



Monthly Members Meeting

July 27th, 2021



Welcome!

Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

CFCH Leadership Council Nomination

Reminder of Training Opportunities

Housing Project

Sealing and Expungement

St. Peter Claver Prison Ministry

Hurricane Awareness Surge

Announcements



CFCH Leadership Council Nomination

Brian Postlewait

CFCH Leadership Council Member Representative Nomination

Central Florida Commission on Homelessness, is HUD CoC FL-507. Pursuant to bylaws of the organization, the membership shall nominate two members to serve on the CFCH Leadership Council. Nominees will be vetted and certified as members in good standing (having attended at least 2 membership meetings in the past year, and have a membership application on file <https://www.cfch.org/about/membership/>). Nominees will be presented to the membership for a vote at the August CFCH Member meeting. Representatives serve 2 year terms beginning in September.

* Required

1. Email *

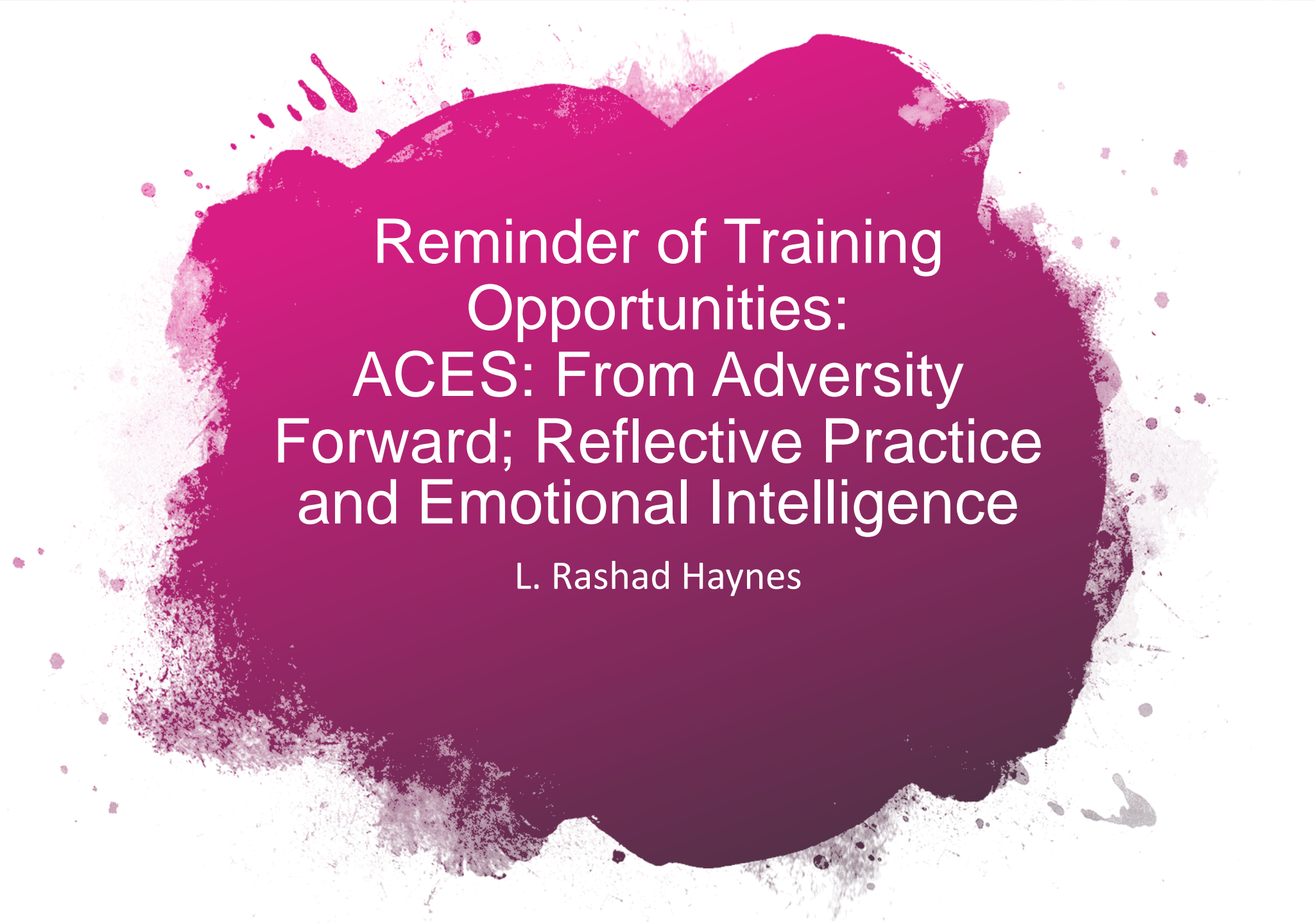
2. Name of nominee: *

3. Nominee email (if known):

4. Nominee Phone # (if known)

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Google Forms



Reminder of Training
Opportunities:
ACES: From Adversity
Forward; Reflective Practice
and Emotional Intelligence

L. Rashad Haynes



Housing Project

Attorney Silvia McLain



SEMINOLE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LEGAL AID SOCIETY

In 1975, attorney members of the Seminole County Bar Association established our not-for-profit law firm to ensure access to the civil justice system is available to the most vulnerable in **Seminole County**.



Our clients are low and very low-income members of our community, victims of crime, the disabled, foster children, veterans, seniors, seriously ill children, and families in need.

Our free legal services are exclusively for the benefit of vulnerable residents of Seminole County and our local community. We are conveniently located in the Historical City of Longwood.



- **We help with**
- **Housing matters**
- **Family Law matters**
- **Guardianship matters**
- **Consumer Issues**
- **Senior Citizen Issues**
- **Sealing and Expungement Issues**



Housing Project

- Housing Law:
 - Eviction Defense
 - Unlawful Detainer Defense
 - Maintenance Issues
 - Security Deposit
 - Help apply for rental assistance

- Advice and Counsel
- Representation in Court
- Education

Education

