



# House of Hope News

## Breaking the Chains of Addiction

Fall/Winter 2018

[www.houseofhopefl.org](http://www.houseofhopefl.org)

Edition 5

### "God Showed Me What To Do!"



Samuel's parents were teens. Two weeks before he was born his dad was sent to prison.

#### Here is Samuel's story

I was raised by my grandmother on Long Island but, when I was 13, my grandmother died and my mother stepped in. My mother was in an abusive relationship so at 16 I lived with another family until I graduated from high school.

At 17 I began using recreational drugs and started drinking. By 21, I was using hard drugs. At 22, I was arrested for possession of heroin and spent 6 months in jail.

When I was released, I moved to Florida to live with my mom. I started getting into trouble again. I spent 5 months at a rehab center. That is where I began to know Jesus as my savior.

When I left rehab, I got a job at Publix. I was offered a job as a new car salesman. The job was great, but I found myself slipping up and falling back into the same patterns. Within a few months I lost everything. I spoke with my pastor and he suggested House of Hope but I wasn't ready. One day I was sitting on the porch talking to the Lord, asking him to give me a sign so I would know what to do. I looked up to see my pastor. He asked if I was ready and I said "Yes." He drove me to House of Hope.

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### Merry Christmas from the House of Hope!

It is with great honor, praise and glory to God that we are seeing men come into our program broken and leaving after being made whole in the completeness of God. Our life is a journey and the journey is made up of the paths we choose to take.

Our men begin a new journey when they come to us. They forget their past trouble and work to know that they can be fulfilled in the love of Christ. No matter what, He is there.

The men have also come to know that our volunteers and staff are there for them. They work next to the men, giving their time and talents supporting and guiding the men on a new and better life. They also know there are many in the community that support our program with their treasure - giving through fundraisers or making donations which support the program. The men feel this support and it makes them stronger.

Thank you for being there for the men of House of Hope. I ask that you keep us all in your prayers and continue to support us. Our cost is \$650 per man per month and our only support is from donations.



I'll leave you with this thought that is so powerful for the men, **"Be the person that will make everyone else feel special and do it with the elements of Love, Compassion, Mercy and Grace."**

*Pastor Malcolm*

**Pastor Malcolm Mosley**  
Executive Director

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## Let House of Hope Make Your Car Sparkle

The line of cars is consistent each Saturday as the men of House of Hope host their newest fundraiser. Funds raised help in the support of our life changing work. It has also become an excellent way to raise awareness of House of Hope and our needs.

The Car Wash has become popular with area residents with many repeat customers. Cars are hand-washed and dried and the interiors are vacuumed and cleaned. A donation of at least \$10 is asked.

The event is held at Sumter Tire at 707 S. Main St. in Wildwood each Saturday from 9:00 until 2:00, weather permitting.



## Men Honored for Completing Program

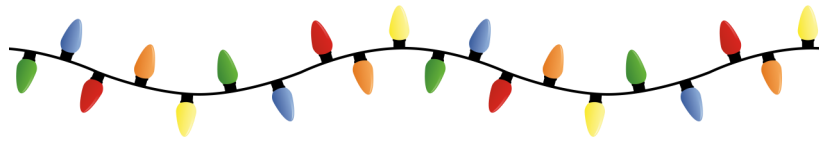


“The journey is not over, but just beginning. You are here tonight because of the people who support you and believe in you. You have God, you have had leadership through your teachers, staff and the many volunteers who you have seen as your support at House of Hope. Reach out to other people and continue to seek support in the community.” stated The Honorable Judge Paul Militello in his Commencement Address at the House of Hope graduation ceremony in May. Six graduates of the year long program received their diplomas. They were Donald Bass, William Cruzado, Nathan Hartshorn, Robert Rebaudo, Curtis Ricotta, and Tyrone Taylor.

Also honored were Kevin Arzola, Angel (Tommy) Merced II and David Mobley for their academic completions of the program. Certificate of Achievements were awarded to Kevin Arzola, Cory Blaine and Curtis Ricotta for their completion of the GED program.







## Light Up House of Hope

The Christmas season will begin at House of Hope on December 6th when the community joins the men to Light Up House of Hope. The lighting of the Christmas displays at 5:30 will be followed by cookies and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.



