

HANCOCK RESOURCE CENTER

Annual Report

2019



1,088
FAMILIES
SERVED



with a total economic impact of

\$3,290,462

2019
ANNUAL
REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS

100+ hours of instruction in Hancock County schools to over 2,750 students on substance use prevention and the importance of living a drug and alcohol free lifestyle, in partnership with HYPE; Hancock Youth for Positive Efforts



6627 volunteer hours donated amounting to \$168,525 in donated labor



38 families housed or provided housing stabilization \$46,118



16 homes rehabilitated \$116,537.92



62 Veterans employed in the lower 6 counties

36 families provided emergency shelter \$19,265



22 foreclosures prevented \$2,826,261.00



12 survivors of domestic violence housed and working towards self-sufficiency \$28,653



11 families were reunified through the Navigator Program

323

children received gifts through holiday assistance programs \$39,512.07



41

students graduated from the Hancock Youth Leadership Academy



35

Veterans housed \$34,942

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About HRC

Hancock Resource Center works to stabilize families and strengthen the community. Our mission is accomplished by addressing obstacles and barriers to housing and coordinating services for families in need.

2019 was an amazing year for Hancock Resource Center. From the clients we served, the programs we created and cultivated, the organizational partners we worked alongside, to engaging the Hancock County community as a whole, HRC put forth the best of our staff's abilities and took pride in serving the Mississippi Gulf Coast community.

In August of 2019 HRC was recognized along with other Top 10 Outstanding Citizens and Industrial Award of Excellence recipients at the Hancock Chamber's Annual Gala. "Receiving this award was really special," said Rhonda Rhodes, HRC President. "We've been a part of the community since Katrina and have grown along with the community as we've recovered. Being recognized for our work was a big honor for our team and meant so much coming from the organization that got us started."

Established in 2006 through the Governor's Commission on Recovery, HRC began operating independently of the Chamber of Commerce in 2008. HRC has grown to a team of 20 who serve hundreds of families per year through our programs. We are committed to helping our clients on the road to sustainable self-sufficiency through compassionate case management and supportive services.

BY THE NUMBERS

Hancock Resource Center served

1,088

families in 2019,

with a total economic impact of

\$3,290,462

in the community.

Over 6627 hours of volunteer labor were coordinated through HRC in 2019, amounting to \$168,525 in donated labor benefiting residents of Hancock County.

HRC provided **Homebuyer Education, Home Maintenance Education, Budget Counseling, Credit Counseling, Basic Computer, Resume Writing and Basic Employment Skills** classes to 76 residents in Hancock County, affording them the opportunity to improve their financial standing.

In 2019, Hancock Resource Center employed 20 people; 18 of whom live in Hancock County.

In partnership with Hope Haven, HRC provided coordination of **The Salvation Army Angel Tree®, Teen Angels, and Toys for Tots®** programs, serving 323 children with an economic impact of \$39,512.07. Community support for **Santa's Families** totaled \$7,004, with a complete economic impact of \$46,516.07 during the 2019 holiday season.

The **Supportive Services for Veteran Families** program allowed HRC to provide housing stabilization and supportive services to 35 Veterans and their families totaling \$34,942 in services.

The **Transitional Housing Program** for women affected by domestic violence assisted 12 families with relocation/rental assistance, employment training, transportation and childcare assistance, allowing survivors to move toward self-sufficiency. This program totaled \$28,653 in services to Hancock County women.

The **Navigator Program** provided critical case management to 34 families whose children were in Child Protective Services custody. The Family Advocate Case Manager assisted in preventing removal in 10 cases and facilitated reunification for another 11 families by guiding parents through their service plans.

Through the Emergency Solutions Grant, HRC was able to provide **housing stabilization services** (rental assistance, deposit assistance, and supportive services) to 38 homeless and at-risk residents of Hancock County, with direct services totaling \$46,118.

Through the **HUD Continuum of Care** program, HRC was able to house and provide intensive case management to 6 families and youth in crisis, with a total economic impact of \$3,645.

STABLE HOUSING STRONG FAMILIES BETTER COMMUNITY

Through partnerships with Federal Home Loan Bank, The First, A National Banking Association, and Renaissance Community Loan Fund, HRC provided **home rehab and accessibility** features for 16 low-income, elderly and/or disabled homeowners with an economic impact of \$116,537.92.

HRC assisted 36 families through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program by providing \$19,265 in essential, **emergency housing stabilization services**.

The **Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program** provided critical employment services to 62 homeless Veterans in the lower six counties.