- Tenants can also reduce their risk of eviction by learning about their rights and available services, making education and outreach are critical components for positive outcomes.



Staff

4 full time attorneys
4 full time paralegals
Pro Bono coordinator
Trained support staff
Attorney volunteers
Student volunteers

Statistics

- Eviction has long created housing instability for renter households, particularly for Black and Hispanic women and families with children
- Minnesota study found:
Tenants with full representation were twice as likely to stay in their home or got twice as much time to move, left court without eviction records, and were found four times less likely to use a homeless shelter.
- California Study Found:
Fully represented tenants on average had more days to move, were ordered less often to pay hold over damages, landlord attorney fees, and other costs.

Seminole County Bar Association Legal Aid Society

407 834 1660

Administrator@scbalas.com

scbalas.com

Click here for our monthly [newsletter](#).





CIVIL LEGAL AID



free legal advice or a hotline



Sealing and Expungement

Maria Machado

A decorative frame consisting of two thick black L-shaped lines. One L-shape is in the top-left corner, and the other is in the bottom-right corner, creating an open rectangular frame around the text.

SEALING & EXPUNGEMENT

An overview



SEMINOLE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LEGAL AID SOCIETY



Sealing & Expungement

Adverse Impact of a criminal record – may limit employability, extension of credit, housing rental, etc.

Accessibility – in Florida, criminal matters are public record, available to anyone (prospective employer, landlord, lender, etc.)

Two options, and can be done **ONLY** once during lifetime per criminal matter:

Seal – when court granted a "withhold of adjudication," record is "sealed," can only be opened by court order

Expungement – no charges filed, they were dismissed / dropped, or not convicted, or after the record has been sealed for 10 years. Completely removes public record, no longer visible.

Cost - \$75 fee to FDLE, plus cost of fingerprints. Can schedule fingerprinting appointment with the SCSD.

How long does the entire process take – as little as six months, and as long as a year depending on circumstances, jurisdiction, etc.

What's required: you the applicant to complete each required step in sequential order. The required steps will be outlined in the class. The class instructor doesn't do this for you, completion is entirely your responsibility.

