloved employee.

As a food Bank Driver, Ed plays a vital role in ensuring that essential resources reach those in need. His commitment to serving the community is truly inspiring, and he continues to touch the lives of countless individuals and families through his work. We are incredibly fortunate to have him as an integral part of our team!

## *Meet Charles Santos*

Meet our beloved volunteer, Charles, a true hero both on and off the battlefield! Since April, Charles has been an invaluable part of our warehouse team, dedicating his time and energy to making a difference in our community. A United States Army Veteran, Charles' commitment to service runs deep in his veins as he continues to embody the spirit of giving by selflessly volunteering with us.

Beyond his military background, Charles is also a devoted family man. He shares a beautiful 22-year journey of love and togetherness with his spouse and has two kids and four grandkids.

When asked why he chose to volunteer with us, Charles said, 'Volunteering brings me joy, gives me peace of mind, and I enjoy being around the other volunteers and staff. It brings me so much joy volunteering three days a week to help HVA's food bank meet its mission in serving the community.'





# UPCOMING EVENTS

*How can YOU get involved?*

## JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN TO **END SUMMER HUNGER!**

Summer should be a time for children to enjoy playing with friends, a family vacation, or time at the pool. But for many children, **SUMMER** means **HUNGER**.

### ▶ **OUR GOAL** ◀

**Everyone gives \$0.90/DAY for 90 days = \$81**

**Can't do \$0.90 a day? No problem!**  
How can you give to ensure no child goes hungry this summer?

**\$0.09/day for \$8.10**

**\$0.19/day for \$17.10**

**\$0.49/day for \$44.10**

**Save the Date**  
*Villains of*  
**BROADWAY GALA**

**WHOPE**  
VILLAGES OF AMERICA  
Addressing Hunger • Housing • Abuse

SEPT  
**14**  
2023

**7:00**  
EVENING  
CLEARWATER, FL

LIVE PERFORMANCES | AUCTIONS | RAFFLES | FOOD & DRINK | AND MORE!

# Advancement & Communications

**97%**

Grants awarded vs. goal

**\$2.5M YTD**

JULY 2023



**3.8K**

Followers



**1.9K**

Followers

**6.3K**

Impressions

**4.9K**

Impressions

**2,154**

Volunteer Hours

**19**

Media Placements

# Mission Impact

## YEAR-TO-DATE

### FOOD DISTRIBUTION and BASIC NEEDS

**41,010**

individuals served

**524,085**

lbs of food given directly to people

**1,844,678**

lbs food given to area agencies

**321,940**

lbs of fresh produce distributed

### ABUSE SERVICES

**3,808**

safe nights for women and children  
at the Safe House

**2,328**

individuals helped with services  
provided though the Outreach Center

**1,021**

hotline calls received

**2,450**

participants in Peacemaker and  
Youth Advocate presentations

### HOMELESS PREVENTION PROJECT + HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES

Homeless  
Outreach Services

**625**

Goldsmith Gardens  
+ The Oaks

**69**

adults and children living in affordable housing  
operated by Hope Villages of America  
(households)