



Heart for Winter Haven | Quarter In Review | August 2020

863.291.6270 | [heart4wh.org](http://heart4wh.org)



## The Beatty Beat

BRAD BEATTY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*COVID tried to throw us out of rhythm, but H4WH didn't skip a beat and God increased the tempo (pun definitely intended). 😊*

As our world shuttered down, my normally quiet prayers were broken up with what seemed like a shout. In that moment, God clearly spoke into my mind that Heart for Winter Haven must be ready to seize this moment. Weeks later, as the economic and social costs began to come into focus, my expectancy grew into activity as we assembled a team of Christ warriors, armed with love and tasked with care (and ultimately \$600,000 of Polk Cares funds). Almost 400 hurting families were tended to, as our staff, volunteers and interns ministered hope, faith and care on behalf of the living God and His people who love them.

All the while, we hosted the country's first virtual Jobs for Life trainings and classes, have laid the foundation for three new JfL class sites, and provided much needed counseling for our community during the pandemic anxiety and isolation.

Praise God who has imprinted His image on all humankind, and who goes about redeeming all things at all times! ♥

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# BE ONE!

@ home VISION BANQUET

2020 November 12th

presented by



### THE ANNUAL VISION BANQUET IS BACK!

Community isn't canceled. It just relocated.

Our annual banquet will look a little different this year. With the arrival of COVID, wisdom leads us to pivot from our traditional, in-person banquet to a completely virtual banquet. On **November 12th**, instead of coming together **AS One! Community** in a single location, we will **BE One!** in multiple locations- our homes, churches, businesses... wherever you want to celebrate with Heart for Winter Haven! We will still enjoy an evening of fellowship together, just in smaller circles, celebrating and hearing powerful updates from previous banquet guests that will leave you feeling inspired, and connected to God's plan and purpose for us in our community!

"Virtual Table Sponsorships" are now available for this event! Contact Brad Beatty at [brad@heart4wh.org](mailto:brad@heart4wh.org) for more information, or visit [heart4wh.org/banquet](http://heart4wh.org/banquet). ♥

Community isn't canceled. It just relocated.

# Inside the Polk Unites Grant

Early this summer, Heart for Winter Haven was selected by United Way of Central Florida as the recipient of a \$500,000 grant (provided through the CARES Act) to assist families who lost income due to COVID-19. This opportunity made it possible for us to reach out into our community in a unique and impactful way. Here are just a few of the stories...

## Client Spotlight

### YOLANDA

"My name is Yolanda. I am a recent survivor of domestic violence. I am also the mother and hero to 3 young children. I am very determined to make it for my kids. We recently got into our own place and I had a decent job before COVID-19 hit my family hard. We have struggled the entire time. On March 18th, I lost my job. I was training and wasn't on payroll yet. So, when it came to applying for assistance it became very hard. Since I couldn't prove I had lost my job. Either way, we had to change our lives again. I just kept reaching out to 211 and every resource given to me. When Heart for Winter Haven came along. I got a email that I read every day. It touched my heart. My Care Manager went above and beyond to help my family. Today, on Tuesday Aug. 12th, I was told to pick up what I thought was more than I could ever have expected (a local Bible study group, along with Life Choice Pregnancy Center had donated items to help). I cried all the way home. I felt God today. And to be honest my faith has been tested and today I am a believer again. There is good in this world and most of the time it's from complete strangers. Melts my heart. Me and my kids thank you." ♥



## Polk Unites in Partnership with United Way:

- Began work with Polk Unites: June 9th
- Total number of families served: 377
- Number of new interns/volunteers: 10
- Number of families assisted with eviction/foreclosure prevention: 269
- Number of families provided with utility bill assistance: 215
- Total funds allocated for disbursement to families: \$600,000



## Client Spotlight

### NICODEMUS

"My name is Nicodemus. I'm a single dad who lost my wife 4 years ago. I have gone through much struggle with my daughters. Recently, I needed some help with my bills and I turned to Heart for Winter Haven when I had no place to turn. I made an appointment and was well received. They went through everything that I was asking for help and trust me when I tell you they have a heart- yes they do- they made every effort to make sure my water and electricity were never turned off.

