

### The Beatty Beat

**BRAD BEATTY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

"Gratitude helps you fall in love with the life you already have." ~ Kristen Hewitt

I'm so thankful for all that God has done this past year, supplying us with the resources, relationships and opportunity to impact the lives of hundreds of families in our community over 500 of them!) Heart for Winter Haven has grown as an organization and has become a force for good in our community. We are a trusted partner to many of the churches, businesses, nonprofits and local government offices that we connect with to solve difficult problems. For all this, we are profoundly thankful!

In 2024, we see even more change on the horizon. We want to be more than just a great organization impacting a city, we look to be a movement of a city's people that reflect great community! We believe that the health of our community is demonstrated by how well we care for our children, therefore, homeless children and families are not ok. We also think that the future of our city is dependent on how we address these issues now. We are committed to attracting and empowering willing people to become a tidal wave of change for good. The Gospel both informs and empowers, and it requires us to think in these ways, because it is evidenced by this kind of transformational change.

You are part of that movement... this is the Way!



### Welcome Lisa!

BEE GALLISON, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Lisa Albury, a dedicated volunteer from the AARP work program, joined our Welcome Desk team last year. With over 30 years of managerial experience in a local grocery chain's meat department, Lisa's commitment shines through as she assists clients over the phone and in person. Now a valuable staff member, we are thrilled to welcome Lisa and her impressive skills to the H4WH team!

## WorkerSpring + H4WH = Hiring With Impact

#### TABITHA KEITH, DIRECTOR OF CARE

Did you know that 85% of jobs are landed through a connection? Many people don't have the "who you know" advantage when applying for jobs, and are applying to sometimes hundreds of jobs with no response. They also have limited knowledge of available work opportunities in our area, and they need a champion to open doors of opportunity for them.

Having a strong network increases a job seekers chance of finding employment. That's why <u>Heart for Winter Haven</u> has teamed up with <u>WorkerSpring</u>, a system that helps organizations (like H4WH) provide better access to job opportunities for our clients and become a meaningful source of talent for employers.

We are harnessing the power of the relationship we've cultivated both with our clients as well as businesses in our community in order to give better opportunities to job seekers. Through relationships with our clients we are able to verify identity, skills, and training, which brings confidence to employers during the hiring process. Our involvement in this process brings trust and encouragement to both job seekers and employers alike. In turn, employer/employee relationships are enhanced.

The employers benefit from a more simplified hiring process, and a pool of verified, job-ready candidates to select from. It also enhances their company's brand image because they are participating in a socially responsible platform that demonstrates their commitment to their own community's development.

If you're an employer and have an opening that you would like to offer to our job-seeking clients, please reach out to Tabitha Keith at tabitha@heart4wh.org. Likewise, if you know someone who would like to be connected to meaningful employment opportunities, please send them my way!

WorkerSpring has a video wih Tabitha up now on their website! You can check it out HERE!

### AS ONE! Vision Banquet

#### CHUCK PETERMAN, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The AS ONE! annual vision banquet was by far the best one yet! It was a full house at Heartland Church, with the fullness of our incredible city in attendance- a record number of businesses, churches of varying denominations, community members, and city leaders- all gathered to support our shared vision for Winter Haven and beyond.

The feedback we received was what a nonprofit dreams of when telling their story of impact. Things like: "I now know of a real problem I didn't even know existed." Or "Now I understand this problem can actually be solved." And what excites us most of all: "I clearly see how I can have a role in being a meaningful help." Wow!



Our founder and Executive Director, Brad Beatty, shared that night how cynicism and unbelief rob our hope of seeing change. "Solve homelessness? Really?" H4WH is following Community Solutions' proven pattern to achieve "Functional Zero" homelessness in our target demographic of children. Please continue to celebrate with us, not a successful banquet event (which it was), but a successful gathering of God's people in taking a big step forward in alleviating suffering that is close to His heart.







