

Love And Hope In Action



HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM EVERYONE AT LAHIA! WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT OF THIS MINISTRY!

Kevin—Now Living a Good Life

Kevin is a grateful man. Grateful for days of fishing, boating and golf with his two sons (aged 10 and 28). Grateful for his home and evenings spent relaxing on the beach. And he's really, really grateful for the care and support that he received from LAHIA when he needed it most.

LAHIA helped Kevin find that home. We helped stabilize his life with Medicaid and food stamps so he could move in without worry. We gave him a gasoline gift card and a pair of eyeglasses. Clothes from our clothing pantry and delicious meals from Chef Carla in the dining room.



Born and raised in Martin County, Kevin is now living in a house in Indian River County with his son, father and stepmother. He would like a part-time job but is limited to earning \$100 per week by his Social Security Disability Income (SSDI). He is managing his Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in part by “surrounding (himself) with good people,” he said.

A few years ago, Kevin was homeless. Now, when he's not shopping for food or doing household chores, he spends many days on the water or on the golf course (he uses a free golf cart at Indian River Country Club that keeps him from getting tired and keeps it fun for his 10-year-old son).

Kevin is very happy with his life now but there's still one thing he would change—he lives too far away from LAHIA, 60 miles away from his home. He misses coming here for food and clothing. We looked for a similar organization for him up in Indian River County but there is nothing that provides clients with the hands-on spiritual and physical support of LAHIA. Kevin comes down to the “Sailfish Capitol of the World” (Stuart) to fish and stop by LAHIA from time to time to say hello.

“LAHIA has everything to get you back on your feet and then some,” said Kevin. He encourages people who have previously struggled to help others, and advises, “Try to pass it forward.”

KEITH

Keith, all but completely deaf, came to us in July. Keith was unable to effectively communicate because his hearing aid was broken. As a result, he was unable to conduct vital job interviews or requisite food stamp interviews. We worked extensively with Keith's mother back in New York to try to get in touch with his previous audiologist. Unfortunately, we could not get any traction because it had been so long since he'd been with that provider.

Finally, we were able to get Keith into Volunteers in Medicine, who in turn was able to get him to an audiologist. In late September, after two months of being unable to hear anything, Keith was given a new hearing aid, and is happy to be able to hear again!



Dedication in Action: Over a Decade of Volunteer Service with LAHIA

Linda is one of our longest-serving volunteers, sharing her compassion and faith with our clients several evenings each week.

Linda started with LAHIA back in 2012 through Coastal Life Church. A luncheon at the church featured stories by LAHIA staff and clients that emphasized the need for this organization to help the homeless and less fortunate folks right here at home in Martin County.



Linda started her journey with LAHIA volunteering in the "original" kitchen and over the years spent time working in the clothing pantry, the food pantry and the laundry/showers cottage. Currently, Linda is our dinner meal sign-in person two nights a week. "I enjoy greeting the many folks who come through the door and I try to make everyone feel special and welcome because they are," said Linda.

"I have seen several changes for the better starting with the awesome "new" kitchen that produces so many delicious meals and the additional buildings on the campus," she added.

Linda's other passion is line dancing with Cactus Moon Dance Club, a local non-profit. The Club raises money and at the end of each year presents a check to Brenda at LAHIA. "Nothing is impossible with God," said Linda.

"He has blessed me through LAHIA and I look forward to many more productive years here."

Learn more at www.lahia.org, call us at (772) 781-7002 and "like" us on Facebook for updates.
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