# United Way of Hernando County Q2 Highlights - Partner Success Stories

## **People Helping People**

## **Weekend Blessings**

"People Helping People is always looking to provide weekend meals for all children in the county, whether they are in the traditional school system, home-schooled, or tutored. All of the children we reach in our relationship with the Children's Advocacy Center are engaged in counseling through that organization and may well have been missed through other sources. Because we sought out other non-traditional ways of reaching children, we are now delivering weekend meals for 7 families (21 additional children) on a weekly basis."



#### THE Y

# **Safety Around Water**



"Sierra and Sydney are both sisters who participated in our Water Safety lessons. Both girls love the water but use flotation devices while swimming with their family. This class gave them the chance to practice skills without a flotation device. Not only did both girls participate without their floats, but they also had a great time and were able to successfully practice life-saving skills if their flotation device were ever not to be around. Sierra and Sydney were both excited to attend their classes each day, even after being nervous without their flotation."

## Lighthouse

## **Adaptive Skills Program**

"Abigail is new to Hernando County and LVIB. Before coming to LVIB, she did not know when she spilled food or drinks or if she had cleaned her counters and floors properly because of her vision loss. All that changed when she entered LVIB's Independent Living Skills Program (IL). In IL, Abigail was taught adapted skills for daily living which included the overlapping grid technique for detecting spills and to find dropped items; how to slice food using gloves, finger guards, and food choppers; and ways to safely clean her apartment. Because of her newly-developed knowledge, confidence, and independence, she has joined a cooking class in her community and has secured a space in a community garden. Abigail is thrilled that she can meet new people and make connections in her new neighborhood."



#### **Dawn Center**

### **D&SV Victim Services**



"Myra came to the shelter seeking safety from her physically abusive partner. She has 2 children whom she home schooled from the shelter and the children also benefitted from tutoring services through Dawn Center's partnership with the Hernando County School District (in which qualified tutors come to the shelter 2 times a week.) While in the shelter, Myra worked with Dawn Center's case management team to obtain a work-from-home job and find housing for herself and her children. They are now living safely and independently in Hernando County."





UnitedWayHernando.org/Success-Stories Facebook.com/UWHC4030 Instagram: @Unitedwayhernando



# United Way of Hernando County Q2 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

## "An Unexpected Loss"

"A Caretaker called the United Way office looking for guidance. She explained that she had been taking care of the same elderly patient for many years and they unexpectedly passed away. In an attempt to make up for the sudden loss of income, she started driving for Uber. Her rent and electric bill were due soon and she began to worry if she'd have enough to cover it. In collaboration Emergency Assistance services, her rent was covered and United Way assisted with her electric bill. United Way's Program Care Coordinator also connected her with CareerSource to help secure new employment in the profession she loved."



# "Safe, But Sorry"



"A young man with a compromised immune system tested positive for COVID and was put on an unpaid quarantine at home for 2 weeks in order to recover. Being out of a paycheck was a huge set back and he fell short on his rent for the month. He received a 3 day notice and was thought that he was going to be evicted from his apartment. United Way was able to connect him to local food pantries as well as Community Legal Services. Because of this, we were able to stop his eviction process and paid a portion of what he owed to secure his apartment and prevent homelessness."

## "A New Chapter"

"A new mom was referred to us by one of our Partner Agencies. Due to the mother having a high-risk pregnancy, she was forced to go on maternity leave earlier then expected. The father was just recently hired at a new job and wouldn't be receiving a paycheck for another 2 weeks. This young family was now facing possible eviction since they fell behind on rent. United Way introduced additional wrap around resources, including free financial literacy courses focused on budgeting and saving, and was able to provide financial aid by covering their past due rent, preventing this growing family from ending up on the streets with their little one."



## "Struggling & Surviving"



"A senior battling 2 different types of cancer and undergoing Chemo Therapy needed to be hospitalized for an unexpected surgery. Once she was discharged and able to go back home, she borrowed money from friends in an attempt to catch up on all her outstanding bills. She finally reached out to United Way as a last resort; where she shared that it'd be dangerous if her electric was turned off because she's Oxygen Dependent. United Way carefully went over her budget, helped identify what her barriers were, and got her back on the right track. We assisted with her overdue electric bill and were able to keep her lights and oxygen on - for this was a basic living necessity."



