



DAILY BREAD
815 E. Fee Avenue
Melbourne, FL 32901

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New fundraising event on
17 October—Call 321-723-1010
for tickets!

FEEDING FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS: NEW EVENT (Page 3)

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR . . .

Summer numbers, some good, some not-so-good.

First, the good news. As we reported in our last newsletter, our efforts to help people become self-sufficient are working. Last year, 61% of those coming to Daily Bread were homeless; this year that percentage dropped to 54%, an improvement of 7%. Last year, 22% of those who came to Daily Bread worked; this year that percentage increased to 36%, an improvement of 14%. These improvements come in large part due to our emphasis on employment assistance and successes in permanent housing, realized over the past two years.

For the eight months ending August 31, 2015, budgeted expenses are less than 1% over budget.

On the other side of the ledger, donations in the spring and summer months are less than the rest of the year. People take vacations, children are out of school, yet we still serve those in need, every day of the year.

As a result, food, clothing, and money become very tight at this time of year. For the past nine years in a row, the Spring/Summer losses have been made up, by a few large donations and holiday donations made in November and December. And we almost always realized a small surplus at year's end.

This year however, the cash loss is greater than usual, as Budgeted donations are now 30% less than expected, and our food and clothing donations are less than usual.

If the past nine years have taught us anything, it is that we are blessed by the wonderful generosity of all who provide donations, volunteer, and support us.

We remain prayerfully hopeful that donations will increase to meet our needs.

John Farrell

Daily Bread

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM OUR MAIN CAMPUS, FOOD WAREHOUSE AND THRIFT SHOP

OCT / NOV 2015

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, 17 OCT
NEW FALL EVENT!
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I NEVER THOUGHT SUCCESS STORY
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OUR VISION & MISSION

Daily Bread's **vision** is to ensure everyone has access to the food and services necessary to become self-sufficient.

Daily Bread's **mission** is to improve the dignity and quality of life of the hungry and needy we serve. We do this by offering a daily free meal at our soup kitchen, supplying food to local agencies for redistribution to the needy and providing hygienic and social services, in collaboration with partners.

I NEVER THOUGHT THIS COULD HAPPEN

"I was in a coma for 23 days, spent almost 2 months in the hospital, and when I came out everything I owned was gone." This happened only a few months ago here in Melbourne to Jacqueline Hope D'Amico, who goes by her middle name. "I've been Hope all my life."



Hope was born and raised in New Orleans. She attended Louisiana State University on a baseball scholarship and graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education. Hope wanted to pursue a Masters Degree but couldn't afford it. So, she decided to enter the Marine Corps as a 2nd Lieutenant. "I went in the Marines in peacetime and came out in wartime." During her 8 years in the Corps, Hope served around the world and was in Saudi Arabia during the First Gulf War. She left the Marines in 1992 to earn a Master's Degree in Mathematics through the G.I. Bill, then taught high school for 14 years. "I then started tutoring math on the side, but eventually made tutoring my full-time occupation." A little more than a year ago Hope decided to move to Melbourne and live with her friend Judy who had been diagnosed with cancer.

Here in Melbourne, Hope continued tutoring high school students while staying with Judy. Sadly, in May of this year Hope lost her friend Judy to cancer. "I was beginning to move my stuff out of her house when I had an attack of intestinal bleeding." Hope had been diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome years before and had experienced such attacks previously. She was rushed to Holmes Regional Hospital in very bad shape. The surgeons were about to operate on her said there was a 90% chance she would not survive. She told them, "You don't know me, and you don't know who I know!" (meaning God).

When Hope was discharged in mid-July, she discovered that all her possessions were gone. "I had only a small bag with a couple pairs of shorts saved for me." The rest of her things had apparently been thrown out when the house where Judy lived was cleared out. "I didn't even have any ID. I never thought anything like this could happen to me!" A policeman gave Hope a ride to Daily Bread and dropped her off there saying, "These people will help you."

The Daily Bread Social Services Manager at the time, Linda Meyer, was the first person Hope met there. "Linda put me up in a hotel at their expense. She also stayed until 5pm every day helping me get my life back." Hope then met another former Marine. "Melinda and I never met in the marines, but we were stationed in Okinawa about the same time!" Melinda invited Hope to live with her until she got back on her feet. "She gave me food, shelter—she took complete care of me." Soon, Linda Meyer had gotten Hope copies of her birth certificate, teaching certificate, and other ID.

"I've decided to stay in this area and buy a house—the VA has already approved my mortgage loan. I've invited Melinda to stay with me in my home—it's my turn to help her for a while." Hope will continue tutoring calculus and trigonometry and help high school students prepare for college entrance exams. When asked what Daily Bread means to her, she said, "Everything! They gave me my life, my world back!"

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OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

by Deacon Joe Gassman

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it. (Mark 10:14-15, NIV)

On July 6th this year I was visited by a 7-year-old Angel named Ella! Ella and her grandma stopped by Daily Bread today to make a donation. You see, Ella is on a Money Management System for Kids. When she gets money she must distribute the funds in jars labeled: “Save,” “Give,” and “Spend.”



