



Heart for Winter Haven | Quarter In Review | Spring 2023

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

## The Beatty Beat

**BRAD BEATTY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

According to a commonly shared story, Margaret Mead, the anthropologist, was asked by a student what she thought was the earliest sign of a civilized society. There are many variations of the anecdote, but the general details are similar: To the student's surprise, she replied that the first sign of civilization is a healed human femur- the long bone that connects the hip to the knee.

Mead proceeded to explain, as the story goes, that wounded animals in the wild would be hunted and eaten before their broken bones could heal. Thus, a healed femur is a sign that a wounded person must have received help from others. Mead is said to have concluded, "Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts."

While the wounds (brokenness) of people who experience homelessness aren't always visible, we know, intuitively, they are present in their lives. Sometimes, we see the clues of the pain and trauma, but many times we don't. Worse yet, we sometimes discount the fairly obvious signs as bad choices or intractable problems (substance abuse, mental illness, immorality). Worst of all, we have allowed some people to become invisible (homeless families), denying their existence with our willful blindness to their dilemma. Seemingly, we have lost hope in our ability to be civilized.

Solving homelessness is not an impossible task, it can be solved. Fourteen communities in the U.S. have reached "functional zero" for at least one population experiencing homelessness.

By December 31, 2030, we will ensure there isn't a single homeless child in Winter Haven. On that January 1st, we will celebrate how we became a civilized community! ♥



## Life at the Scholarship House

**BRIAN FLORES, COMMUNITY CARE MANAGER**



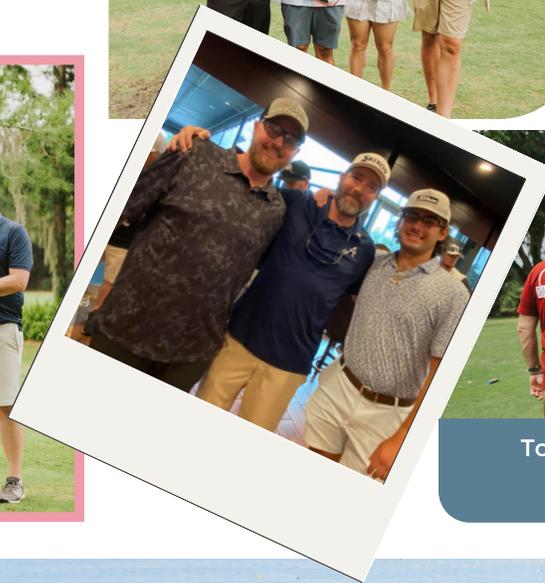
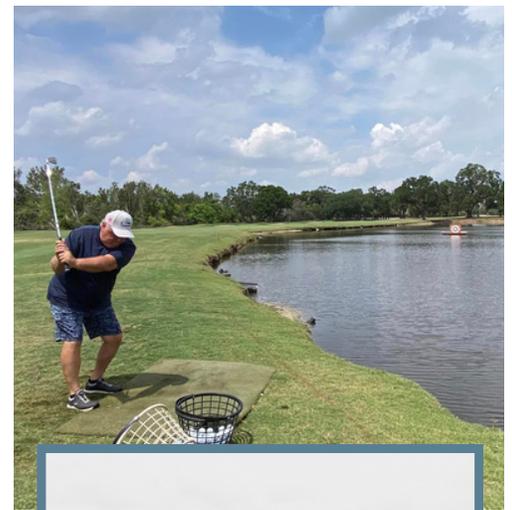
Have you thought, "Hey, I wonder what's going on over at the Scholarship House?". My name is Brian Flores and I am the House Manager at the Scholarship House AKA "The Manse." I moved into the house about a year ago and, with the mentorship of Jim Adkins, hit the ground running, helping to create some structure and guidance for the program. I've enjoyed taking on the role of a coach for the young men in the house, pouring into their lives, and helping them navigate the challenges they face in school, work, with family relationships, and church too. I have focused on creating a safe and welcoming environment for growth, and one that helps build a sense of community through group activities, classes, meetings, outings, and volunteering in the community together. Sometimes we just hang out at the house, having a cookout and bonding together, more like brothers than roommates. Tabitha and I also updated the program's guidebook, incorporating some aspects which I believe are essential, such as community, volunteering, financial literacy classes, and one-on-one sessions with our amazing Center for Well-Being counselors. So, wonder no longer, and also know there is much more coming soon... So stay tuned for future news from the Manse. ♥

# The 8th Annual Golf Tournament

JENNIFER COWAN, CHAMPION RELATIONSHIPS SPECIALIST

On April 3, 2023, a whopping **118** golfers (our biggest crowd yet!) got together at The Country Club of Winter Haven for our 8th Annual Golf Tournament, presented by SouthState Bank. Our goal this year, to raise \$50,000 to support the ministry programs of Heart for Winter Haven, was **EXCEEDED** by \$20,000! Wow!

A huge thank you goes out to the incredible sponsors, teams and players that made this event happen. Your generosity reveals your hearts to see relationships restored, resources built and community growing. It is an honor to serve together with you! ♥



To view photos from the event, please visit [heart4wh.org/golf](http://heart4wh.org/golf) ♥

## Accessory Dwelling Units Grant

BEE GALLISON, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

We are excited to announce that our Housing Partnership of Winter Haven has partnered with the City of Winter Haven to offer a grant for creating additional affordable housing units. With this grant, homeowners can bring offline ADUs (accessory dwelling units), like garages, small apartments, etc., online and rent them at an affordable rate to families or individuals needing housing options.

