



Homeless Coalition

PALM BEACH COUNTY

Why the Lewis Luncheon?

The Senator Philip D. Lewis Center Luncheon will be presented by the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc.; a 501(c) 3. For 30 years, the Homeless Coalition's purpose has been to generate awareness through advocacy, education and community outreach and to motivate a community-wide response to raise funding, resources, partners and involved citizens to end homelessness in Palm Beach County.

Introduction

The Senator Philip D. Lewis Center opened in 2012 as the first central access to services for the homeless in Palm Beach County. The Lewis Center is a partnership of homeless service providers that connect people who are experiencing homelessness with support services and housing to restore them to self-sufficiency. It is the cornerstone of the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Palm Beach County.

Background

The 2020 Point-in-Time count shows any given night there are 1,510 people in Palm Beach County who do not have a safe permanent place to call home. However, that does not paint a complete picture of the dire situation faced by so many. In the last nine years the Lewis Center has offered help and hope to more than 35,000 men, women and children looking to end their homelessness.

The Homeless Coalition's *Creating Housing Opportunities* program plays a key role in helping these individuals and families. Since its inception, the program has placed over 2,500 men, women and children into permanent housing. The Senator Philip D. Lewis Center Luncheon is one of the events that funds to keep this important housing program.

All net proceeds from this event will benefit the homeless service providers who work through the Lewis Center: Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches, Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, Inc., Health Care District of Palm Beach County, The Lord's Place and Palm Beach County Homeless Services Program.

Support

While the Lewis Center has made a significant impact in the lives of those who are experiencing homelessness, the need far outweighs the services available. The current location on 45th Street can only house 60 individuals, we need additional resources. Homelessness touches every corner of our county and services must reach as far.

Expanding services to every area of Palm Beach County will require funding from every corner of our community; government, business, faith organizations, non-profit groups and individuals. Our combined efforts will allow us to keep "Paving the Way Home."