By Maritza Carvajal

Personally, I never met Mr. John Sutfin, age 76, who died May 2, 2015, at his home in Key Largo, Florida, with his family at his side; however, his name was very familiar to me. I knew he was a philanthropist. He and his wife Candace are among a list of very special donors from the Ocean Reef community, a list that includes Patrick P. and Cynthia Lee, Gail and Joyce Guyton, Ronald and Nancy Harrington, Keith Young, and many others whose contributions have made a big impact in the lives of the people served by my employer, New Hope CORPS. New Hope serves people who are homeless and/or veterans suffering from the ravages of mental illnesses, drugs and alcohol abuse. When we heard of his passing, we were deeply saddened.

During the ceremony performed at the Ocean Reef Chapel in celebration and thanksgiving for the life of John (continued on page 5)

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SUCCESS STORY: BY CHARLES PENDER

“I WENT FROM BEING DRUNK ALL THE TIME TO A HAPPILY MARRIED PRODUCTIVE CITIZEN”

“If I was awake, I was drinking or looking for a drink. I was doing nothing else, that is how bad I was. It was as if there was nothing else in life. I had lost everything: my marriage, my job, my driver license, my life was a mess. I was homeless. I was depressed because of all the things I had done. As AA would say, I was on ‘self will run riot.’ It seemed that all was lost when I came to New Hope in July 2011, but then all of a sudden, my life started to change for the better.”

“With the help of New Hope, and the support received from AA and the other recovering alcoholics in the program, I was able to achieve sobriety. I then started going to church, and I eventually got a job. I was becoming more peaceful and content, learning to live one day at a time. In September 2013, after two years sober and during a church activity, I met Betti. We began a friendship that eventually led to marriage. It was as if God had answered my prayers. (continued on page 5)

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EXCITING NEWS ABOUT NEW HOPE

New Hope is evaluating the purchase of a building in Homestead which would provide housing and behavioral health care services to an additional 200 clients. There is a tremendous need for services such as: permanent housing for homeless veterans, and homeless single adult men requiring support services; supportive housing with available intensive outpatient treatment; residential treatment; outpatient services; and day treatment services.

The time is right for New Hope to pursue an additional building and expand its clinical services. During the past year, our newly acquired CARF certification and very positive clinical performance measurements and outcomes have shown that New Hope is ready to increase in size and fill these critical voids.

We will need the help of our existing donors as well as newly cultivated funding sources. We welcome your questions and comments. Please contact us to discuss your possible involvement in this project. Your donations to New Hope make a difference in many lives. New Hope’s future rests in your hands.

(continued on page 5)
“You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give” (author unknown)

As children, we plant the seed of wisdom that provides us shade when we are old. As a young Boy Scout I learned the importance of being a responsible citizen and vowed an oath that described a duty to God, duty to others, and duty to oneself: The duty to others was described in one simple sentence, “to help other people at all times.” It is these basic values that make the community, and the world, a better place for all.

As we travel through life, we unknowingly migrate toward people, organizations, and towns that have our values. When I was asked to become the Chairman of New Hope, I did not hesitate to accept, as the living Mission of this organization is based in the values instilled in me as a child. In one short visit to New Hope, one can see that the small team of dedicated staff has learned the reward of helping others lives beyond one’s own life. This amazing team works tirelessly everyday and with limited resources to help others overcome the perils of addiction and mental illness. They are an excellent example that sometimes those who have the least give the most and yet the success stories of New Hope are many.

New Hope is fast approaching a significant milestone in its successful history. With tight resources, this impressive organization must turn away those in need of assistance primarily due to available space. We have an important opportunity to make a difference in front of us. As Tom Brokaw once stated, “It’s easy to make a buck. It’s a lot tougher to make a difference.”

To expand the Mission of New Hope and address the needs of the community, New Hope requires a larger space which presents the need for private funding. The new location has been found just a few blocks away and will allow for double the number of clients in the various recovery programs. The New Hope successes of returning those served back to their families, jobs, and community prove that the team at New Hope is making the difference. My question is: are you ready to do the same?