### Samuel (Continued)

I spent 6 months at House of Hope. It was a different atmosphere. I began to see that people cared about me. They treated me with dignity. The volunteers and community members were encouraging and that encouragement came from their hearts. I began to reflect more on my situation. I had blamed others in the past – nothing was ever my fault.

I remember a specific session with a counselor where I shared and she listened. She was empathetic and she said I was the problem and needed to make changes. That session opened my eyes and I felt a sense of peace. The Lord showed me what I had to do.

Today, I am living with a wonderful couple in The Villages. I look at them as role models and they are like my parents. I have gone back to work at the car dealership and have been able to pay off my credit cards and am now saving for a small home.

Life is good! As I look at my goals, a very important one is giving back to House of Hope with my time as a volunteer and, when able, financially because I know they supported me when I had nothing.

**House of Hope was there for Samuel when he needed us because of your support!**

## Wish List

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has donated items in the past. We were truly blessed these past months with paper goods – toilet paper, kleenex, and paper towels. As you continue to share with the men please consider the following items: personal hygiene products such as disposable razors, shaving cream, deodorant, shampoo, body wash, and liquid hand soap. Clorox cleaning supplies and paper goods are always a necessary item at House of Hope.

Gift cards in any denomination for Walmart or grocery stores are always needed.

## Hard Work Leads to Award

The Florida State Board of Education presented the Commissioner's Leadership award to Cory Blaine for his outstanding leadership and excellence in academics. Cory received his GED and passed his high school equivalence test in June.

Cory credits this success to the support and opportunity he received at House of Hope.



Cory was homeless and, because of his early drug use, his life was turned upside down. On September 9, 2017 Cory enrolled into the House of Hope, broken and hopeless with no direction or purpose. Cory attended Substance Abuse Counseling, Life Skill classes and a host of classes in Recovery. Having completed his year at the House of Hope, he now serves as a supervisor.

Humble beginnings and difficult challenges are the foundation of every great accomplishment.

Cory's favorite quote is "To God Be the Glory!"

# The Trilogy



Edie and Dennis Demshar, Trilogy Co-Chairs

The Summer Trilogy of fund raisers introduced many residents to the life changing work of House of Hope. The Trilogy was organized by Dennis and Edie Demshar, owners of Demshar's Restaurant in Spanish Springs. There were three events: a pancake breakfast in June, a bowling tournament in July and a golf outing and banquet in August.

Through these three events House of Hope has been fortunate to meet people who have the heart to become involved with the men and help break the chains of addiction. The events also gave the men the opportunity to share their stories while helping with the events. The men became involved in the events and helped this "Trilogy" be the success it was. The men helped serve at the Breakfast, participated in the Bowling Tournament and helped serve at the Awards Banquet. All these events help to show that each one of the men are not alone on their journey to recovery.

We THANK YOU for making this another great opportunity to help the men at House of Hope break the chains of addiction – over \$27,000.00 was raised.

## Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

Demshar's Restaurant

### Gold Level

St. Timothy Parish  
Sumter Landing Dental, PLLC  
Villages Tax & Accounting Solutions  
Bear Creek Capital  
Active Rehab—Dr. Patel  
Advanced Regenerative Orthopedics-Dr. Dean  
Honey Baked Ham

### Silver Level

Clifford Insurance Center  
Dick and Geri Peterson  
Bob and Pat O'Dell  
The Villages Regional Hospital Aux. Foundation  
The McDonald Allstate Insurance Agency  
The Village Gospel Singers  
Central Florida Health

### Bronze Level

Capital Choice—Rob Slezak  
Hair & Nail Creations

### Special Thanks

Phillips Buick  
The Villages Golf Cars  
Legacy Team Sales  
The Villages Insurance  
Gotta Get Your Name On It  
Golf Southern Style  
Tees To Greens  
Sean Donnelly



## Annual Yard Sale

Over \$5,000. was raised at the House of Hope Annual Yard Sale on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the House of Hope. Marilyn and Terry Skarda once again led a team of volunteers who collected, displayed and sold a variety of "treasures." Volunteers and customers both stated they were there to support the program and the men who come to break the chains of addiction and return to their families.