When she gives, she likes to walk in downtown Melbourne to give \$5.00 directly to a person who seems to be in need. This was a bit concerning for Ella’s family but she insisted that they needed help. One day, one of the persons she sought to help was a Daily Bread client who encouraged her to visit and consider giving to Daily Bread because they do so much and could make her \$5.00 gift go further to help even more people in need.

I can’t tell you the blessings I received meeting and giving Ella the tour of the Daily Bread campus. To be in the presence of such a pure heart as she absorbed the Daily Bread story and so willing to share her blessings with those most in need. This speaks volumes of the kind of upbringing she is receiving, being rooted in the Christian responsibility of caring for the poor, and the pure heart of a child. Thank you, Ella, for your gift to the ministry of Daily Bread!

KITCHEN SPOTLIGHT: PRINCE OF PEACE

The Prince of Peace serving team is blessed to have a 1988 “veteran” volunteer, Carol Gent, from Daily Bread’s beginnings in a little red house in downtown Melbourne (where the Thrift Shop building stands today!). As Carol recalls, “An average of 25 people came to us for the noontime meal, where only 15 people could eat inside with the rest at picnic tables outside.” Today, Daily Bread serves an average of 250 people a day, all of them indoors. Over the years, the Prince of Peace serving team has been blessed to have a physician, airline pilot, general contractor, secretary, corporate leader, military pilot, and computer expert, among others. All of them are now retired from their careers, but not from life! For this team, Daily Bread is a place to show their love for our neighbors through volunteer work, and their aim is to perform that service cheerfully and with grace!



Front L-R: Pat Swoboday, Barbara Simpson, Bucky Walters, Bob Perez; Back L-R: Jerry Bags, Ron Rudd, Steve Simpson, Ed Buenzli. Not Present: Carol Gent, Mike Malone, Hank Nelson

OCTOBER 17th: NEW FALL FUNDRAISER!



In place of the 500 Club, we are hosting FEEDING Friends & Neighbors on Saturday, October 17th from 6:00 to 10:00pm at Melbourne Central Catholic (MCC) High School (100 E. Florida Avenue, Melbourne). There will be a cocktail hour, buffet, live & silent auction, music & entertainment by Timmy Vee, and a raffle for \$5,000 Grand Prize and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th prizes of \$1,000. Dress is Florida casual.

IT’S NOT TOO LATE to purchase tickets, but time is short! A dinner ticket is \$100 and includes a raffle ticket; raffle tickets alone are \$50 each. Larger donations for multiple dinners & raffle tickets include all event promotions and special recognition. To get your tickets and for more information contact Janet Price at 321-723-1050 or events@dailybreadinc.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!



Starbucks of South Brevard (11 stores) May–June food drive gave 625 lbs of food; **Patrick Air Force Base (PAFB) ETHOS Youth Ministry** sorted 14,000 lbs of food in 2 days, sorted clothes, moved storage racks, cleaned, and committed to return in November; **Loreen’s Village Café** donated 100 dinner plates, 300 lbs of food; **PAFB Commissary** gave 400 lbs of clothes, and serves food in our kitchen & does cleaning & other tasks throughout the year; **Mack Technologies of Melbourne** staff donated 850 lbs of food and \$300; **Wells Fargo Financial of Melbourne** are regular and generous food donors; **Americana Resorts of Melbourne** –380 lbs of food and \$283; **Bob’s Bicycle Shop**, Indialantic donated 30 pairs of shoes; **Melbourne Music Marathon**, Mitch Varnes staff asked runners to donate shoes–125 pairs; **Red Wing Shoes of West Melbourne** gave many pairs of work boots; **Kimberly Schaefer of Florida Tech** organized donations of 1,600 lbs of food; **Catholic HEART Work Camp**



sorted 21,100 lbs of food in 4 days; **Suntime United Methodist** – 4 teams sorted 18,000 lbs of food and hard work at the warehouse; **Indian River Colony Club** donates 200 lbs of food monthly; **CEG Engineering/Dave Alley** prepared drawings for a facility improvement project; **Running Zone/New Balance** donated 100+ pairs of shoes and 800 shirts; **Brevard County Sheriff’s Bike Yard** with PAFB helped us donate bicycles. **THANKS TO YOU ALL!**



THIS ‘N THAT

DAILY BREAD THRIFT SHOP: WORTH A LOOK!

Fresh changes and new ideas continue to percolate at the Thrift Shop! Did you know all proceeds go to purchase food for the Daily Bread dining facility? Bargain shoppers also help feed the hungry!



Open 10am to 4pm Monday through Saturday, come take advantage of our regular Sale Days. Every Tuesday and Thursday is Senior Day (55+). Wednesday is Home Store Day with 25% off. Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays all have surprises to help save you money, while getting great values on all the items you need. Needed donations arrive daily, and sales have been brisk. Looking for clothing, linens, household items, furniture? Why not stop and look here first? Things move very quickly so don’t delay! There’s plenty of parking, friendly folks, great selection of attractive merchandise, air-conditioned comfort—all at 412 E. New Haven here in downtown Melbourne. Give us a call at 321-676-2900. There’s something here for everyone!