

# Houses of Hope

The model chosen for sustaining healthy communities and long lasting transformation in urban communities are **Houses of Hope**. These are located in Tamarind Avenue Corridor in West Palm Beach. The House of Hope serves as a front-line of defense for safe homes, safe schools, and safe communities. It also gives future revitalization efforts a stable environment in which to re-build the community with long term residents in mind.



The program calls for “urban missionaries or urban relief workers” to live among a targeted community, thus reducing social isolation and building bridges between the families, local churches, ministries, non-profits, and programs that can meet their needs.

The **House of Hope** models was birthed by urban specialists from Dallas, Texas and Shreveport, La. Currently, affordable homes are being built in targeted high crime communities in hopes of placing these local heroes into communities of need.

The mission of **House of Hope** is to unite neighbors and other partners (churches, religious organizations, helping agencies, etc.) to enhance the neighborhood system of caring relationships.

1

## Vision Statement

The vision of the **House of Hope** is to develop a caring community where the Urban Missionaries help facilitate a culture in the neighborhood of caring about the health, housing, education, economic needs, of the community. Through servant leadership the urban missionaries model healthy relationships that contribute to a safe environment resulting in trust and open doors for spiritual ministry. This includes evangelistic outreach, discipleship, and counseling, feeding programs, clothing programs, etc.



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## Ministry Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of the **House of Hope** will be based on building a bridge that fills in the gaps when local non-profit and churches are unable to reach a family, or until the relationship is established with a local church or non profit. The following goals have been set for the targeted communities:

### THEY ARE:

1. Survey and assess the needs of each family spiritually, economically, educationally, socially, and culturally.
2. Determine where each child in the family attends school, and where they are engaged in life skills, bible study, character development, recreation, and tutoring.
3. Determine the health of each couple/single and where they need support for marriage/family, and/or parent/child development.
4. Determine where each family is spiritually and whether they are in relationship with a local church.
5. During the calendar year, a visit to each family to introduce them to the **House of Hope** concept, and determine any needs they have, and to pray with them.
6. Introduce each family to existing non-profits, churches, and service organizations and how they can meet their current or future needs.
7. Assist them in finding a church home, and work with local churches and outside West Palm Beach and Rivera Beach churches to meet their needs.
8. Conduct three more community wide outreaches/barbecues in relationship with Transformation Palm Beach County partner churches, and non-profits.
9. Conduct a outreach group in neighborhood to reach area homes.
10. Develop outreach programs for children in community in relationship with local non-profits, churches, camps, and **House of Hope** programs.

| 2



# Houses of Hope

## SUGGESTED OUTREACH:

- » **Youth/Kids Club** - After school clubs for children and youth where children are engaged in life skills, bible study/character development, recreation and tutoring.
- » **Parent/Neighbors Night** - Once a month, this is an evening where parents and other neighbors come together for fellowship and food with no agenda and progresses into a planning group.
- » **Service/Super Saturday** - Once a month day of community service (nursing homes, hospital, community clean-ups, etc) and special fun activities (skating, bowling, horseback riding, etc) for the kid and youth club participants.
- » **Report Card Dinners** - All club participants who earn a 2.0 grade point average or higher with no F's (this GPA can be raised at any time) or better are treated to a dinner after each reporting period in which they do so.
- » **Community Visits/Contacts** - House of Hope missionaries visit each home in their target area to orient them and socialize them to the transformation process. They also work with local agencies to make sure the children in their target area are receiving adequate care.
- » **Reading Zones** - Homes of volunteers in the neighborhood where children can go to read to others (also volunteers) or be read to (by the volunteers).
- » **Neighborhood Newsletter** - These are designed to be instruments of hope - alerting the neighborhood about activities, stories about neighborhood members, reporting personal accomplishments, advertising upcoming events, and giving examples on how neighbors can help each other and themselves.





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## Philosophy

Urban missionaries are critical to reaching the inner city and serve a need that outside visitors are not able to fully achieve. Urban missionaries:

- » **Relocate to Relate** - a relationship is built by becoming neighbors where you face the same realities that inner city residents face each day.
- » **Learning to Love** - opportunities arise each day where you have a voice in reconciliation and discipleship making.
- » **Serving to Support** - missionaries become a bridge for others both inside and outside the neighborhood to join and serve a cause together.
- » **Uniting to Understand** - you come together to go out to touch your neighbors working together for a healthy community. Serving as a "spiritual nerve" center, lines of communication are opened between neighbors. Strangers become caring friends, fear and suspicion turn into faith and trust which promotes cooperation and unity in problem solving. These new friendships raise cultural awareness and sensitivity where things in common and diversity can both be celebrated. The fruit of this is respect, consideration, and understanding between neighbors that results in a safer environment and concern for others. This opens the door for the gospel to be shared because it has been lived.

| 4

The **House of Hope** concept is simple - it will enlist any person willing to help and train them in a simple method of making friends with neighbors on their block. It is practical - because each community is by its very nature a system of caring relationships. It follows that if a "community becomes sick", you cannot restore it to health except through caring grass roots relationships. And finally it is measurable. We rebuild our neighborhoods by being neighborly and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

You cannot legislate caring. Therefore no amount of political activity will restore "community." Laws create the security for caring to happen, but laws do not happen to create caring! And you cannot buy caring relationships. No amount of economic aid will restore "community." Suffering areas are rebuilt by a caring "community" that has been mobilized by caring people!

For more information on **Houses of Hope**, contact [skinner.randy@gmail.com](mailto:skinner.randy@gmail.com).

## Sponsorships

Transformation Palm Beach County is pleased to offer a sponsorship program which gives businesses, donors, foundation, organizations and individuals the opportunity to partner along side other generous givers and community leaders.

### BUILDING BLOCKS COST BREAKDOWN

HOME COSTS	EACH HOME	5 HOMES
Architecture & Engineering	\$3,836	\$19,180
Site Work	\$7,840	\$39,200
Survey	\$1,680	\$8,400
Shell	\$35,280	\$176,400
Framing & Drywall	\$15,680	\$78,400
Roof Trusses	\$4,480	\$22,400
Roof	\$7,840	\$39,200
Doors & Trim	\$7,728	\$38,640
Windows	\$8,400	\$42,000
Electrical	\$9,296	\$46,480
Fans & Light Fixtures	\$1,120	\$5,600
Plumbing	\$9,408	\$47,040
Air Conditioning	\$7,280	\$36,400
Insulation	\$2,576	\$12,880
Flooring	\$6,855	\$34,275
Painting	\$7,684	\$38,420
Countertops & Backsplashes	\$3,024	\$15,120
Cabinets	\$6,944	\$34,720
Mirrors & Shelving	\$672	\$3,360
Appliances	\$2,352	\$11,760
Driveway	\$5,600	\$28,000
Landscaping: Front Yard & Back	\$6,000	\$30,000
Yard Irrigation	\$1,680	\$8,400
Security System	\$672	\$3,360
Fencing	\$4,750	\$23,750
	<b>\$168,677</b>	<b>\$843, 385</b>