### Starting the New Year with Vision!

#### KIMBERLY SMILEY. DIRECTOR. THE CENTER FOR WELL-BEING

The Center for Well-Being is off to a roaring start! When starting a new year, it's great to pause and reflect on things that you accomplished in the past year and contemplate what your vision is for the new year. The vision board groups that we offer are an amazing opportunity to come together and dream, layout your vision, and share the goodness of what God has done with others.

If you are unfamiliar with them, vision boards are visual displays of your short and long term goals. They include encouraging images, phrases, and perhaps scriptures that are in line with your goals and provide a source of inspiration

throughout the year. Our first vision board group of the year was for teen girls ages 13-17. The young ladies encouraged one another in areas they struggled with, and celebrated one another's visions and dreams for this year. It was truly an honor to be a part of their process of trusting God with their young hearts, and their hopes for their futures. After all, that's what **The Center for Well-Being** is about... eliminating broken relationships and generating hope!

If you are reading this and have not sought God for direction or submitted to Him your petitions for the year, I encourage you to take time out to do so. You can join us for one of our vision board groups by contacting <u>The Center for Well-Being</u> at 863-225-1476. ●



Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us to "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."







### Volunteering- An Eyewitness to Transformation

#### BEE GALLISON, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

As we step into the new year, we're thrilled to announce that our Spring **Jobs for Life** and **Faith & Finances** classes have begun! These transformative sessions run every Tuesday (JfL) and Thursday (F&F) from 10am-12pm right here at our office.

#### Why Volunteer?

We're on the lookout for dedicated mentors and facilitators like you who are passionate about making a difference. By joining us, you'll have the invaluable opportunity to walk alongside our students, guiding them on their life transformation journey.



### **How Can You Help?**

Whether you're interested in mentoring, facilitating, or simply want to learn more about these empowering programs, we invite you to be part of something truly impactful. Your involvement could be the catalyst that helps families move towards sustainability and brighter futures. Don't miss out on this chance to be a beacon of hope and change in our community. Let's come together to uplift and empower those we serve! To sign up or learn more, please reach out to Bee Gallison at bee@heart4wh.org.

### Ways To Help

- . PRAY! For those we serve, our volunteers, staff, community businesses, city leaders, etc.
- · GIVE: To make a donation, please visit www.heart4wh.org/donate.
- . SERVE: We are seeking volunteers to serve in various areas of ministry. Please mail info@heart4wh.org for information.
- **SPONSOR:** Sponsorships are now available for the golf tournament . Please email ien@heart4wh.org.



### **Upcoming Events**

Every 2nd/4th Wednesday	Person of Jesus Study at H4WH (Noon-1pm)
Jan 16	<u>Jobs for Life</u> at H4WH begins! (12 week class)
Jan 18	Faith & Finances at H4WH begins! (12 weeks)
Jan 25	Point-In-Time Count with the <u>Homeless</u> <u>Coalition of Polk County</u>
Mar 2	H4WH at Community Fest
May 2	National Day of Prayer
May 6	H4WH 9th Annual Golf Tournament
June 2	H4WH's 10th Birthday!



# Welcome to the Board, Jennifer Idell!



TERRY HENDERSON. **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER** 

Heart for Winter Haven is excited to welcome Jennifer Idell to our Board of Directors! Jennifer is Executive Vice President at SouthState Bank, a long time valued partner of H4WH. She leads Strategic Planning, Process Improvement, Human Resources, Leadership Development and Company Culture. Focus is concentrated around growing engaged employees and engaged customers.

Jennifer has been with SouthState Bank (formerly CenterState Bank) since 2010 and has served as the bank's and company's Chief Financial Officer prior to taking on her current role of Chief Administrative Officer. Jennifer has been in the banking industry in leadership roles for over 25 years and her responsibilities have included Finance, Accounting, Treasury Management, Operations, Technology, Information Security, in addition to her current areas of focus. Jennifer is a graduate of Florida Atlantic University, earning her **BA** degree in Accounting and Business Administration.

Welcome Jennifer- we are grateful to have you as a part of the H4WH family!



