

A Year of Impact - A Year of Hope

Local Government Funded Programs - October 2020-September 2021
Charlotte County Board of County Commission and City of Punta Gorda



hope

/hōp/ noun

an optimistic state of mind that is based on an expectation of positive outcomes with respect to events and circumstances in one's life or the world at large.

18 Agencies • 23 Programs • 13,251 Lives Impacted



Educational Success

873

children received financial assistance for early education opportunities

26,279

books distributed to preschool age children

99%

of regular attendees of an after-school program achieved on-time grade advancement

20,720

volunteer hours spent mentoring at-risk youth

Devin began attending the YMCA of Southwest Florida's School Age Care program in the 1st grade. He could not sound out letters or read sight words. Devin didn't even score at a preschool level for early reading skills. YMCA staff connected with his teacher, school liaison, and his parents to work together to help Devin. In a few months, the extra support paid off - Devin was reading at grade-level and on target to advance into 2nd grade.

Financial Stability



"Prior to this program [Bridges Out of Poverty] I was lacking significant knowledge about poverty and resources to seek out when needed. I was living paycheck to paycheck while wasting my money.

I have a savings account now and put money into it every payday. In a few months to a year I plan to be in my new home with my children creating memories."

48

beds provided to children in foster care

100%

of Bridges Out of Poverty participants remained stably housed at least 6 months after completion of class

80%

of unsheltered Veterans were sheltered within 24 hours

87%

reduction in the number of chronically homeless individuals from previous Point-in-Time Count

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Health and Well-being

25

victims of domestic violence / sexual assault / other violent crimes received legal services

99%

of at-risk children remained free from abuse and neglect while receiving in-home services

826

vaccinations administered to uninsured / underinsured adults

100%

of targeted hypertension patients had improved blood pressure (below 130/80)

"I was 26 years old, and just beginning to face the challenges of marriage, parenthood, and career changes. Denise from Healthy Families took the time to get to know me, my situation, and my family. She encouraged me and helped me to set goals. With Denise's help, I have worked on parenting, my education, and my career. Not only has Denise helped me be the best parent I can be, she is now a lifelong friend and an extension of our family."

Basic Needs



Senior Friendship Centers offers meals to seniors in their homes, but encourages socialization through in-person dining sites. Paula had been absent from the dining hall due to physical limitations and staff took notice. A power wheelchair was located and revamped to meet Paula's needs. The wheelchair was outfitted with a basket and a bow and was a welcomed surprise the next time Paula was able to attend the dining site. Since that day, Paula has participated as a diner frequently, rekindled friendships, and resumed a well-rounded social life.

52,150

home-delivered meals served to seniors

3,047

congregate meals served to seniors

71,013

individuals provided food from a partner agency food pantry

368

individuals impacted by HIV/AIDS received food and hygiene items