

# THE *Hope* REPORT

from Hope Villages of America Addressing Hunger + Housing + Abuse



## *Enterprise Volunteer Day*

In the spirit of community engagement and corporate responsibility, a fantastic team of staff members from Enterprise recently lent their helping hands to one of our affordable housing complexes, The Oaks. Their dedication to making a positive impact shines brightly, and we're thrilled to highlight their story.

Their support couldn't have come at a better time, as we continually strive to create safe and pleasant living environments for our residents. Enterprise's involvement is a

testament to their commitment to the community and their belief in the power of collective action.

To the exceptional staff members from Enterprise, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. Your dedication to improving the quality of life for our residents is truly commendable. Your willingness to invest your time and energy in this endeavor makes a meaningful difference that will be felt by all who call The Oaks at HVA home!



## *Anona United Methodist Church Volunteers*

Extending a heartfelt thanks to our friends at Anona United Methodist Church joined us at the food bank to make a profound impact. Their commitment to service and compassion shines brightly, and we're excited to share their story with you. This dedicated group of volunteers lent their hands and hearts to our cause, diving into the essential task of sorting and preparing food packages that will soon find their way into the homes of individuals and families in need throughout our community. Their support comes at a crucial time, as the demand for food assistance continues to grow.

With their dedication, we can ensure that more individuals have access to nourishing meals and essential supplies. Anona United Methodist Church's involvement in our mission reflects the spirit of community and service that we hold dear. Their actions echo the core values we share, and their impact reverberates far beyond their time at the food bank.



## *Upper Tampa Bay Chamber Morning Mingle*

We were delighted to host the Upper Tampa Bay Chamber's Morning Mingle at our food bank, bringing together chamber members, local businesses, and nonprofits for a truly inspiring event. We were proud to share insights into the essential work that takes place at the food bank and throughout our organization. Our mission to serve our community is at the heart of everything we do, and it was a pleasure to have the chance to highlight our initiatives.

Thank you, UTBC!



## Tampa Bay Newspaper Spotlights HVA Volunteers

We're overjoyed to express our heartfelt thanks to the Tampa Bay Newspaper for shining a spotlight on the heroes of our organization - our dedicated volunteers! Your feature not only recognizes their selfless contributions but also celebrates the spirit of community that binds us all. Our volunteers are the backbone of our mission, and we couldn't be prouder of the work they do. They embody the very essence of compassion and service, touching countless lives with their kindness and commitment. Your recognition not only acknowledges their hard work but also inspires others to join our cause and make a difference.



## Berkshire Hathaway Volunteers

We are delighted to spotlight the remarkable volunteers from Berkshire Hathaway who recently dedicated their time and energy to support our food bank. Their commitment to community service and the well-being of others truly shines! This outstanding group of Berkshire Hathaway volunteers rolled up their sleeves and joined us at the food bank, where they played a pivotal role in sorting, packing, and distributing food to those in need within our community. Their efforts go beyond the immediate impact of providing nourishing meals. They are sowing the seeds of hope and compassion in our community, and their actions are a testament to the values we hold dear.

As we continue to face challenges related to food insecurity, the support of dedicated volunteers like those from Berkshire Hathaway is invaluable. They are making a difference, one meal at a time, and their contributions echo far and wide. We are immensely grateful for your partnership and look forward to continued collaboration.



## Villains of Broadway Gala

A heartfelt thank you to all who made our Villains of Broadway Gala unforgettable! Your support, presence, and enthusiasm turned it into a night to remember.

Together, we raised funds and created memories that will make a lasting impact. Your generosity fuels our mission.



## Publix Volunteers

A HUGE thank you to Publix who recently graced us with their generosity, enthusiasm, and a helping hand. Over the course of two remarkable days, a total of 125 Publix volunteers joined us at our food bank, embodying the spirit of community and service. Their dedication was truly awe-inspiring. Not only did this remarkable group give their time and energy, but they also brought with them much-needed food donations, which they actively assisted in sorting. Their commitment to tackling food insecurity was evident in their actions. But that's not all - Publix went above and beyond! They generously donated mulch and rolled up their sleeves to assist with a groundskeeping and beautification project, transforming our space into a more welcoming and vibrant environment for all who visit.

Thank you, Publix, for being a shining example of corporate responsibility and community engagement.



## Staff Meeting

Our staff meetings are more than just gatherings; they are the heartbeat of our organization, where ideas are born, bonds are strengthened, and our collective dedication to our mission is reignited.

Our dedicated teams from every division brought us up to speed on their latest initiatives. From program expansions to innovative strategies, each division is working tirelessly to further our mission and serve our community better than ever. In the spirit of appreciation, we shone a well-deserved spotlight on

some of our outstanding team members. Their dedication, creativity, and unwavering commitment to our cause continue to inspire us all.

We're looking forward to the incredible work that lies ahead and the positive impact we can create together. Stay tuned for more updates, and let's continue to make a meaningful difference in our community!