The grant amounts awarded will be \$5,000 for one bedroom, \$10,000 for two bedrooms, and \$15,000 for three bedrooms. Homeowners interested in this grant can email Bee Gallison at [bee@heart4wh.org](mailto:bee@heart4wh.org), or 863.291.6270, for more information or an application.

This grant provides an excellent opportunity for homeowners to make additional income while addressing the housing crisis in our community.

We encourage all eligible homeowners to consider applying for this grant and helping to provide affordable housing options for those in need. Thank you for your continued support in strengthening our community. ♥



# Mental Health Awareness

**KIMBERLY SMILEY, DIRECTOR, [THE CENTER FOR WELL-BEING](#)**

The [Center for Well-Being](#) is excited to offer various activities for our staff during the month of May to spread awareness of the importance of taking care of your mental health. The activities offered are geared towards a healthier well-being and will incorporate movement, spirituality, and emotional discovery. Our staff works diligently to serve the needs of our brothers and sisters in the community. In turn, we want to ensure our employees have the tools to practice self-care, set healthy boundaries, and maintain work/life balance in their own lives. Activities include: yoga, art for the heart, scripture reflection, developing a prayer life, and mental health check-ins. Special thanks to Amy Beatty and Ashley Bennett for partnering with us to provide these services to our staff! ♥



## FAITH & FINANCES On Location at Redeemer!

**TABITHA KEITH, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS**

After months of planning, training and praying we recently kicked off our Spring 2023 [Faith & Finances](#) class! Janet Turley, Brandi Atkins and Brian Flores have done an incredible job putting the pieces together, and because of their hard work this is our biggest class yet! The class started April 20th, and will run for six weeks, involving 18 students, 10 children and 19 volunteers. [Redeemer Winter Haven](#) is our gracious host, and 4 of the 6 class meals have been generously sponsored by families and businesses in our community!



One of the things we're most excited about for this course is being able to offer the children that are attending their very own kids version of financial literacy, developed by [Southeastern University](#)! Every week the children will be learning, alongside their parents, tools that they can use to be faithful stewards of the gifts God has given them. We would love for you to be praying for the families that are attending this class, that as we dive into some of the underlying causes of poverty God will make space for positive and lasting change in their lives.

We are already beginning to plan a Fall 2023 [Faith & Finances](#), and will need all hands on deck to make it as impactful as possible for the families in Winter Haven. We are in need of volunteers and meal sponsors, so if you're interested in supporting us in these ways you can contact Tabitha Keith at [tabitha@heart4wh.org](mailto:tabitha@heart4wh.org). ♥

## Company Match Donations

Many employers now offer an option to give to non-profit organizations via the company's payroll deduction process. Two such companies are [Benevity](#) and [Donation Xchange](#). If your employer utilizes a system like these for workplace giving, we would ask you to prayerfully consider making [Heart for Winter Haven](#) a part of your regular giving. You can obtain information on whether or not this is an option for you via your company's HR/payroll administrator. Thank you for your support! ♥



## Upcoming Events

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Each Friday          | <u>The Heart Place</u> (525 2nd St SW) at 6:30pm!   |
| 2nd & 4th Wednesdays | <u>Person of Jesus (POJ) Lunch &amp; Learn</u> from 12-1pm at Heart for Winter Haven        |
| May 4th              | <u>National Day of Prayer - Downtown Prayer Walk</u> at 7:30am in Winter Haven Central Park |
| Mid-May              | Summer interns (Graycen & Maddie) arriving from <u>Covenant College</u>                     |
| June 1st             | <u>Faith &amp; Finances</u> Spring class graduation - Redeemer Winter Haven                 |
| September            | Launch of Fall 2023 <u>Faith &amp; Finances</u> class                                       |
| Oct 26th             | H4WH 6th Annual Vision Banquet  |

## Life From The Heart Spring Graduations!

Women's: Central County Jail

Men's: South County Jail



## WAYS TO HELP

- **PRAY!** (for our staff, volunteers, clients, community)
- **GIVE:** We are 9 monthly partners away from our HEART 100 goal! To join us as a monthly partner, please visit [www.heart4wh.org/donate](http://www.heart4wh.org/donate) and select "ongoing" when making your gift.
- **SERVE:** We are seeking volunteers to serve in various areas of ministry. Please mail [admin@heart4wh.org](mailto:admin@heart4wh.org) for information.
- **SPONSOR:** We are in need of 2 more lunch sponsors for our spring Faith & Finances class. Each lunch is approx. \$200. To help, email [jen@heart4wh.org](mailto:jen@heart4wh.org).
- **HOUSING PARTNERSHIP:** We need additional units of short & long term housing for families we are serving. Please email [bee@heart4wh.org](mailto:bee@heart4wh.org) to help.



# AS ONE!

VISION BANQUET

SAVE THE DATE

10.26.2023

For more information, and sponsorship opportunities, contact 863.291.6270 or [jen@heart4wh.org](mailto:jen@heart4wh.org)