

HOPE FLORIDA Fund

As part of the Hope Florida - A Pathway to Prosperity initiative, First Lady Casey DeSantis launched the Hope Florida Fund to harness the charity of the private sector to provide financial resources to deserving local non-profit organizations dedicated to meeting the needs of students and families because government is not and should not be the only solution.

The Hope Florida Fund has the ability to locate and support small non-profits who are mission-driven and invest the majority of their funds to assist those in need. With the support of generous donations, the Hope Florida Fund has been able to award funds to non-profits that:

Provide resources for foster and adoptive families

Serve children with unique abilities

Promote learning and mentorship opportunities for Florida's youth

Aid struggling single parents and families in crisis

A PATHWAY TO PROSPERITY

“What you did for the families we serve was amazing. We are busier than ever, serving most of the shelters and transitional housing clients in our area, as well as all of the surrounding school systems in the Tampa Bay Area. In almost 3 years we have served over 1,000 families. Thanks so much for all you do for Floridians in need.”

STEPHANIE HAILE, NEW LIFE WAREHOUSE

“Families thrive together when we are connected and we support each other. First Lady Casey DeSantis, what you are doing is acknowledging the special needs community. You're acknowledging the cards we hold and you are making special needs families feel seen, heard and valued. Everyone deserves to feel that they have support and a sense of community and that is what you're doing. Thank you for this platform.”

ANGELA NANDIN, EMERALD COAST EXCEPTIONAL FAMILIES

“On behalf of our Sleep in Heavenly Peace chapter and all of the kids who will receive beds, we want to thank you again for the donation. These are just a few of the smiles we see when we provide kids with beds.”

DREW AND KATHY MILLER, SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

“We were so pleasantly surprised to receive the Hope Florida contribution last July; these extra dollars definitely are making a difference in the lives of our participants.”

TAMMY DASHER, NEXTSTEP AT ENDEAVOR ACADEMY



stories of hope

FROM OUR FUNDED ORGANIZATIONS

NEW LIFE WAREHOUSE

In December we made a whole home delivery to a family of six who lost everything in a house fire. They had just moved into a one bedroom, one bathroom apartment but had no possessions. After our delivery the mother told us, "Hi, we received the Blessing! Thank you! You left this family at a loss for words! And brought me to tears with all the details not even thought of! This organization is truly heaven sent! God Bless you All!"



C.A.L.M. HOUSE

When I first arrived at C.A.L.M., I had been without a car of my own and my license was expired. I didn't have a place of our own for me and my two kids to live together; we had been staying in hotels, and then with a close friend and their family, who helped us move into the "Calm house", as my firstborn calls it. C.A.L.M. provided us with our own room, and several kindhearted volunteers helped with transportation. There were also some very wonderful women that volunteered to watch the kids while we attended C.A.L.M.'s single mom classes. They helped me build confidence and life skills, such as meal preparation and budgeting.

After graduating from C.A.L.M., me and my kids moved into our own apartment! We made it to this point with a generous amount of help and support from this organization and the many caring volunteers that we had the blessing of meeting. This program connected us with the community and helped us build our own "found family" with people that showed us so much love and support.



BIKES 4 CHRIST

Miguel wanted to send his gratitude for the gift of wheels! This bike will help him to improve his attendance this school year. He missed 91 days last school year and was present for only 89 days. He literally was out of school more than he was in school.

Having to walk a little over 2 miles to school each morning and then 2 miles home at the end of the day has been challenging for this student. He has not always had proper shoes for such a walk and the weather isn't always the best. He can now ride to school in style like all of the other kids. He was very impressed with the color and quality of the bike. It is the nicest bike he has ever had! We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

SALTY FAMILY SERVICES

After starting a new job and moving into her first apartment, this single mom needed some help with her utilities. Salty Family Services helped her with the bills and matched her with a mentor. During their first meeting the mentor noticed that she had very little furniture. Due to the generosity of our donors and volunteers we were able to get her some living room furniture, a dining table & chairs.

When the last hurricane hit our area, the buses stopped traveling to the beachside, so this mom wasn't able to get to work for a few days. Her mentor asked if a bike would be handy for that time and she said, "Absolutely!" Once again, because of the thoughtful donation made by an individual we had a bike to give her. This mom is grateful for all the help she's received, the guidance and prayers surrounding her and the generosity of our church family.



NO LONGER FATHERLESS

It has been one of the most life changing experiences for my boy. We lost his dad in 2014 on Christmas Day. Evan was 7 years old. One of the things that I realized as he was growing up was that I can be the best mom that I can be but I don't really now how to be a dad. So we decided it would be a good idea to get Evan involved in No Longer Fatherless. Evan and his mentor Brett have really bonded over how to build planes, how to fly planes, and Brett has really been pushing Evan to look into things that will interest him that are positive. Having grown up in an adverse environment in my own childhood, I didn't really know what it was like to raise children in a safe way. So it has been awesome to have another adult to reach out to and kind of talk about some of those behaviors. Even though my son has me, he now has a team of positive adults in his life. So I know that no matter what he goes through, he will never have to go through it alone. We would not have that without No Longer Fatherless.