

# FOOD4THOUGHT

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April 2018 Edition

PHPINHC.ORG

## PHP's Awareness Campaign

PHP has launched an awareness campaign to let everyone know about our nonprofit and the HELP Center. Volunteers will be canvassing the county to let people know all about PHP's mission to end hunger in Hernando County. PHP would like to place their HELP Center brochure in businesses and waiting rooms from one end of the county to the other. Volunteers wishing to help out by delivering brochures should call (352) 686-4466.

## PHP's Mission:

PHP's mission is to end hunger in Hernando County by breaking the cycle of poverty among the people served. Besides providing food, PHP links people to benefits, education, training and resources empowering them to help themselves to be productive members of Hernando County.

## What's the HELP Center?

For those who want to help themselves, the HELP Center will provide training programs and collaborate with other agencies/institutions to help people access benefits and pathways out of poverty and hunger. PHP will continue their four feeding programs to feed children, seniors, working families and the homeless.

## Rotary Clubs build HELP Center Hall



The three Rotary Clubs of Hernando County and the e-Club of the Caribbean continue to have workdays at PHP's HELP Center. An existing hallway in the old hardware will be converted into a new family restroom, laundry, shower, janitor closet and storage closet.

The Rotary Clubs decided over a year ago to work on a project to alleviate hunger and poverty in Hernando County. They selected PHP's project and District 6950 awarded them matching funds for the project. Members of the Rotary Clubs not only contribute funds, but also put in sweat equity.

## What's an incubator kitchen?

...“a certified, fully equipped commercial kitchen that food entrepreneurs can rent on an hourly basis to produce their goods. These



incubators allow entrepreneurs to be in business without having to secure and pay for their own commercial kitchen space – an expense that would be prohibitive for most.”

...and one is coming to Kass Circle in Spring Hill. People Helping People (PHP) has a unique and refreshing idea on how to end hunger in Hernando County. Instead of just giving “hand-outs”, PHP is building an innovative model to address hunger and poverty by giving struggling individuals a “hand-up” in an attempt to break the cycle of poverty.

At 1396 Kass Circle, an old hardware is being converted into a community resource center to be known as the HELP Center. It will include a commercial kitchen, dining room, restrooms, laundry, shower and storage. PHP plans to continue their existing programs to help feed needy children, seniors and families. However, individuals seeking assistance at PHP's HELP Center will have an opportunity to learn food service skills such as food safety, table service and bussing, kitchen maintenance and cooking. When food entrepreneurs rent the HELP Center kitchen, they will have newly trained staff to assist them in preparing and serving their food. Once the new food establishment has a customer following, they can move into a neighborhood retail facility, possibly with a trained staff, thus adding to the local economy.

Everyone wins at the HELP Center. Individuals lacking job skills will have an opportunity to learn about the food industry, will get hands-on experience and employable skills. Local restaurants and food handling facilities will have a pool of potential job candidates ranging from dishwashers to chefs. The public will enjoy new and exciting food offerings while PHP will help people get out of the rut they are in and into jobs in the food service industry.

# Kass Circle Redevelopment

The Kass Circle Community Redevelopment Area plan seeks to take the vision of the community residents, not for profit agency partners, and local businesses and make it into a reality. This involves creating a targeted implementation and financial plan that addresses the community's greatest needs, including:

- Aging Infrastructure
- Affordable Housing
- Business Engagement
- Community Wellness
- Community Identity/Culture
- Crime, Safety, and Community Oriented Policing
- Homelessness and Social Programming
- Pedestrian, Bicycle, Vehicular, and Transit mobility
- Resident Engagement
- Signage/Wayfinding



The Kass Circle Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) planning efforts include involvement from everyone in the Kass Circle community! Several members of PHP's board are involved in Community Redevelopment Area. If you are interested in being part of the email distribution list or participating in any of the Kass Action Team (KAT) meetings, please contact Michelle Miller at [MLMiller@hernandocounty.us](mailto:MLMiller@hernandocounty.us) for more information and how to get involved!



## Construction continues at building

What's done at the building:

- rough plumbing and grease trap
- air handlers and ductwork
- partitions are nearly done
- drywall and firewalls are being installed now.
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Construction is continuing while PHP fundraises to have enough money to complete the project. Donations of any amount are appreciated and can be sent to PHP, PO Box 6182, Spring Hill, FL 34611. Please contact the contractor, Jeff Thomas to donate materials, equipment and labor at (352) 686-7527.

*Offering a hand-up, not a hand-out*

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