Please contact us with any questions or to arrange a site visit.

Proudly serving to make a difference,
Keith Young

Please welcome the newly elected Board of Directors

KEITH YOUNG is CEO of the not-for-profit Medical Center at Ocean Reef and its supporting organization, the Ocean Reef Medical Center Foundation. Previously, Mr. Young operated and built ambulatory surgical centers designed as physician partnerships within South Florida’s largest non-profit healthcare network, Baptist Health South Florida. He served as the Chairman of Baptist Hospital’s Directors Forum and was the first to be awarded Leader of the Year by Baptist Health Enterprises. A Desert Storm veteran, Mr. Young spent 12 years in service to the United States Air Force and was recognized with numerous awards and medals of accommodation.

COREY GOLD is Vice President at Homestead Hospital, a not-for-profit health care provider with the mission of improving the health and well-being of individuals in our community. He was instrumental in planning and implementing the relocation of the hospital from the old site to their new, state of the art building. Mr. Gold has been a member of the Baptist Health South Florida organization since 1979 when he started as a Respiratory Therapist at Baptist Hospital of Miami.

REV. AIDA MELENDEZ DIEGO was born and raised in Havana, Cuba. She was actively involved in the Resettlement Process of the Cuban Refugee Program, from 1962 to 1966. Rev. Diego attended Hunter College, New York City, and earned the title of Clinical Social Worker in 1971. In 1984 she earned degrees in Psychology and Spanish from St. Thomas University. Currently, she is Director of Next Step Ministry (Homeless Program) at the United Presbyterian Church of South Miami.
Lyle R. Fried is a New Hope success story. Lyle came to New Hope 13 years ago after several unsuccessful attempts to stay clean and sober on his own; and several unsuccessful stays at treatment centers. As is the case many times, Lyle rode the addiction trail all the way down to a devastating bottom. Lyle wound up living on the streets. Homeless and hopeless “I thought I was just one of those that’s going to die.” He said. An alert law-enforcement officer approached him one day and referred him to New Hope. Desperate for help, he agreed. “They loved on me,” Lyle states. “They gave me hope. They saved my life.” Lyle stayed at New Hope for nine months. He actually went to work for New Hope and learned about “passing on” the wonders of recovery from drugs and alcohol.

He went to school and earned a degree in psychology. He learned that he was passionate about helping other addicts and went on to become the co-founder and CEO of a very successful treatment center located in Port St. Lucie, Florida, the Shores Treatment and Recovery. Lyle is now a Board-Certified Addictions Professional, an Internationally Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor, an Approved Training Provider for the Florida Certification Board, and a Certified Health Coach. Lyle has served as the Executive Director, Clinical Director & Program Manager of several residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment facilities. Lyle says that New Hope’s relatively longer lengths of stay and the loving, caring attention given to him by people like the now-deceased founder of New Hope, Manny Alvarez, made his recovery possible. “They gave me hope,” he says. “Manny spoke to me about hope and faith. I wanted to develop a personal relationship with God and New Hope helped me pursue that relationship.”

Lyle’s story brings hope to still suffering substance abusers and is a reminder of what the entire dedicated staff at New Hope has accomplished through the years. More information about The Shores Treatment and Recovery is available at www.theshoresrecovery.com.

The Protestant Foundation of the Ocean Reef Chapel really showed its generosity and commitment to assisting individuals and veterans stricken by mental illness, and addictions to alcohol and drugs by offering much needed financial support. Their incredibly generous grant of $45,000 helped us to construct an ADA-compliant bathroom designed to comfortably and safely serve disabled persons, recruit contracted grant-writing services and purchase a new 15-passenger Ford Transport XLT van. The van is used to transport New Hope clients to and from AA/NA meetings, medical appointments, social services appointments, court hearings and church services.

We also want to thank Armstrong Ford. Armstrong Ford is a long-time supporter of New Hope and New Hope clients. Armstrong Ford has helped us out, in the past, with vehicle repairs, maintenance and purchases with no charge. Because of their generosity and giving nature, we were able to purchase this brand new van at a price far below retail and within our budget.