## STAFF & VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS



### Meet Christine

In this month's Staff Spotlight, we introduce you to Christine, one of our remarkable team members at HVA. Her journey into HR began back in 2004 when she worked for a prominent healthcare company in Clearwater.

Initially, Christine volunteered to assist the benefit and compliance team while managing her existing responsibilities. Soon, her dedication shone through, and they officially integrated her into their team, marking the start of her career in HR.

When asked what she values most about working at HVA, Christine emphasizes our mission. She finds it profoundly rewarding to be part of an organization that actively provides essential services to those in our community in need. Additionally, she appreciates our commitment to staff development through various training opportunities.

She's a budding gardener, finding joy in planting and nurturing her green companions. She's also a fan of flea markets and enjoys exploring the hidden treasures they offer. Of course, living in Pinellas County means that trips to our beautiful beaches are a must. Lastly, family holds a special place in her heart, and she cherishes spending quality time with loved ones.

**FUN FACT:** Christine is a multilingual talent! She can speak three languages, though not all fluently. It's another facet of her diverse skill set that adds to the richness of our team.

We're proud to have Christine as part of our HVA family. Her dedication, multilingual abilities, and passion for community service truly exemplify the values we hold dear. Thank you for all that you do, Christine!

We're looking forward to the incredible work that lies ahead and the positive impact we can create together. Stay tuned for more updates, and let's continue to make a meaningful difference in our community!



## Meet Dan & Margie

In this month's Volunteer Spotlight, we are thrilled to introduce you to a dynamic duo, Margie and Dan Ratcliff, who have been lending their hearts and hands to Hope Villages of America for the past three remarkable years.

Their journey with Hope began in June of 2020 during the challenging pandemic period. Margie, a seasoned Volunteer Director, had been temporarily furloughed from her role at The Palms of Largo, while Dan, a retired Sr. Printed Circuit Board Designer from Honeywell Aerospace, was looking for meaningful ways to contribute.

Margie hails from North Massapequa, Long Island, NY, and Dan's early life led him to various places, ultimately settling in Palm Harbor. Their paths converged in 1981 when they were both employed by Paradyne Corporation, and they've been on an incredible journey together ever since, celebrating 37 years of marriage.

When Dan isn't volunteering at HVA, he can often be found strumming his guitar with the Worship Band at church or leading worship for the Assisted Living residents at The Palms of Largo. On the other hand, Margie enjoys a range of activities, from playing tennis to singing karaoke and dancing. Recently, they embarked on ballroom dancing lessons with friends, adding another delightful dimension to their lives.

*In their search for a place to donate their time, Margie and Dan quickly found their home at Hope Villages. Margie notes that "both the staff and volunteers are all amazing individuals who are kind, considerate, cooperative, and passionate about the cause."*

Margie has ingeniously combined her work life with volunteering by facilitating "Random Acts of Kindness" with the Assisted Living residents of Cypress Palms. She ensures that the abundance of hygiene items donated to HVA is put to good use by allowing residents to assemble 30 bags of hygiene products each month for those who visit the food pantry. This purposeful activity brings joy to the residents and serves the community in a meaningful way.

Dan is the organization guru of the team. He volunteers on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and has an impeccable system for organizing the daily bread and sweet deliveries, managing boxes and pallets of donations, and streamlining the food box assembly process. He enjoys sorting the diverse items that come in daily and takes pride in creating and updating signs to enhance the sorting process. With his can-do attitude, he's always ready to serve wherever he's needed.

Margie and Dan Ratcliff are exemplary volunteers whose dedication and kindness are truly inspiring. They embody the spirit of giving and selflessness that makes our community stronger. Thank you both for your outstanding service to Hope Villages of America!



## CURRENT EVENTS

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

This campaign helps support domestic violence survivors by funding our Abuse Services Division. Your donation can save a life!

*Please consider a donation today.* 

[HOPEVILLAGESOFAMERICA.ORG/DONATE](https://HOPEVILLAGESOFAMERICA.ORG/DONATE)

**24/7 HOTLINE: (727) 442-4128**



# Advancement & Communications

**97%**

Grants awarded vs. goal

**\$2.5M YTD**

SEPTEMBER 2023



**3.8K**

Followers



**1.9K**

Followers

**3.9K**

Impressions

**428**

Impressions

**1,474**

Volunteer Hours

**18**

Media Placements

# Mission Impact

## YEAR-TO-DATE

### FOOD DISTRIBUTION and BASIC NEEDS

**55,816**

individuals served

**731,384**

lbs of food given directly to people

**2,544,643**

lbs food given to area agencies

**428,377**

lbs of fresh produce distributed

### ABUSE SERVICES

**5,841**

safe nights for women and children  
at the Safe House

**2,820**

individuals helped with services  
provided through the Outreach Center

**1,354**

hotline calls received

**2,745**

participants in Peacemaker and  
Youth Advocate presentations

### HOMELESS PREVENTION PROJECT + HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES

Homeless  
Outreach Services

**960**

Goldsmith Gardens  
+ The Oaks

**63**

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