



Heart for Winter Haven | Year In Review | January 2022

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The Beatty Beat

BRAD BEATTY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Twenty twenty-one ended graciously and the New Year started off with a bang at Heart for Winter Haven. In December, we celebrated with our **Life From the Heart** graduates at both the South County and Central County jails. **LFTH** is our iteration of a **Jobs for Life** and **Faith and Finances** primer and it's been awesome. We also got to participate with Redeemer City Church's Community Christmas Shoppe as well as Candy Canes for Kids sponsored by the Rotary Club.

We got to celebrate with families we've helped and grown to really love. Our **Housing Partnership** team did a stellar job serving hundreds of families with care and resources who were facing homelessness. Because the need for rental assistance was so great, and our team was super efficient, the

original \$600k ran out too fast. So, as of this month, the County Commission approved an additional \$1 million for us to help our neighbors in housing crisis. As an organization committed to a development model of helping people, we cautiously approached these programs that are (on the surface) highly transactional. One thing it does is help us really engage and connect with all kinds of folks. We remain devoted to using every opportunity to extend hope to hurting people, building relationships that heal broken ones, and offering friendship that leads to our Friend! What a privilege it is to be able to serve our community in these ways. Happy New Year! ♥

Life From The Heart - Est. 2021

JIM ADKINS, PROGRAM COORDINATOR AND
 ASHLEY BLACK, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Life from the Heart was born in 2021- an innovative pivot from our typical community classes which were put on prolonged pause by the COVID restrictions of 2020. With our volunteers on lock down and community training sites closing, we found an open door to serve in the jails which ultimately became this new initiative known as **Life from the Heart**.

This "prequel" to our established community classes allows inmates with release dates approaching an opportunity to prepare their hearts and minds for release from jail and entry into the job market. The curriculum draws from the book "Growing Through Brokenness," and is complementary to the **Jobs for Life** program.

Heart for Winter Haven graduated two classes in 2021 and have been given the "go ahead" to present four classes in 2022. ♥



As One! Vision Banquet

JENNIFER COWAN, CHAMPION RELATIONSHIPS SPECIALIST

We were blessed to be back together, As One! and in person, November 11th at Heartland Church! It was a powerful time with stories of transformational change in the lives of many in our community. We even got to participate in the graduation of our first student to complete **Faith & Finances**! God showed up in each person's story and filled us with fresh hope heading into a new year!

In addition, YOU showed up in huge ways. I'm not sure I could even count the number of volunteers that made this event happen, including the American Heritage Girls and students representing Winter Haven High School and Redeemer City Church.

We also DOUBLED our number of monthly partners (a new giving family we've named "**The HEART 100**").

The banquet is our annual fundraising event for the ministries and programs of Heart for Winter Haven. Our goal this year was to raise \$150,000... but you blew it out of the water! We reached just over \$170,000 in pledges and gifts to impact the lives of individuals and families in the coming year, and we are grateful to you for your incredible generosity! A special thanks to our Presenting Sponsor again this year, Chevrolet Center, and all our matching gift and table sponsors as well!

If you missed being with us in person, or you were there and would like to enjoy it again (or share it with a friend!), the full evening is now available online thanks to our talented friends at Heartland Church: <https://youtu.be/zhtIDdegMjo> ♥



Come for a conversation about Jesus of Nazareth. Light lunch provided - just bring your curiosity and opinions.

BUT WHO IS JESUS?

Person of Jesus Study at H4WH
250 Magnolia Ave SW (use parking lot entrance- take elevator to 2nd floor)
2nd & 4th Wednesdays from Noon - 1pm

The Center for Well-Being

We launched a new initiative, **The Center for Well-Being**, in the summer of 2021 in an effort to provide affordable mental health services during such an unprecedented time of stress and strain for individuals and families in our community. We currently have a grant to help ease some of the financial burden for these services. **The Center for Well-Being** has licensed and certified counselors and coaches available for anyone in need of counseling, emotional support or mental health services. If you, or someone you know, needs someone to talk to, please reach out to us. Don't let this new year start off without support- we are here for you:

www.heart4wh.org/the-center-for-well-being ♥

Our Team is GROWING!

ASHLEY BLACK, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

We would like to introduce you the newest members of our team! (In the left photo: Tabitha Keith and Donna Noble, and in the right photo: Lavette Gibson and Dawn Bowen).

Tabitha is blazing a trail as an incredible **Housing Partnership** Care Manager! In September, she went to work and has quickly become our anchor for offering housing stability care on a much greater scale than ever before.