It is organizations like The Protestant Foundation of the Ocean Reef Chapel and Armstrong Ford that make New Hope what is today. Without them we could not offer our services and programs to those most in need. Please let them know we appreciate their help whenever you can.
On April 14, 2002, Dewitt Blake walked into New Hope a broken man, homeless, helpless and hopeless. He has been clean and sober ever since and is now a family man who work as a full-time, big-rig truck driver for Coventry Transportation.

Dewitt remembers his times with New Hope's founder, Manny Alvarez. Manny has passed away, but his legend lives on in the walls and the people of New Hope. “Manny was an inspiration,” Dewitt says. Manny taught Dewitt and his fellow New Hope residents not to say, “This isn’t fair.” He taught them to live life on life’s terms and keep moving forward without drugs or alcohol.

“Life will continue to have problems,” Manny told them. “Your families might not believe that you are really going to stay clean and sober. What you make of your life is up to you.”

Dewitt’s grown-up son, now 24 years old, is a case in point. “It took a long time for my son to understand my addictions and finally accept me as his dad again. Manny and the New Hope staff guided me to rebuild my relationship with my son when he was just fourteen. Now, we stay in touch, even though I travel across the country driving for a living. We are back on good terms and I am very happy about that.”

One of the required goals of the New Hope program is for clients to have, and be working toward, a chosen career path by the time they graduate. Dewitt chose over-the-road truck driving as his career path. He stayed at New Hope for six months. Shortly after graduating, he was offered a position at New Hope on the milieu staff. Here, he was able to share his life’s story and work directly with New Hope clients. “The best part of my job was sharing my story with the clients and letting them know that they could ‘make it’ too.” He says.

Dewitt went back to school and became a Certified Behavioral Health Tech. But, he still had the truck-driving career as his goal. In 2006, with New Hope’s assistance, he earned his CDL license to drive trucks and took a job driving locally while still working at New Hope. Recently, he passed the test and earned his Haz-Mat (Hazardous Materials) rating.

Dewitt and his wife, Mammie, are expecting a baby in December; and six months ago, Dewitt gave up his job at New Hope to take a higher-paying full-time position driving long distance. He has already made trips that have taken him through all 48 contiguous states. He thanks Manny Alvarez, and the good people at New Hope, for helping him achieve his career dream. Dewitt also speaks from the heart about Carmen Alvarez of New Hope. He says she is one of the kindest and most inspirational persons in his recovery.

When asked if there is one thing he would like to say to still-suffering substance abusers, he quickly replied, “I would like people to know that you have to make the decision to come here first. Then, you need to make the decision to stay. It doesn’t come overnight, but it is well worth it. It worked for me and life could not be better. I owe it all to the Lord above and to New Hope.”
Sterling Sutphin, I learned that he was a very esteemed member of the Ocean Reef Community, and a devoted husband and family man. He was a Harvard University graduate with a very successful career at Northern Trust, where he worked for 35 years until 1996 when he retired as Vice Chairman of the bank and was a Director.

Survivors include his wife, Candace Kleber Sutphin, son William, daughter Jennifer Mitchell (James), daughter-in-law Judy Sutphin, grandsons John and Bryce, granddaughters Caroline and Macy, and brothers Charles (Barbara), George (Mary), William (Gwen) and many nieces and nephews.

John was also involved in many other charitable organizations, but he really had a soft spot for New Hope. To put it in his son, William’s words, “My father believed in his heart in the work that New Hope does.”

We at New Hope are very grateful for all his contributions, and to his wife Candace, who asked that in lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made to New Hope C.O.R.P.S., 1020 North Krome Ave, Homestead Florida 33030.

I know that if I can do it, anybody can. New Hope helped saved my life. They taught me that I didn’t have to live the life that I was living, homeless, miserable and slowly committing suicide. I have learned to live with life on life’s terms.

I am very grateful for New Hope and all its staff and for the people in AA who have helped me tremendously. By the grace of God and living one day at a time, I will be picking up my 5-year medallion soon.

A five-year medallion represents 5 years without a drink or a drug. I am grateful to God, my recovery, my wife, my family, and for my life.

