



Love And Hope In Action

2023 Spring Newsletter



Robert was enjoying life in New Jersey as a successful home construction contractor, with his beloved wife, Mary, and his sidekick dog, Bo. In 2019, Robert lost his wife after a long battle with illness. At the same time, he had to quit working due to an accumulation of physical ailments resulting from his arduous and dedicated career in construction.

With nothing left, Robert drifted from New Jersey to Florida, staying in hotels and tents along the way. In March 2022, God led Robert to LAHIA. Over the next 10 months, Robert established himself as one of the most charismatic, cheerful, and likeable, bright spots in the LAHIA community; EVERYONE loves Robert! If you ever need a reassuring dose of perspective and gratitude, spend five minutes with Robert. He is a living testament that reminds us that spiritual wealth is more valuable than material wealth.



In January 2023, in partnership with our wonderful colleagues at Martin County Human Services, and God's guidance and blessings, we were able to get Robert permanent supportive housing. The enclosed photos perfectly capture Robert's elation as he moved into his apartment! His overwhelming gratitude for such simple accommodations should be a lesson for all of us.

Robert is now firmly settled, enjoying his bed, bathroom, TV, air conditioning, and mini fridge, with an extra perk of having a front porch where he can enjoy the fresh air and watch the traffic go by!

Wayne came to us in 2015, and has been a mainstay at LAHIA for the 8 years since. A military veteran and outdoorsman, Wayne thrived in his life of camping in his well-established and ornate camp. After years of cajoling Wayne to consider taking advantage of housing opportunities, we finally convinced him to consider housing. Soon thereafter, in collaboration with our partners at the Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, we were able to identify and secure housing for Wayne.

After 8 years in the woods, on May 5th, 2023, we moved Wayne into his new abode, where he also is finally enjoying the luxury accommodations of water, A/C, a bathroom, and electricity!



Daniel is a 68 year old gentleman that retired from construction work a few years ago. He has had several serious health issues that required surgery and was unfortunately living in a tent off and on since August of 2020. He has Social Security and Supplemental Security income of just under \$1000 monthly; however, like so many of our seniors, that income does not stretch far enough to make ends meet here in South Florida. Daniel has searched up and down the east coast of Florida from Daytona Beach to West Palm Beach for affordable housing without luck.



On March 15th he ran into one of our Martin County officers and was unfortunately trespassed, but once he told the officer his story, the Martin County officer referred Daniel to LAHIA. Daniel told the officer that the trespass may be the best thing that could happen to him if he would be able to get off the streets.

Once Daniel connected with LAHIA, the case management team went to work to find reasonable housing for him. Within 24 hours of his initial intake, LAHIA had paid for one month's rent at a rooming house in Hobe Sound. We also had donors provide a dresser and mattress for his place. Daniel said he could not be happier in his new home and looks forward to getting his life back on track. Will you help us pray now that Daniel is housed, the judge will be lenient on the trespass violation to keep things going in the right direction for him?

Volunteer Appreciation Open House On a pretty April Sunday afternoon, a host of treasured volunteers and friends gathered at LAHIA for



a time of fellowship and food prepared and served by staff that were eager to express our appreciation for the countless hours cheerfully and efficiently doled out 6 days a week all year long. From elementary ages to seniors, LAHIA is blessed beyond measure with the best volunteers from local churches, businesses and our community at large! What would we do without them?!



If you find yourself looking for an opportunity to share your time and energy with a great bunch of people serving an ever-changing population of individuals and families needing a good meal, kind words, and a warm smile – LAHIA is the place for you! Learn more at www.lahia.org, call us at (772) 781-7002 and “like” us on Facebook for updates.



We welcome you to share this newsletter with your family and friends. New volunteers and supporters are always welcome to join our mission in assisting our homeless neighbors!

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