

It is so exciting to come together as church and serve others with the heart of Christ! There are people in Osceola County who benefit from the **Community Hope Center**, and at the synod assembly this June, we have an amazing opportunity to serve and assist in this ministry.

Each congregation is asked to participate in this synod-wide service project in some way. You may pick one of the following, or a couple, or all. Every little bit makes a difference! Be creative! Be generous! Have fun! Be the blessing to this ministry that will change lives for our working poor in Osceola county! And know you are going to make a huge difference in the lives of people who really need to see what the love of Jesus is all about.

1. **PRAYERS.** Encourage your congregation to write out prayers on 3X5 index cards (one side only) that will be collected at the synod assembly. Community Hope Center has a chaplain on site and there is a prayer corner with prayer requests posted. We want to visibly flood the board with prayers from all over the synod!
2. **RECEIVE A “NOISY OFFERING.”** Checks are great, but collecting coinage and bringing that to the assembly to put into the large water jug with everyone else’s coins is a great visual. Last year we collectively filled a five gallon water container (and then half of a second one!) before the assembly was done. This is a simple way to engage all ages in the congregation to help!! The coins received will go towards 2 new large TVs that are needed for meetings, trainings, and networking with the community.
3. **COLLECT WAL-MART GIFT CARDS.** Any amount, but only Wal-Mart.
4. **COLLECT ITEMS FROM YOUR CONFERENCE LIST.** We have taken the needs expressed by the Community Hope Center and divided them among each of our conferences. Please refer to the attached list. ***We would really appreciate it if each congregation would take a black sharpie marker and put the expiration date on the top and cross out the bar code on the side/bottom of all donated items. Sterilite 56 quart storage bins with the blue lid are in big demand. It would be great if you would use this bin as your collection area, bring your items to synod assembly in this bin, and then the bin is also part of your donation to Community Hope Center. Win-Win!!***

**But wait! There’s more on the other side! → → →**

## **FLORIDA BAHAMAS SYNOD SERVICE PROJECT 2019**

### **Community Hope Center of Osceola County**

#### **A Homeless Outreach and Self-Sufficiency Center**

The Community Hope Center’s mission is to provide assistance to all those in need in our community. We secure a “no wrong door” policy and are committed to providing resources or referrals for those who are actively searching for assistance and who are willing to forge a path towards self-sufficiency.

We currently serve over 1,100 homeless and low-income families (25,000 + individuals, of which 5,000+ are children).

Nearly all adults whom we serve have jobs, and they can’t even make it living paycheck to paycheck.

Your congregational donations are invaluable!

**THANK YOU!!!**

Want to make your efforts stretch even further? Do this as a **THRIVENT ACTION TEAM!!!!** If you are collecting items, open it up to the congregation to give, and then use THRIVENT ACTION TEAM monies to purchase additional items! Be creative! Contact your own Thrivent Community Engagement Leader, or contact Kathy Emanuelson with Thrivent at 727-733-3911.

**IMPORTANT!!**

- ➔ Whether you utilize a THRIVENT ACTION TEAM or not, PLEASE keep track of HOW MANY PEOPLE PARTICIPATED AND HOW MANY HOURS WERE USED to complete your congregational project. Last year, 1,335 people participated. Our goal this year is 1,500 people!!
- ➔ TAKE PICTURES of your project and bring a couple of them with you to put on our Participation Board.

We also have a way to be engaged in this service project while on site at the Synod Assembly. There will be an area in the Connection Café for people to make cards and write encouraging notes for those who are engaged with the ministry of Community Hope Center of Osceola County. We will also be putting together “kids’ bags” in this area, so stop on by when you have the chance. Finally, we will have on hand people from Community Hope Center to answer any questions you may have or if you want to learn more about this ministry here in Central Florida.

Thank you in advance for your prayers and support!

Rev. Julie Frank & Rev. Melinda Plumley  
2019 Synod Assembly Service Project Coordinators



**Let Us Bless the Ministry of  
The Community Hope Center**

We encourage each congregation to gather items listed below (by conference) and bring them to the synod assembly in June. Congregations may also wish to donate **Wal-Mart gift cards**. We will also be accepting **loose change** that will go towards 2 new large screen TVs, scanner, and projector . Be creative! Be generous! Be the blessing for this ministry that will change lives for the working poor here in Central Florida! And know you are going to make a huge difference in the lives of people who really need to see what the love of Jesus is all about. Thank you in advance for your gifts!

### **Miami-Dade & Panhandle**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- Canned Fruits
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Soups
- Canned Protein (chicken, tuna, Vienna Sausage, ham, etc)

### **Heart of Florida & Gulf Coast**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- Regular size shampoo/conditioner
- Shaving Cream/razors
- Regular size body lotion/wash
- Deodorant (men & women)

### **Space Coast & Tampa**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- Baby & Adult wipes
- Baby shampoo & lotion
- Diapers – sizes 4, 5, & 6
- Feminine pads, liners

### **Pinelands & Lake**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- Cereal & shelf stable milk
- Granolas (all kinds)
- Sunscreen (lips, too!)
- Large Zip-lock bags

### **Tradewinds & Mid-Gulf**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- White Rice
- Pasta (all kinds)
- Pasta Sauce
- Large Zip-Lock Bags

### **Broward-Bahamas**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Individual packets - cookies
- Large Zip-Lock bags

### **First Coast & Caloosa**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- Q-Tips
- Toothbrushes/tooth paste/mouthwash
- Individual packets – goldfish
- Individual packets – fruit roll ups

### **Flagler/Volusa & Sun Coast**

- Sterilite 56 qt storage bin w/ blue lid
- Individual packets – juice boxes
- Individual packets – animal crackers
- Toilet Paper
- Reams of white paper