Sealing & Expungement is **ONLY** for those who **HAVE NEVER** been convicted of a criminal offense.

What's the difference between sealing and expunging?

- **Sealing** is when a criminal record/arrest record is out under highly restricted access that CANNOT be accessed without a court order
- **Expunging** is when a criminal record/arrest record is completely removed and destroyed from the public record entirely.

Do I Qualify?

- To Seal: if The judge granted a withhold of adjudication. This means that the Court did not convict you of the crime.
- To expunge: if the arrest did not result in a conviction; Charges were dismissed; No charges were filed; Charges were dropped after an information was filed, or after it's been sealed for 10 years.

You would be **disqualified** if you have been adjudicated guilty (convicted) as an adult of a criminal offense. This includes criminal traffic such as DUIs and DWLS, criminal ordinance violation, misdemeanor, or felony.

Another disqualifier would be statutory based on the offense charged.

DISQUALIFYING CHARGES FOR EXPUNCTION/SEALING

A request for a certificate of eligible for an expunction or sealing of a criminal history record will be denied if the defendant was found guilty or pled guilty or nolo contendere, even if the adjudication was withheld, on any violation of the following:

Offenses listed in S.907.041, F.S.

1. Arson
2. Aggravated Assault
3. Aggravated Battery
4. Illegal use of explosives
5. Child abuse or Aggravated Child Abuse
6. Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult, or aggravated abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult
7. Aircraft piracy
8. Kidnapping
9. Homicide
10. Manslaughter
11. Sexual Battery
12. Robbery
13. Carjacking
14. Lewd, lascivious, or indecent assault or act upon or in the presence of a child under the age of 16 years
15. Sexual activity with a child, who is 12 years of age or older but less than 18 years of age, by or at solicitation of a person in familial or custodial authority
16. Burglary of a dwelling
17. Stalking of Aggravated Stalking
18. Act of Domestic Violence, as defined in **s.741.28**
19. Home-invasion Robbery
20. Act of Terrorism as defined by s.775.30
21. Attempting or conspiring to commit any of the above crimes
22. Manufacturing any substances in violation of chapter 893

S.393.135, F.S.

Sexual misconduct with developmentally disabled person and related offenses

S.394.4593, F.S.

Sexual misconduct with mentally ill person and related offenses

S.787.025, F.S.

Luring or enticing a child

Chapter 794, F.S.

Sexual Battery and related offense

S.796.03, F.S.

Procuring person under 18 for prostitution

S.800.04, F.S.

Lewd or lascivious offenses committed upon or in the presence of persons less than 16 years of age

S.810.14, F.S.

Voyeurism

S.817.034, F.S.

Florida Communication Fraud Act

(Scheme to Defraud or Organized Fraud, as defined in s.817.034, F.S.)

S.825.1025, F.S.

Lewd or lascivious offense upon or in presence of elderly person or disabled adult

S.827.071, F.S.

Sexual performance by a child

Chapter 839, F.S.

Offenses by Public Officers and Employees

S.847.0133, F.S.

Showing, etc., obscene literature to minor

S.847.0135, F.S.

Computer pornography

S.847.0145, F.S.

Selling or buying of minors

S.893.135, F.S.

Trafficking in controlled substances

S.916.1075

Sexual misconduct with mentally deficient or mentally ill defendant and related offenses

A violation of any offense qualify for registration as a sexual predator under **s.775.21** or for registration as a sexual offender under **s.943.0435**.

All references are from Florida Statutes

You would also be disqualified if:

Status and results of current and prior criminal cases including:
unsatisfied probation;
unsatisfied pre-trial diversion;
community control; or
court-ordered financial obligations or restitution.



Steps Of The Process:

- Florida Department Of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Application.
- Get Certificate Of Eligibility From FDLE
- Petition The Court



SEMINOLE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LEGAL AID SOCIETY



Sealing & Expungement: 2021 Virtual Workshop

Do you have an arrest on your record that **DID NOT** result in a conviction? You may be eligible to have your criminal record sealed or expunged.