Donna is our New Year's gift, starting as an additional Care Manager in support of our housing program initiatives. She has extensive experience serving in marginalized communities, and we welcome her heart and her expertise to the team!

Lavette began serving with us last September- as an AARP volunteer. She spends 20 hours a week making sure that our guests are welcomed, the office is organized and clean, and phone calls are answered. Her warm, serving presence has made such a difference to our staff and guests!

Dawn began serving as a volunteer in October, and has now joined our staff part-time in support of the Programs Team. She is new to Florida, and sought out H4WH from the start. We are honored by her choice to serve with us, and now grateful to have her on staff. She is providing timely support for the recent growth of our housing stability program. ♥



2021 H4WH Programs- BY THE NUMBERS:

- # of Families assisted by our Housing Partnership: 555
- # that received housing stability services: 132
- # that received utility assistance: 74
- # of Jobs for Life classes (graduates): 2 (11)
- # of Faith & Finances classes (graduates): 1 (1)
- # of Life From The Heart classes (graduates): 2 (14)
- # of counseling hours provided through The Center for Well-Being: 500+
- # of supervision hours invested in developing future mental health providers: 140

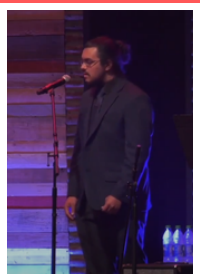
The Scholarship House in 2021

JIM ADKINS, PROGRAM COORDINATOR

In 2021, **The Scholarship House** at The Manse, a home for young men facing housing challenges while pursuing higher education, enjoyed its first anniversary (in the spring), and its first graduate (in the summer)!

Raymond Castro graduated from the program in grand style, receiving his AA degree in Arts from Polk State College, and even returning to perform during our annual AS ONE! Vision Banquet in November. Congratulations Raymond!

"The Manse" has been able to bless the lives of many men over the past two years. Most have gone on to pursue continuing education or have simply launched out into life. Going into the new year, we currently have a big need for ceiling insulation, as this older home was never completely insulated. We would like to increase our responsible stewardship by making the house more energy efficient. For the spring of 2022, we currently have space for three students available at The Scholarship House, and are also interviewing for a possible house manager position as well. If you are interested in helping with the insulation project, are a male student needing housing, or would like more information on the house manager position, please call/text me at 863.258.5592, or email jim@heart4wh.org. ♥



IN THE NEWS...

The H4WH office relocated mid-Dec to the 2nd floor of the BB&T building on the corner of 3rd St SW and Ave C SW. Our new office address is 250 Magnolia Ave SW, Suite 200 (enter from the parking lot side and take the elevator to the 2nd floor). Our PO Box remains the same for mailing purposes (PO Box 2383, Winter Haven, FL 33883). We look forward to seeing you soon!



**SAVE THE
DATE:
APRIL 4, 2022**



Heart for Winter Haven

7TH ANNUAL

*Golf
Tournament*

THE COUNTRY CLUB OF WINTER HAVEN

\$150 PER GOLFER | \$600 FOURSOME

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT JEN AT
904.878.7270 OR EVENTS@HEART4WH.ORG

REGISTER AT: WWW.HEART4WH.ORG/GOLF

Upcoming Events

Every Monday	The Heart Place (6:30-7:30pm; Doors open at 6!) at Heart for Winter Haven
2nd/4th Weds	The Person of Jesus Study (12-1pm) at Heart for Winter Haven
Feb 21	H4WH office closed (President's Day)
Mar 1	Life From The Heart resumes at both South County and Central County Jails
Apr 4	H4WH 7th Annual Golf Tournament at Country Club of Winter Haven
May 5	National Day of Prayer
June 13-17	Home Repair Work Camp (details to come)

JOIN US FOR



The Heart Place

MONDAYS AT 6:30 PM

250 MAGNOLIA AVE SW (2ND FLOOR)
WINTER HAVEN, FL 33880
NOTE: ENTER FROM PARKING LOT SIDE

**ENJOYING A MEAL AND JUST
DOING LIFE TOGETHER
WE'VE SAVED YOU A SEAT!**



WAYS TO HELP

- **PRAY!**
- **GIVE:** To make a **donation**, please visit us at heart4wh.org/donate.
- **SERVE:** Want to volunteer? You can visit heart4wh.org today and check out the SERVE tab! Also, if you have experience working with insulation and would like to help at the Scholarship House, please call/text Jim at 863.258.5592.
- **SPONSOR:** Sponsorships now available for the 7th Annual Golf Tournament on Apr 4th. For information, please visit heart4wh.org/golf or email events@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.

OUR MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 2383, WINTER HAVEN, FL 33883
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