

Real Children, Real Hope Treasure Coast

July 2017



A Note From Our Leadership

Dear Friends,

It is truly amazing to see how many lives have been enriched in the two short years Place of Hope has been in the Treasure Coast. Since our first Martin County foster family was licensed, we have licensed over 45 families across Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee Counties!

We may be new in the neighborhood, but we aren't new to the issue. Place of Hope has been responding to the urgent need for more foster homes and loving foster families in Palm Beach County for 16 years and we are the fastest growing children's organization in the Treasure Coast. Our Port St. Lucie office is fully operational, recruiting and licensing foster homes. We are excited to be developing a multi-use office which will be the hub of our Treasure Coast operations in Hobe Sound, projected to open late 2018 early 2019. This building will feature training offices for our traditional foster care program, co-shared workspace for local businesses and individuals in the community, as well as a retail/cafe component offering an inviting location to host meetings or catch up on emails over a great cup of coffee. You are a part of this incredible growth and expansion to serve our community's most vulnerable.

Because of you, we are able to reach the broken and neglected children within our community. Thank you for caring, and for supporting the mission of Place of Hope – to restore hope one child and family at a time.

Sincerely,
Charles L. Bender III
Founding CEO



Foster Parent of the Year Recipients

Eric and Sandi Hirschhorn have been fostering children since 2015 and have had seven children come through their home to date. The Hirschhorn's have done a great job including their biological child in the fostering journey, and together all three have not only impacted the children in their home, but the families of those children. Sandi and Eric display an understanding of co-parenting and the impact supporting biological families has on successful reunification. They had the opportunity to adopt their second placement from the foster care system. Now as a family of four, the Hirschhorn's continue to welcome more children into their home as they keep an open heart and mind for what God has planned for them. We are thrilled to honor them as our 2017 Treasure Coast Foster Parents of the Year for their generous, selfless, always saying "yes" to the call, joyful spirit.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Friday, July 28 | 4:30 P.M.
FAITH NIGHT
Grill & Chill Party with a Purpose!

July 28
Email jamiieb@placeofhope.com

save the date!
Sea of Hope
kick-off party!

September 14
www.placeofhope.com/event/soh-kick-off/

HEROES FORE FREEDOM
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
8AM BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION | 9AM SHOTGUN
Join us in an epic golf challenge to fight Human Trafficking.

September 29
www.poh.placeofhope.com/heroes_golf/

Our Community at a Glance

ACROSS THE TREASURE COAST, THERE ARE CURRENTLY...

- 963 Children Under DCF Supervision
- 600 Children Removed From Their Homes
- 252 Children Placed Into Licensed Care
- 138 Children in Traditional Foster Homes
- 114 Children Placed Out of Circuit
- 36 Children Who Were Removed Last Month
- 159 Foster Homes Available
- 57 Independent Living Aged-Out Youth



Supporter Spotlight



Two years ago Stasha French learned about Place of Hope like many, through a friend. Without knowing much about Place of Hope, but having a heart for children, Stasha agreed to come learn more. "I have always enjoyed working with and serving children. This seemed like a great way to get involved with a meaningful organization caring for the children in my area," French

states.

She immediately jumped in, signed up to be an Angel Mom, and has been a core part of the Events Committee ever since. Stasha has helped plan events like the Sea of Hope Angel Moms Luncheon, hosted at Willoughby Golf Club this past April 7. Where she really shines is rolling up her sleeves and pulling together "day of" details from meticulously attaching starfish to every guest parting gift, to tagging silent auction items, to running around town gathering last minute items.

"I have and will continue to, encourage others to get involved using their time and or funds. Supporting Place of Hope and the incredible families who put themselves out there to protect the innocent children caught up in the darkness of this world, is a worthy cause and very rewarding." Place of Hope is grateful for Stasha and others like her.

Current Needs

Do you have a church or ministry connection? We need your help connecting with church leaders. Place of Hope recruits people of faith to partner with our mission and assists them in becoming licensed foster families. The program trains and supports people of faith, enabling them to take placement of foster children, ranging from newborns to teens, into their own home.

With your help, we can share the life changing opportunities becoming a foster parent offers. Please contact JenniO@placeofhope.com with any questions.

Become a FOSTER PARENT
Change Lives

ATTEND AN ORIENTATION

- Christ Fellowship - Stuart Campus
Every 1st Monday
- Treasure Coast
Every 3rd Thursday
- Paxson Campus - Palm Beach Gardens
Every 4th Thursday

To RSVP or for more info email homesofhope@placeofhope.com



Our Mission

Place of Hope is dedicated to providing a stable and loving family environment for children who are hurting and their families. We are committed to meeting desperate needs in our community by sharing God's love and placing hope in their lives – one child and family at a time.

Our Vision

With regard to children entrusted to our care and their families, we strive to foster hope rather than despair, potential rather than limitations, healing rather than hurting, belonging rather than isolation, and what the future can be, rather than what the past has been.

Visit www.placeofhope.com/treasure-coast/ to learn more.

Place of Hope Treasure Coast

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JamieB@placeofhope.com or 561-775-7195



www.placeofhope.com/treasure-coast

Hope in Action

Treasure Coast Open House



Tuesday, June 27, we hosted an Open House welcoming over 40 guests to learn about foster care and how it affects the local communities. Attendees came from miles away, as far north as Vero Beach, to hear how they could

restore hope in the life of a child in foster care.

We heard from Founding CEO, Charles L. Bender III, as well as Business Development & Community Relations, Jamie Bond; Director of Homes of Hope, Josh Kolkana; and Training, Licensing & Family Support Specialist, Jenni O'Neal.



Mayor Greg Oravec from the City of Port St. Lucie, Indian River County Commissioner Tim Zorc, Port St. Lucie County Commissioner Linda Bartz, and representatives from Rep. MaryLynn Magar, Devereux CBC, and District 19 Public Defender Diamond Litty's offices joined us.



Guests were able to make a gift towards diapers, wipes, family experiences and other tangible needs. Catering was provided by our friends at Hampton Forks.



2nd annual KDW Tournament

Another KDW Fishing tournament is in the books! What an incredible two days of fishing for a child. This year we had a total of 51 teams and 34 sponsors!



The heaviest fish, taking the grand prize, was a 50.8 pound dolphin caught by long time friend and supporter Randy Macpherson with Team Casey. Team Luke, lead by Kirk Henderson placed 1st in the Kingfish category weighing in at 38.4 pounds and angler Mike Ayers brought it home for Team Danny with a 14.6 pound Wahoo.



On behalf of all of us at Place of Hope, we are extremely grateful for the teams, volunteers, vendors and sponsors who invested their time and resources to make this event an incredible success. We would not be able to

accomplish this without all of your help. Thank you for your support of our mission to provide hope and healing to at-risk foster children and youth. The proceeds will be directly benefiting over 300 children and youth that are in our daily care.

Mark your calendar for our 3rd annual KDW Fishing Tournament, June 22 & 23, 2018! Email AmyleighA@placeofhope.com.



www.placeofhope.com/treasure-coast