DATES

~~July 21~~

August 18

September 15

October 20

November 17

How do I register?

Follow the link.

—

What Time?

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

—

I have a question, who can I speak to?

Call 407-834-1660 ext. 108.





St. Peter Claver Prison Ministry

Carlos Benitez
Nicole Martino

The Need

- Across the United States of America, more than one in every 100 adult Americans is incarcerated in jail or prison. Each year, Florida state prisons release over 39,000 ex-felons back into society, and of these 1600 inmates come to Orange County alone.
- Over 60% will return to prison or jail in the first 36 months of their release. This “revolving door” takes a tremendous spiritual, physical and financial toll on our communities. Many inmates arrive at the bus station with no money, no transportation, no job and no safe housing.
- The cost of doing nothing is high: crises of spiritual, physical and mental health lead to hospitalizations, broken families, new victims, higher taxes...and hopelessness.
- The annual budget for the Florida Dept. of Corrections is over \$2.5 Billion dollars a year; it costs \$30,000 to keep an inmate in a Florida prison per year – we need a better solution.

History of St Peter Claver Prison Ministry

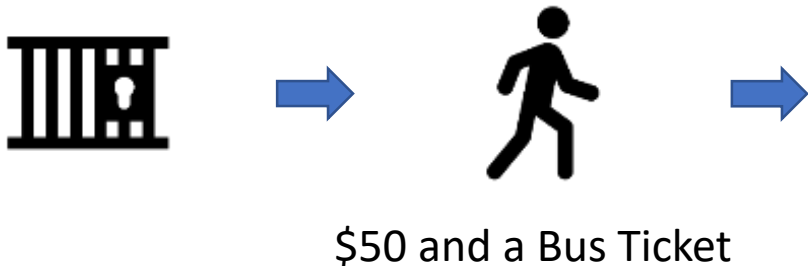
- Founded to address the needs of those recently released from prison
- Served 500 convicted felons since 2006
- Two sites – Orange County, CFRC and Polk County, Polk Correctional Institution (but we service all Central Florida geographic areas)
- National member of the St. Vincent De Paul Immersion Reentry Network since 2019
- Recently partnered with Lean on Me USA and Alpha USA to conduct outside mentorship with FL Dept. of Corrections new Short Sentence Correctional Units faith-based dorms (CFRC and FWRC).
- **The main goal is to provide alternatives to reoffending and to help foster healing within our communities and families by providing guidance and mentorship to men and women impacted by incarceration and homelessness.**
- **Lives are truly changed only in relationships: relationship with God, relationship with a Christian mentor.**

Success/Outcomes

- 95% obtain housing in 30 days (all need housing referrals at various levels)
- 30% or 3 out of 10 need direct housing funding support (\$1500-\$3000)(\$45k-90K)
- 95% obtain job within 90 days
- 95% do not reoffend
- 2020 Pandemic Corona did not impede SPCPM with providing post release support and mentorship (77 total successfully re-intergraded)
- 2020: Recruited and trained 10 female volunteers (Trauma Informed Care, Restorative Justice, 100% Background checks, Certification with Working with Vulnerable Adults and Detecting Abused Children)
- Common Sense Parenting pilot program started for women impacted by incarceration January of 2021.
- Largest increase in SVdP Twinning since 2018 (14 total)

Problem

- 68% of people released from prison reoffend within 3 years
- Average sentence is 3-5 years upon return
- \$30,000 per year to incarcerate 1 person
- \$30,000 per year if they end up homeless



They start out with 72hr and 90-day mandates they must meet but are homeless, in-debt, unemployed and on their own.

