



Good News!

Winter / Spring 2018

Helping Hands provides help for the homeless and others in crisis, mostly women and children. We provide a safe and clean place to live, a compassionate and friendly environment, life skills training, and counseling. We also assist with food, clothes, medical, dental, transportation, and jobs. Helping Hands is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) serving the people of Ocala/Marion County.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE



SUPPORTERS BLESSED OUR CHILDREN

TRAMPOLINE AND PIZZA PARTY



Our residents enjoyed a fun evening of trampolines at Skyzone and pizza at Stevi B's.

After an exciting time of jumping, climbing, dodgeball, and obstacle courses, everyone was treated to a pizza buffet at Stevi B's Pizza ... where they played arcade games and won prizes! It was so rewarding to see the smiles on all the faces of the kids!

The special night for our children was made possible by the generosity of our supporters. Thank you very much!



HELPING WOMEN & CHILDREN



"I was broken and lost, but because of the kindness and generosity of Helping Hands I have been helped so much and I will never be the same. I wake up every morning with joy in my heart."

-Carrie and daughter

"Helping Hands gave me a chance to get my life back together for me and my children".

-Amanda and daughter



"Helping Hands has been so good to me in many ways. I really don't know where to start. We have been so happy here!"

-Jane and her children

Paula and her children were living in a motel when they came to us. Now she has a job, is taking college classes and has stability and hope for her children. She tells us... "Helping Hands is an answer to prayer!"

-Paula and her children



"The ways y'all have helped my children and myself ... you made me feel like I'm worth somebody's love, more than anyone in my life!"

-Renee and her children

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT



It was about 7 years ago Carrie met and married a man who convinced her to move out of the state away from everyone she knew and loved, even leaving her daughter here to live with her daughter's father. Shortly after moving away, the physical, emotional and mental abuse began. The abuse continued and he led her into some serious legal trouble. After being caught and convicted, Carrie was paying the consequences for their actions, but her husband took off and left her there alone.

Once Carrie was released and came home to Florida she admits she foolishly took her husband back, and within two weeks all the abuse started again. She escaped and began to live in her car, and sometimes living on someone's couch. Carrie ended up in a domestic violence shelter. Her life was in disarray. She had no home, no money, and no place to go. Her daughter could not even stay with her because of the things that went on at the shelter.

In desperation Carrie contacted Helping Hands, and after reviewing her application and talking with her she was invited to be a part of our program. After being here a short time, Carrie said, "Helping Hands has provided me with a safe home and a healthy environment for me and my daughter. They genuinely cared about me and have not judged me for the mistakes I have made with my life. They not only provided a home, they are helping me start over and have a better life. They have also helped me spiritually with my relationship with my Savior. I wake up every morning now with joy in my heart... Helping Hands has been a God send. I was broken and lost, but because of their kindness and generosity I have been helped so much and I will never be the same."

Carrie has a good job now and her goal is to be an example to other women who have been in the same situation as she has, and to encourage them that God can still give them a wonderful life as they trust and believe Him.

Gifts in Honor of Someone Special!

IN MEMORY OF

Lillyan Taylor by Hope Meffert
Karen Crenshaw by Phyllis Proctor
John "Jack" Lathrop Jr. by Carolyn Lathrop
Rick Runager by Shirley Camp
Michael Slack by Jim and Kay Yancey

IN HONOR OF

Dr. Gene and Buggie Peek by Albert Peek

THRIFT STORES

Free Pick Up for Donations

CALL 352-732-4464 to schedule a free pick up.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers at both our Thrift Store locations to help in the following areas:

- Sorting and Tagging Donations
- Processing & Merchandising
- Minor Furniture Cleaning and Repair
- Sweeping & Mopping

For more information call Judy Dunn at 352-680-0287

DONATE A BUS PASS



Some of our residents come to us without a vehicle to get around. Sometimes the only way they can get to work, take their children to school, and go grocery shopping is by using our local bus system. The cost for each monthly pass is \$45.00. To donate, go to our website at www.HelpingHandsOcala.org and note that it is for bus passes. This would be a huge encouragement to our residents! Thank you!

WAYS TO HELP...

Your financial support enables us to provide housing and assist with food, clothing, toiletries, medical, jobs, counseling, and education grants. If you wish to help others in this way, please consider the following ways to donate:

CHECKS- Make payable to Helping Hands and mail to the office at the address listed below.

CREDIT CARDS/ONLINE- Go to our website at www.helpinghandsocala.org

• **Donate to our Consignment and Thrift stores.**

Call or see website for more details. We can pick up large items.

• **Volunteer.** See our website for an application.

• **Assist with a meeting to introduce Helping Hands** to your church, business, club or friends. Call Nigel Wagg for assistance at 352-732-4464.

SPECIAL NEEDS



Many of our residents arrive at Helping Hands without the very basic household necessities. As they arrive we supply them with basic toiletries, sheets, towels, etc. Currently we are in need of new towels and all sizes of bedsheets. If you are able to help us you can drop off those items at our main office located at 101 NE 16th Ave. Ocala.

BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

We are very thankful for local businesses whose support is making a difference in the lives of those we serve. Below are just a few of our supporters.



Helping Hands Foundation, Inc., 101 NE 16th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34470 Phone 352.732.4464

Board Members: Brad Dinkins, Pete Whirle, Lori Boring, Tracy Rains

www.helpinghandsocala.org