FAMILIES IN TRANSITION



- 36. **Volunteer** at Project Homeless Connect www.volunteermatch.com or call 407-893-0133.
- 37. Volunteer with HEART, a non-profit organization that meets the unmet needs of individuals and families that are effected by natural disasters. <u>www.seminoleheart.org</u>
- 38. **Prepare** "birthday baskets" for homeless children. Include cake mix, frosting, candles, birthday napkins, favors, and a gift for SafeHouse of Seminole or Sanford Rescue Outreach Mission.
- 39. **Serve** on a Board of one of our local community agencies and assist with decision-making that helps the homeless.
- 40 **Donate** work boots and sneakers to the Sonshine Community Thrift in Oviedo. 407-366-3422
- 41. **Volunteer** income tax filing assistance at any agency that helps the homeless.

42. Learn more about homelessness. Visit the National Alliance to End Homelessness

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- 43. **Recognize** friends' birthdays by making donations in their names to The Sharing Center, the county's largest nonprofit provider of rent/utility assistance. 407-260-9155
- 44. Write to elected officials <u>www.seminolecountyfl.gov</u> and ask them what they are doing to help the homeless and discourage them from tearing down lowincome housing.
- 45. **Ask** a local agency that serves homeless and needy families what they need and then designate a box at work, church, or school to collect those items.
- 46. **Buy** a few extra cans of food (buy one/get one free) and donate them to Jewish Family Services Food Pantry. 407-644-7593
- 47. **Distribute** the Parent Resource Guide to families in need (available at <u>www.scps.k12.fl.us/Title1/_dsp/_FIT.cfm</u>).
- 48. **Learn** about affordable housing. Visit National Low Income Housing Coalition's web site at <u>wwwNLIHC.org</u>.
- 49. Learn more about homeless children. Visit www.naehcy.org and www.serve.org/nche.
- 50. **Share** this list with work associates, family, and friends!

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Seminole County School Board Dr. Bill Vogel, Superintendent

School Board Dede Schaffner, Chairman Sandi Robinson, Vice Chairman Diane Bauer Jeanne Morris Sylvia Pond

50 Ways Our Community Can Help Families in Need

Families in Transition Program

1801 Tuskawilla Road Oviedo, Florida 32765

Beth Davalos, FIT Liaison Phone: 407-746-8518 Fax: 407-746-8646 E-Mail: beth_davalos@scps.k12.fl.us



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Donate complimentary shampoo, soaps, etc. from hotels to the Sanford Rescue Outreach Mission. www.rescueoutreachmission.com

Support Pathways to Care, the only agency in the region providing medical care to homeless persons being discharged from hospitals with nowhere to go but the streets. 407-388-0245 www.pathwaystocare.org.

 Learn about the Sadowski Act <u>www.1000friendsofflorida.org</u> and write your elected officials to "scrap the cap" so more funding will be available to build affordable rental housing for very low income persons.

4. **Organize** a food drive through your church, social group or friends, or donate good-quality used clothing to The Sharing Center. 407-260-9155

Donate blankets, sleeping bags, and sweaters to Seminole Behavioral Healthcare's Sanford HOPE Team <u>www.seminolecares.org</u> providing outreach to the unsheltered homeless in our area. 407-321-HELP(4357).

6. **Employ** a homeless person at a living wage (approximately \$21/hour for a single mother with two children), not just minimum wage.

Donate diapers and wipes to SafeHouse of Seminole. <u>www.safehouseseminole.org</u>. 407-330-6933

 Volunteer to tutor a child through the Families in Transition Program. beth_davalos@scps.k12.fl.us. 407-746-8518

Donate gently used furniture to Sonshine Community Thrift <u>www.helpforthehomeless.net</u> to help families in need. 407-366-3422

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10. **Provide** school supplies, new clothing, financial support or find out what other volunteer opportunities are needed for the Families in Transition Program, serving homeless students in SCPS. 407-746-8518

11. Volunteer to assist homeless teens at Covenant House. www.covenanthousefl.org 407-482-0404

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 Learn about the number of homeless individuals and families in Seminole County by visiting <u>www.hsncfl.org</u>. Homeless Services Network's Annual Point-in-Time Count to help you become informed about our homeless popultion and the housing needs of in our community.

13. **Donate** good quality work-appropriate clothing to Salvation Army. <u>www.uss.salvationarmy.org</u>. 407-322-2642

14. **Respond** with a kind word when you are approached for a handout of coffee or a meal.

15. **Volunteer** by putting your professional talents to work with the Seminole County Volunteer Program. <u>www.scvp.org</u>

16. **Provide** financial assistance for the Pathways to Home Program, a community collaborative to assist homeless families in Seminole County. <u>www.pathwaystohome.org</u> 407-320-7223

17. **Donate** spare event tickets to an agency supporting homeless families.

 Make sack lunches for The Central Florida Dream Center. <u>www.cfdreamcenter.org</u> 407-302-0880

19. **Help** a homeless child with homework at the Sanford Rescue Outreach Mission. 407-321-8224

20. **Carry** fast food gift cards in small increments to give to the homeless who are hungry.

21. **Conduct** a kitchenware drive at your workplace to help homeless families who are getting into new housing and donate them to The Vine in Oviedo. 407-971-8135

22. **Volunteer** with Habitat for Humanity to help with construction of housing for low-income families. www.Habitat.org

23. **Donate** new reading glasses to the Kiwanis Club. www.centorlkiwanis.org 407-788-2245

24. **Adopt** an agency that serves the homeless and give them year-round support.

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- 25. **Donate** new socks, underwear, jeans, sneakers and t-shirts to Seminole County School Social Workers. 407-746-8518
- 26. **Donate** children's reading books (PreK-12th grades) to SafeHouse of Seminole 407-330-6933 or Rescue Outreach Mission 407-321-8224.
- 27. Ask your local school what they need for their homeless children (uniforms, supplies, etc.) and provide it.
- 28. **Volunteer** your time at one of our local agencies like Sonshine Pantry <u>www.helpforhomelss.net</u>, The Sharing Center <u>www.thesharingcenter.org</u> or Harvest Time International <u>www.harvest-time.org</u>.
- 29. **Make** welcome kits with everyday household basics for homeless families in transition and donate to the Families in Transition program. 407-746-8518
- 30. **Educate** your children to respect the dignity of all human beings.
- 31. Encourage your house of worship to get involved with the Interfaith Hospitality Network. www.familypromise.org
- 32. **Volunteer** on the 211 Hotline to help families in n e e d f i n d r e s o u r c e s www.refersoftware.com/211CommunityResources 407-839-HELP (4357) or 211.
- 33. **Organize** a fundraiser for your favorite charity serving the homeless.
- 34. Attend a Seminole County Children's Cabinet meeting to find out how you or your employer can become involved in improving the lives of local children. www.seminolechildren.org
- 35. Adopt a family for the holidays through a local agency like Christian HELP 407-834-4022 or Salvation Army 407-322-2642.