



March 2015

Dear Friends of Hope House,

Hope House kicked off the New Year at the Grande Dunes Club early on January 3rd. A HUGE thank you goes out to our Community Partner the Grande Dunes/Anchor Cafe and to all of the Grande Dunes members (resident, social and golf) who came out for the 1st ANNUAL RESOLUTION RUN! It was a little chilly as folks ran/walked for one mile on Bellasara Circle, but organizer Toby Frisch was pleased with the turnout of 54 entrants whose participation raised \$810.00 for Hope House of Myrtle Beach!!! Souvenir T-shirts were distributed to all, and a lavish breakfast at the Members Club followed as part of the fund raiser when all who were involved supported the idea of growing the run next year. This was surely one event when everyone came away a winner.

At the time of the Resolution Run, we had just finished a successful holiday season--successful and very busy! As always, we focused first on making sure that every Hope House student had housing for the holidays although, for some of these students, this meant kitchenettes in local hotels. We also provided food for many families who were facing two weeks without breakfast and lunch at school. So many of you gave gift cards which were all distributed to the kids before school let out for vacation. Our unaccompanied youth were particularly looked after. Everyone also received a wrapped gift for Christmas morning which sent all of them off with happy hearts. Now we are very busy preparing to provide support for our Hope House students when Myrtle Beach High closes for the upcoming spring break.

Do you have a business or an organization that would like to sponsor an event to benefit Hope House?

Glasspro recently chose us: "Impressed with the work you do in the community," Glasspro, South Carolina's Auto Glass Experts, chose Hope House of Myrtle Beach as the Channel 13 – 3 Degree organization for January 2015! News 13 WBTW Meteorologist Frank Johnson provides the next day's temperature every weekday in the 6:00 PM News. Every time the actual high temperature is within three degrees of what he forecasts, Glasspro donates at least \$100.00 to a local non-profit organization. Paul Heinauer, President of Glasspro, and Mr. Johnson presented a check on February 5 for \$1,500.00 to Gretchen Abney, President of Hope House on the 6:00 News weather spot. We are so grateful to both Glasspro and News 13 WBTW.

SPECIAL NEED: SEAHAWK FAMILIES! The way we provide shelter for our unaccompanied youth is by placing them in a MBHS home. Sometimes this is a family that currently has teens in it, and sometimes it is one that has already reared them. This is not fostering a student nor being a guardian. Our students are independent and responsible for themselves. Hope House will provide for all of this youth's needs and rent for a place in your household. We only ask that you open your home and heart.

Please, email mgoings@horrycountyschools.net if you are willing.

We are excited to say that spring is back, and so is the Anchor Café! Our Community Partner, the Anchor will once again invite all its patrons to support Hope House throughout the 2015 season by playing a game which involves pushing a tack through a dollar bill and tossing it to the ceiling. If it sticks, it's ours! Last year more than \$1,500.00 was raised which the Grande Dunes owner L-Star Management matched to benefit Hope House of Myrtle Beach! **Please, join us in welcoming the Anchor back at Happy Hour on Tuesday, March 24th.** Enjoy the boat traffic on the waterway while sipping on a delicious tropical drink. The Anchor Café is located in the Grande Dunes Marina – voted #1 Best Marina in Myrtle Beach, "WMBF News Best of the Grand Strand" – 8700 Marina Parkway at 82nd Avenue North and Highway 17 By-Pass, Myrtle Beach.

The Myrtle Beach High School Prom is scheduled for Friday, March 27, 2015, at the House of Blues in North Myrtle Beach. Tickets are \$90.00 a couple and/or \$45.00 per person. Sponsorship for this lifetime memory can be gifted by sending your donation to HHMB PROM, 700 Main Street, Myrtle Beach 29577. (Mark the designation for your contribution on the "For" line of your check, please.)

We are very grateful to HHMB benefactress Sharon Clayton who again this year worked with our students and Katie's Closet to put them all in the loveliest of evening wear. Sharon and her husband, Michael, also participated in the 1st Annual Resolution Run we mentioned here held on January 3rd.

Though it seems a long time away, graduation day will be here in less than three months now! The McKinney-Vento Act, which is a self-reporting federal mandate that identifies who among our students is homeless, has our current number at 46, eight of whom are unaccompanied youth. As many as one third of this number are seniors, and all of them are working hard to get their diplomas! Many more students, who are under poverty level income but not self-reporting, are assisted by Hope House as well. Please, go to www.hopehouseofmyrtlebeach.org and click the About Us tab; then click Students to read the testimonials of past Hope House grads.

Thanks to each of you, Hope House will continue the work of caring for students at Myrtle Beach High School. To our knowledge, not one of them wanting has not had his or her needs met. We, the Board of Directors, pledge to you our best stewardship of the HHMB Mission.

Gretchen Abney, President; Cookie Goings, Vice-President; Kelly Payne, Secretary; Burt Huggins; Treasurer
Diane P'Pool; Sue Cranford; Todd Harms; Roz Gentry, Directors
Advisory: George W. "Bo" Bryan; Myra Starnes