A Better Way

6 months of pre-release classes prepare them for success



Provided with a phone, bus pass, bike, clothes, a mentor and most importantly – a plan



Temporary housing keeps them off the streets and job placement occurs within 10-30 days



One year of follow up case management ensures ongoing success



The Solution – Pre-Release Training

- Intervention must happen prior to release
- 25 prisoners per class – attend 2 hours per week for 20 weeks=40 hrs total
- 2 cohorts per year – 50 per site per year
- Four Deliverables:
 - Tell their felon story, take responsibility, show remorse and ask for second chance
 - Resume and cover letter
 - Personal budget
 - Release plan

The Solution - The First 72 Hours

- All are provided a Back Pack (\$200 value)
 - Cell Phone
 - Monthly Bus Pass (not one ticket!)
 - Clothing and Hygiene items
- Assistance with 72 hour transitional mandates
 - Provide mentor and transportation to (\$100-200 cost):
 - Register with law enforcement
 - Register with parole/probation
 - Obtain ID
 - Sign up for Medicaid and food stamps
- Temporary Housing
 - Provide motel, shelter or transitional housing placement

Solution – 90 days

- Employment
 - Connection to Job Readiness Partners
 - Network of Felon “friendly” hiring partners/employers
- Wrap Around Support
 - Connection to Mental Health
 - Medication Assistance
 - NA/AA/SA
 - Spirituality- Direct to Church, Priest/Pastor, ministry
- Mentorship
 - One on One support
 - Weekly contact at a minimum
- Basic Needs
 - Transportation – Bike and bus pass
 - Food/clothing support as needed
 - Housing security deposit and up to first 3 months rent

One Year Support

- Mentorship

- At time of release, SPCPM begins the walk with the client into a new life. This commitment is for one year. A self-sufficiency assessment is captured upon release and at the end of the year.
- Ensures ongoing success. Caring supportive network.
- How much does this cost?

Cost can run as little as \$1,500 or up to \$3,000 for each Released Citizen.

(\$200 for back pack, \$100-200 for 72 hour transition services, one month rent for room with deposit $\$750+750=\$1,500$, up to 3 months for some.) *This does not compute hotel/motel costs.*

Expansion – Florida Women’s Reception Center, Ocala & Lake Correctional

- Add Women’s Services
 - Completed a Women’s pilot class at City of Refuge, 1717 Harrell Rd Orlando (8 post released women)
 - Common Sense Parenting Class
 - Passport to Success
- Request by Lake to expand
- Partnership with Lean On Me, USA/Alpha USA and MOA FDOC at CFRC and FWRC for outside mentorship classes to their new SSCU faith based dorms.

Outcomes

- Increase capacity 100% from 100 to 250 served within a year (add Lake Correctional and Ocala's FWRC and CFRC)
- \$XX economic impact on jobs
- \$XX economic impact on housing/homelessness
- Reduction in crime – 6-10 offenses per felon
- Reduction in crime costs – housing and arrest-conviction

Investment Cost-Return on Investment (1 of 2)

- The cost to society of a high recidivism rate is significant while a modest investment in an effective re-entry program can greatly reduce these costs in large measure. The cost of recidivism includes the direct cost of the crime, the added cost of the judicial system and the costs of incarceration. Even a modest crime and re-incarceration can cost the state and society \$250,000, not counting the intangible losses from a broken family and injury to others. More serious crime from a repeat offender can have a cost that is large but cannot be valued readily in dollars.
- Given a typical investment of \$1500 per client in a program such as that to be offered by SPCPM, a savings of \$250,000 only half of the time, i.e., reducing recidivism by half, can generate a return on investment that is beyond what could be earned in most any other public / private service endeavor. However, SPCPM has set a goal to reduce recidivism among those it serves by far more than half.

Investment Cost- Return on Investment (1 Of 2)

- A gift to SPCPM will pay rich dividends to the individual, the community and to society. A donation as little as \$200 can provide a Back Pack vital to a client during their first 72 hours following release. A gift of \$2,500 will help one client through all three steps of successful reentry. A gift of \$5,000 can help SPCPM assist two clients each year over the next year. A gift of \$10,000 or more can allow us to build capacity into the foreseeable future.
- Whatever gift is in keeping with your ability, it will be leveraged with our network of volunteers allowing it to return significant dividends to the individual and the community.