CARF Certification also allows New Hope to receive referrals from a broader base of mental health and medical professionals and facilities. Along with this, CARF Certification makes New Hope better able to obtain financial support from foundations and funding sources seeking quality services for the afflicted populations they are committed to helping.

CARF explains certification this way: “Whether you are seeking rehabilitation for a disability, treatment for addiction and substance abuse, home and community services, retirement living, or other health and human services, you can have confidence in your choice. Providers that meet our standards have demonstrated their commitment to being among the best available.”

CARF Certification also speaks to New Hope’s sustainability, resilience and dedication to serve the homeless, with mental health and/or substance abuse diagnoses whenever they reach out. The exhaustive CARF Survey Report attests to New Hope’s conformity to numerous and critical CARF standards such as organizational leadership; financial planning and management; and program services and structure. It took the dedication and commitment of each and every staff member at New Hope to attain CARF Certification.

As with any undertaking of this magnitude, we could not have done this alone. The Health Foundation of South Florida made an incredibly generous donation of $57,000 that went toward accreditation expenses, staff time, equipment, supplies, improvements to existing systems and staff training. Along with this, Michael Festinger, CEO of Better Way of Miami, Inc., a CARF accredited long-term treatment facility specializing in addiction and mental health, provided extensive consultation services through their expert on accreditation and CARF compliance, Jackie Ayers.

Of course, many people and organizations had a hand in our successful CARF application, reviews, and accreditation, and we thank each and every one of you.
John Faison and Beverly Duke fell in love when they were young. Beverly loved him; but he was using drugs and she decided not to follow him on the path of his addiction. They went their separate ways. For the next 35 years, they never saw each other even though they were living in the same small town of Perrine in South Miami-Dade County. She went on with her life while he continued his life filled with drugs, addictions, petty crimes, pain, health problems and homelessness. John explained that he began his drug addiction in 1969, when he was 16. He used drugs for 35 years and was homeless for 25 of those years. During that time he says, “I did whatever it took for me to get high. For the last 15 years of my addiction, I was incarcerated every year.”

He then went on to add that one day he realized he was dying and he cried out to God for help. “He led my feet to New Hope and miracles started to happen in my life. I was literally dying of congestive heart failure when I came to New Hope, but God heard my prayers and brought me to the right place.” John then added, “I did six months in the program. When I finished I was clean and sober, my health was much better and I had a job for the first time since I could remember.”

Shortly after he began working, Beverly coincidently visited his workplace, where she was a client, and they saw each other for the first time in 35 years. They began to see each other again and eventually got engaged and married. They were married on December 23, 2014. “It has been a true blessing ever since. We keep no secrets from each other. All we do is laugh and have a good time. We both attend church regularly. It is like the Bible says ‘Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all things shall be added unto thee.’ Once I got clean, God opened all doors for me. I consider myself blessed; I believe that God gave me a second chance when he brought me to New Hope. It was there that my life began to change.”
This year’s donors are listed in the following categories:

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- Dia S. Weil
- Healey Charitable Fund
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- Catherine & Anthony J. Medaglia
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### $40,000 to $60,000
- The Protestant Foundation
- Health Foundation of South Florida

### $10,000 to $20,000
- Batchelor Foundation
- John and Candace Sutfin

### $2,500 to $5,000
- SORDSF Foundation
- Christ Fellowship Church
- Gail & Joyce Guyton
- The Charles Eleanor Trust
- TWLOHA, Inc.
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- Animal Management Services Ohio
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To make a donation, kindly contact Stephen Alvarez at:
(786) 243-1003 or donate online at www.newhopecorp.org

New Hope CORPS’ Staff—Left to Right: Isabel Cabrera, Alex Nuñez, Herbert Jackson, Dr. Margaret Reeves, Carmen Alvarez, Stephen Alvarez, Isabel Mesa, Donald Hall, John Nickell, Cedric Wiggins. Judith Lemus, Maritza Carvajal, Miguel Alfaro, Arthur Ellison, Hermin Mallett and Lester Delgado.

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