Foreclosure prevention counseling was provided for 245 families statewide through the Homesaver program; 22 home foreclosures were prevented through this counseling, 3 were homes in Hancock County. The value of the preserved homes is \$2,826,261.00 statewide with an impact in Hancock County of \$434,785.

Seventeen Hancock County eighth graders graduated from the **eighth junior high class** of the Hancock Youth Leadership Academy in 2019.

Twenty-four students graduated from the seventh high school class of the **Hancock Youth Leadership Academy**, a year-long program that promotes the development of leadership by teaching character, courage, and service.

A **Core Measure Survey** on substance use and procurement was collected from 3,069 middle and high school students from the Hancock County School District, Bay-Waveland School District, St. Stanislaus College, and Our Lady Academy.

HYPE Sessions were held once each month from January through May for twelve 8th grade students. The sessions focused on creating positive change in their schools. Students from Saint Stanislaus, Bay Middle, Hancock Middle and OLA participated.

Several **Responsible Server Trainings** were held where Kurt Alexander, Alcoholic Beverage Control Officer for Hancock County, trained 87 servers on how to keep underage Hancock County youth from accessing alcohol.

Rhonda Rhodes, DFC program director, and Cathy Pitalo, DFC project coordinator, attended the **National Leadership Forum** in National Harbor Maryland in February, before successfully completing all three week-long sessions of the **National Coalition Academy** in San Antonio, TX.

Mandi's Room, an interactive trailer used to teach adults how to recognize the signs of drug use in their teen's bedroom, came to Hancock County Youth Court on October 22nd and on November 12th. CPS workers were trained, and the trailer also participated in the **National Night Out** event, cohosted by local law enforcement.

In December, the **Harlem Wizards Basketball Team** performed shows at Bay Middle School (450 students), Hancock Middle School (1100 students), Our Lady Academy (275 students), St. Stanislaus College (350), and Holy Trinity (25 students). The performances sent a positive message for living a drug and alcohol-free lifestyle while engaging both students and faculty members in their show. This was made possible through a grant from Coast Electric.



2019 PROGRAM LISTINGS

Our programs include: housing solutions for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, veteran housing and employment services, transitional housing for domestic violence survivors, home rehabilitation and repair assistance, mortgage delinquency and foreclosure assistance, and advocacy services for parents whose children are in CPS custody.

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program: is for low-income eligible Veteran families who are in or transitioning to permanent housing can receive a host of supportive services, including temporary financial assistance, to promote long-term housing stability.

The Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program is for Homeless Veterans receive assistance in reintegrating into the labor force by providing job placement services, training, career counseling, resume preparation as well as providing critical linkages to supportive services in the community to retain that employment.

The Homelessness Solutions Programs are for those who are homeless or about to become homeless. If participants qualify, HRC can provide short-term rental assistance and other supportive services to help them regain stability and move towards permanent housing.

The Traditional Housing for Domestic Violence Survivors Program offers survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault a temporary safe haven, childcare, and transportation assistance while counselors assist with securing long-term housing; while also addressing, through supportive case management, the many issues surrounding independence and family stability.

The Navigator Program is for parents whose children have been placed in state custody. HRC Navigators assist in efforts to reunify their families by offering guidance throughout court processes.

The Mortgage Delinquency and Foreclosure Program is for those who are unable to make their mortgage payments. A HUD-certified counselor works with these clients and their lenders to develop a solution that will help them keep their home and get back on track.

The Home Rehabilitation and Repair Program provides grant and low-interest loans and construction management to complete exterior and interior repairs such as roofing, siding, painting, plumbing, electrical, and heating systems for elderly, disabled, or low income homeowners. HRC oversees the selection and completion of home repair projects, coordinating the construction team, and managing costs.

The H.Y.P.E. (Hancock Youth for Positive Efforts) Program is an adult-guided, youth-led initiative that strongly believes in the power young people have to impact real change. The programming and activities are designed to help Hancock County youth live a healthy, safe, and fun lifestyle by teaching leadership, communication skills, and peer intervention.

The Hancock Youth Leadership Academy offers two programs, one for eighth graders (HYLA Junior High) and one for eleventh graders (HYLA High School). Students participate in a rigorous year long program based on building college readiness, appreciation of community assets, and developing leadership potential according to the track they've been accepted to and their grade level.

Community Education Classes Include: First-Time Homebuyers, Maintaining Your Home, Getting Ready for Kindergarten, The Real World, Super Savvy Renter, and more.

Holiday Assistance Programs: The Salvation Army Angel Tree® and Toys for Tots® programs, and Santa's Families.