Questions

Carlos Benitez, Program Manager

PO Box 135, Ocoee, FL 34761

Office 407-614-2355

Cell 716-465-8191

website www.spcpmorlando.org

email: carlos@spcpmorlando.org



Hurricane Awareness Surge

Dewey Wooden, OBFH

Jillian Markut, Hope Partnership

Christopher Fowler, HSN



HOPE

PARTNERSHIP



Strengthening Communities.
Empowering Neighbors. Building
Hope.





Who We Are

Hope Partnership aims to provide a holistic continuum of care in order to end homelessness and poverty in Central Florida. We will do this by connecting service providers, businesses, investors, and clients with evidence-based solutions and trauma-informed care practices in order to strengthen communities, empower our neighbors, and build hope.

The entities of Hope Partnership provide programming that is trauma-informed and client-centered to help achieve our goals to end homelessness and poverty.





We provide relief to those experiencing poverty and homelessness with emergency services and direct care as part of the Housing First philosophy.

Chronic & Veterans Homeless Outreach

Hope Cares' Outreach Program is assessing the needs of chronically homeless individuals and providing them with the resources and services that will ultimately move them towards supportive housing.

Hurricane Awareness

Educating those living in a place unfit for habitation of severe weather conditions.

Low Barrier Hurricane Shelter

Provide inclement weather shelter at First United Methodist in St. Cloud to shelter our neighbors experiencing homelessness.





CARES

Hurricane Awareness Prep for Volunteers

- Canvassing the streets
 - West 192, East 192, Downtown Kissimmee, SR- 535, Orange Blossom Trail, Osceola Parkway, St. Cloud, JYP.
- Educate
 - Weather forecast and severity
 - Nearby hurricane shelters allowing pets
 - Transportation assistance
- Document & Follow Up
 - Notating location and how many people in area or hotspot.

Would you like to help?

Call for Individual Volunteers

- ▶ HSN is looking for volunteers to help spread Hurricane Awareness to our unsheltered neighbors in the event of a Hurricane
- ▶ Volunteering not only assists in resource development, it's also an opportunity to build awareness and momentum towards our goal of ending homelessness in Central Florida



VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!



What to expect

- ▶ HSN will provide hurricane Awareness Surge training to all volunteers.
- ▶ Those who have signed up will be made aware of any possible tropical systems that may impact Central Florida.
- ▶ When weather shelters have been activated, we will organize meeting points based on your location with Outreach staff.
- ▶ From there, staff and volunteers will go to known hotspots to spread awareness about the storm and nearby weather shelters.

Want to get involved?

- ▶ To sign-up, go to www.bit.ly/HurricaneAwar3
- ▶ Fill out the required information
- ▶ Once added to our volunteer list, you will be made aware of any Hurricane Awareness Surges that take place in Seminole, Orange, or Osceola counties



Sign up to be added to our Hurricane Awareness Surge volunteer list!

When you sign up for our Hurricane Awareness Surge volunteer list, we will alert you to Tropical Systems that may impact Central FL and all Hurricane Awareness Surges.

* Email

* First Name

* Last Name

Phone Number

* City

Company

Sign Up



Announcements!



Need Masks?

HSN has both reusable and disposable masks

- Need any? Let us know!
 - Contact Christopher.Fowler@hsncfl.org to arrange a pickup

CFCH Partner Employment Opportunities

For more information about job opportunities, please visit:
www.cfch.org/careers

Hope Outreach Specialist – Aspire Health Partners

Homeless Outreach Service Coordinator – Step Up

Case Manager Specialist - Salvation Army

HCCH - SSVF Outreach Navigator

HCCH - Permanent Supportive Housing Case manager/ Program Support Specialist

Upcoming Events

Sealing & Expungement: 2021 Virtual Workshop

August 18th, September 15th October 20th and November 17th

To Register please visit:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtce2hqD8tG9BU5ZbeEO9mNclfjSvICvVe?_x_zm_rtaid=HBWSe-3aSPq_J0lnN7zVtg.1627389589561.9ab9834a5027dfc7f8dfce79ffd51eff&_x_zm_rhtaid=543

Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 24th

9 to 10:30 am

Location: Online

