The blend of support from donors, volunteers, and community partners has been essential for House of Hope to grow into the go-to resource for our neighbors in need. For decades, House of Hope has been known for feeding people with innovative Client Choice pantries, however... in recent years the agency has expanded into a vast empowerment model with five full-service locations. 2017 brought about new investments including opening the Elizabeth Latif Nutrition Center, planting free nutrition gardens, and renovating and operating the Golden Gate Center for Enrichment. Most recently, the Agricultural and Vocational Production Farm has begun construction in western Palm City. The synergy from each of these projects offers sustainable ways to reach and educate clients to establish a path to better health, greater stability, and a stronger community overall.

### Project HOPE

Project HOPE is a comprehensive multi-service program offered by House of Hope that chronicles the journey of individuals who seek assistance. It is an opportunity for motivated individuals to work their way out of poverty. House of Hope’s central programs are referred to as Project HOPE (Helping Others Progress through Empowerment). The projects are available and offered at no cost to any eligible Martin County residents who seek assistance.

- Access to nutritious food choices from the Client Choice pantries and Daily Bread & Produce program.
- The Clothes Closet program provides clients with clothing, shoes, and household items.
- Case management to assist clients in planning and goal development and resource acquisition.
- Information & referral to assist clients in accessing other social services and opportunities available within the community.

Under Project HOPE, relationships are built and individual’s challenges are identified, and solutions are brought through the Client Choice pantry and Clothes Closet while the underlying obstacles may require further assessment and collaboration with case workers. Clients are often referred to programs offered at the Golden Gate Center for Enrichment where free courses or workshops may enhance job skills, education, and health. These programs provide an opportunity for motivated individuals to work their way out of poverty.

### Golden Gate Center for Enrichment

This collaborative project is managed by House of Hope and offers clients and the community a variety of empowering life skills opportunities provided by numerous agency partners at no cost to the individual. With a focus on the whole person, those clients not on benefits and most paycheck-to-paycheck, and families struggling to make ends meet, the Golden Gate Center for Enrichment provides individuals for success in life and on the job. Currently, hundreds of Martin County residents are accessing the Center each month for offerings which include: Personal Financial Recovery, Resume Writing/Job Application Assistance, Martin County Sample Smiling Creations, Health and Nutrition, Parenting Skills, Therapeutics and HIV/STD Screenings.

### Agricultural and Vocational Production Farm

In order to provide nutritious foods to the 17,704 individuals and families living in poverty, while also helping to reduce Martin County’s high rate of diabetes and obesity, House of Hope is developing on Agricultural and Vocational Production Farm in Palm City. Up to 1,000 pounds of fresh produce will be harvested monthly and distributed at House of Hope clients, local soup kitches, and economically challenged community. The farm will also provide agricultural vocational training opportunities and as an additional revenue stream for House of Hope. The project is rapidly taking shape featuring an argicultural, agro-pots system, and other cutting-edge growing techniques in light-humanity provided by the Palm City Farms Produce & Market owned by Phill and Mary Leamon.

### Nurturing Healthy Bodies and Minds

By providing a supplemental food source in conjunction with nutrition education for the community, the agency’s nutrition garden programs are to combat the rising levels of childhood obesity and chronic diseases in Martin County. House of Hope currently oversees several garden locations as part of the Gardening for Good Healthy Children program that works in partnership with four additional programs throughout Martin County. The project provides nutrition and gardening education for approximately 750 children ages 5-14 each year in a weekly basis. Weekly activities include planting, maintaining and harvesting healthy crops, learning various planting techniques, and other gardening activities. The harvested produce is either used in nutritious meals that the children make during their nutrition-led education or is supplied to House of Hope’s other Client Choice pantries.

House of Hope partners with the Martin County Health Department to offer the popular “Families to the Community Kitchen” cooking and nutrition class at the Golden Gate Center for Enrichment. The landscape surrounding the Golden Gate Center for Enrichment has been transformed into a nutrition garden with a variety of fruit, vegetables, and herbs. At the Bosco Street location, the Elizabeth Latif Nutrition Center has been operating with teams of volunteers from local families, schools, civic groups, businesses, and other Partners of Hope. This important kitchen environment enables House of Hope to prepare and repurpose bulk items from neighboring individual supporting for homeless clients and households. The ability to offer healthy meals made possible and combats this has enhanced the overall nutritional value of the food being distributed to thousands of Martin County residents each month.

### GROWING HOPE

The synergy from each of these projects offers sustainable ways to reach and educate clients to establish a path to better health, greater stability, and a stronger community overall.

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**Access Information**

- **Food drives:** ext. 1002
- **Donations:** ext. 1002
- **Furniture pickup:** ext. 1019

**Customer Service**

- **Library Services, Computer Lab Access, ESOL, Writing/Job Application Assistance, Martin County Sample Smiling Creations, Health and Nutrition, Parenting Skills, Therapeutics and HIV/STD Screenings**

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**House of Hope thanks you.**

To empower Martin County residents... this report is for you, the supporters... This report is for you, the supporters... This report is for you, the supporters.

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**EmpowerMartin**

- **Chief Executive Officer:** Rob Ranieri
- **Chairman:** Don Retzler
- **President:** Jim Schuster
- **Vice President:** Hans Vanderlip
- **Secretary:** Jeffrey Pedersen
- **Treasurer:** Tony Lang
- **Board of Directors, 2017-2018:** Rev. Noel McGrath, Tina McSoley, Scott Moore, Stephen Schramm, Deborah Lovequist, Frank Doyle, D. W. Craig Dreyer, Shirley Arline, Sarah Edens, Marlena Husted, Barrett Jones

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**House of Hope’s 2017 Annual Report**

Leaders in Providing Hope
10/11-4/30/17

$18,000 - $1,000,000
- Amber's Coal Fired Pizza
- Barret Jones
- Barrett Jones Family Foundation
- The Blackwell Group
- Big Blue Pizza
- BOCA Builders
- Robinson Family Foundation
- Bonita Bay Club
- Bonita Bay Community Church
- Brown Advertising
- The C.O.R.E. Program
- Center Stage
- The City of Fort Pierce
- Christ Church
- Community Foundation
- Community Foundation for Martin County
- Community Foundation of Palm Beach County
- Community Foundation of the Treasure Coast
- The Connors Family
- The Coral Reef Yacht Club
- The Coralville Group
- Coralville Yacht Club
- Martin County Medical Society
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