I want to thank them very much from the bottom of my heart. I hope God will continue to bless them all; to continue their God-given duties to serve the needy and the poor." ♥

# The Heart for Winter Haven Polk Unites Team

Left to Right: Remington Brown (Care Manager), Joanne Torres (Community Outreach), Jennifer Cowan (Marketing), Karen Schreiber (Care Mgr), Bee Gallison (Lead Care Mgr), Barbie Sierra (Client Relations), Brad Beatty (Executive Program Director), and Margaret Jones (Program Director). \*\*\*Not pictured: Ceria Sanders (Care Mgr), Tyron Smith (Care Mgr), Micheline Salomon (Care Mgr), Audrey Nettlow (Care Mgr), Bryce Trafford (Outreach Assistant) and Jennifer Goodson (Care Mgr).\*\*\*



## Intern Spotlight

**SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY INTERNS-  
TYRON SMITH, MICHELINE SALOMON  
& BRYCE TRAFFORD**

We have been so blessed with these incredible social work interns! We expected to have ONE Southeastern intern this summer, and in true God-fashion, He gave us THREE at a time we deperately needed them! Micheline, Bryce and Tyron, you have been gifts to us and we wish you the best as you continue on your journeys.

As 3 John 1:2 states, "Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul." ♥



## Volunteer Spotlight

**KAREN SCHREIBER, CARE MANAGER**

"COVID-19 caused members of our community to lose their source of income, or have it reduced. With this grant, they receive assistance to remain in their homes and pay their utilities. Each person I worked with had a story that impacted me. I carry their stories with me, to think about them and to pray for them. Heart for Winter Haven offered them a life-line of hope. I am just a volunteer needed for a specific time, but those on staff will remain and follow up with each client in the weeks to come. That is what they do best. The Polk Unites Grant was just the beginning of many relationships to come." -Karen

We thank Karen for joining in this incredible service to our community! ♥







Heart for Winter Haven

*5th Annual*  
**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

*Presented by*  
**CenterState**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH**

**THE COUNTRY CLUB OF WINTER HAVEN**

REGISTRATION 7:30AM | SHOTGUN 8:30AM  
\$150 PER GOLFER | \$600 FOURSOME

**FOR SPONSORSHIP INFO & QUESTIONS, CONTACT BRAD AT  
863.291.6270 OR BRAD@HEART4WH.ORG**

**TO REGISTER OR SPONSOR, PLEASE VISIT [HEART4WH.ORG/GOLF](http://HEART4WH.ORG/GOLF).**

### Upcoming Events

- Sept 15 JfL LIVE at Grace Lutheran Church begins
- Sept 17 JfL LIVE at St. Paul's Episcopal Church begins //  
JfL LIVE Men's Class at South County Jail begins
- Sept 22 JfL LIVE Women's Class at Central County Jail begins
- Oct 5 H4WH 5th Annual Golf Tournament
- Nov 12 H4WH 3rd Annual Vision Banquet- Be One! Community
- Nov 24 Winter Haven Community Thanksgiving Prayer Service

# H4WH Jobs for Life... in a time of COVID

**BRAD BEATTY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*When you can't do what you like to do the way you like to do it... what do you do?*

In March, we had just begun classes at South County Jail and Grace Lutheran when COVID-19 stay-at-home orders came, causing us to scramble for solutions. At that time, unemployment in our area was between 3-4%. Our class at Grace went virtual, giving us experience that we shared with JfL National. We helped them pull together their first virtual training and class that included students from around the country. Our JfL efforts were slowed locally, but expanded nationally! Margaret was even able to train leaders around the country and help them grow their ministries!

At the same time, we never stopped planning for growth in our community. Due to the economic ravages of the pandemic, our local unemployment rate grew well into double digits. As a result, we are restarting our men's JfL at South County and are adding a class for women at Central County Jail. Grace Lutheran is also back, and we are launching a new site at St. Paul Episcopal (with Holy Cross Episcopal/Living Word of Faith Assembly). Now more than ever, our community needs people who are prepared for the workplace and understand the redemptive process of finding one's vocare (calling) to vocation. ♥

## WAYS TO HELP

- **PRAY!**
- **GIVE:** To make a **donation**, please visit [www.heart4wh.org/donate](http://www.heart4wh.org/donate).
- **SERVE:** We are seeking volunteers to serve in various areas of ministry. Please mail [admin@heart4wh.org](mailto:admin@heart4wh.org) for information.
- **SPONSOR:** Sponsorships are still available for both the banquet & golf tournament. For information, please email [brad@heart4wh.org](mailto:brad@heart4wh.org).
- **HOUSING PARTNERSHIP:** We are looking for available land for 3 donated houses (3 lots) to expand this program. If you can help, please email [brad@heart4wh.org](mailto:brad@heart4wh.org).