impossible choices
Letter from our CHAIRMAN & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We bring you greetings with our hearts full of gratitude for the hundreds of you who helped make 2019 such an amazing year for Bluffton Self Help and those we serve. As you’ll read on the following pages, we’ve met the needs for a record number of neighbors by providing food, clothing, emergency financial assistance, career counseling and placement assistance, educational opportunities, holiday meals, Christmas toys and more.

It is the stories of these neighbors in need that touch our hearts and fill us with pride. The more than 200 volunteers, hundreds of donors, dedicated staff and Board of Directors providing ongoing operational and organizational leadership, making our work possible.

The stories included in this report are just a small sample of the many successes we’ve enjoyed in 2019. It is the lives we touch, the hope we spark, and problems we solve that make Bluffton Self Help vital to our community. And, it is your continued support that makes everything we do possible.

In the spirit of our Founder, Mrs. Ida Martin, we’re never satisfied with our work for long before we begin to look to the future to find ways we can do more. The new year brings with it much to look forward to and get excited about. The new programs and plans we will begin sharing with you over the next few months will expand Bluffton Self Help’s role in the community beyond anything we could have imagined just a few years ago.

Despite the strong economy that most of us are enjoying, the needs of our community have never been greater. The low-income and economically vulnerable in our community are just a single emergency away from financial collapse. The assistance they receive from the programs you help provide make all the difference in the world to them.

On behalf of our staff, board, volunteers, and most importantly, the neighbors we serve—THANK YOU for a great 2019. We look forward to your continued support into the new year.

Doug Adamson, Chairman
Kimberly Hall, Executive Director

In 1987, Mrs. Ida Martin founded Bluffton Self Help with a simple idea in mind—neighbors helping neighbors.

Bluffton Self Help exists in order to help our neighbors in need of food, clothing, educational and financial assistance, and to provide programs that promote self-worth, dignity and create a pathway to personal success.
YOUR Investment AT WORK

WELLNESS FOOD PANTRY
336,229 meals
Because no one should go to bed hungry.

CONFIDENCE CLOTHING CLOSET
671 households
Because every neighbor deserves to feel confident.

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
227 families
Because no family should have to choose between medical care and staying warm.

EDUCATION & RESOURCE CENTER
467 neighbors
Because learning opens the door to opportunity and success.

TOY SHOP
2,617 children
Because to a family in need, a toy is so much more than a gift under the tree.

TEACHER SUPPLY DRIVE
10 local schools
Because an education can brighten the pages of a child’s story.
Because a neighbor should never have to choose between medical care and food.

Molly came to Bluffton Self Help not knowing where else to turn. She had separated from bad domestic situation and was working to put the pieces together. She secured a new job, but was struggling with bills. When she saw all the fresh food and produce she knew she could provide healthy, fresh food for her and her son while she continued to build her life. Although a Wellness Food Pantry, Molly said how much just a cupcake meant to her son. It wasn’t something they would splurge on, and one Wednesday evening they were each having a bad day. Molly selected a pack of 3 cupcakes and her and her son went home and enjoyed the sweet treat. She said it was the first treat they had in months.

After a year, we saw Molly again, not at our Food Pantry, but at our annual event. She said how grateful she was to be able to provide for her and her son and had secured a great job as a nurse and was in a new healthy relationship. She remembered that Wednesday night and the hugs from staff and volunteers and that sweet treat she shared with her son.

336,229 meals provided to families in need

987 households made 16,048 visits to shop for groceries

Neighbors in need are able to shop twice a week for fresh produce, dairy, protein, baked goods and non-perishable food in our Wellness Food Pantry.
CONFIDENCE Clothing Closet

Because a neighbor should never have to choose between clothing for their family and keeping the utilities on.

Unable to work for over a month due to a medical issue, Patricia took advantage of this time and studied for her real estate license. Patricia was incredibly proud when she passed her exam. Now she was in need of professional clothing to compliment her new career. The Confidence Clothing Closet provided her with clothing for a fresh start. Patricia has found success and loves the flexibility she now has for her children.

We provide clothing through our Confidence Clothing Closet, as well as other essentials such as coats, toiletries, diapers, wipes and formula. Meeting these basic needs allows our neighbors to stretch their budget and focus on achieving their financial goals.

671 HOUSEHOLDS were able to shop for 68,870 clothing items valued at $261,619

EMERGENCY Financial Assistance

Because a neighbor should never have to choose between reliable transportation and a safe place to sleep.

Samantha, a single mother with three small children, worked a full time job. Her income, approximately $75 more than her monthly expenses, was always enough to get by until her car broke down. Needing her car to get to work and to take care of her family, she had no choice but to get it fixed. The expense of her car repair and the loss of a day’s work made her fall behind in her monthly bills. Samantha turned to our Emergency Financial Assistance program and was approved to receive rental assistance. Samantha was able to keep her job and stay on budget without facing eviction or having her utilities shut off.

Hundreds of families each year are able to get through a difficult time with Emergency Financial Assistance ensuring critical needs are met, many times preventing eviction that often leads to homelessness. The prevention of late fees, losing a job, eviction or falling behind allows our neighbors in need to focus on moving forward instead of catching up.

ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION

- 31% | Utilities
- 2% | Repair/Maintenance/Other
- 4% | Medical/Dental
- 59% | Rent/Mortgage
- 4% | Education
Nancy has worked for the same company for the last 5 years. She always receives above average ratings on her annual reviews and when a management position opened in her company, Nancy applied. She was confident it would be offered to her. Her supervisor informed her that although she was the best candidate for the position, she would not be offered it because Nancy did not finish high school. Nancy came to the BSH Education & Resource Center (ERC) and utilized the free GED preparation services. Nancy is determined she will never be passed up for a promotion again!

Our Education & Resource Center, open to all Beaufort County residents, celebrated many successes in its first year. We truly brought the community together to provide essential services to support our neighbors in reaching their full potential. We partnered with Beaufort Adult Education to provide free GED classes, local companies to hold hiring events, and other organizations and individuals to provide classes, workshops and job skill training- all helping neighbors achieve their personal and financial goals.

“
I would not have made it without the kindness and generosity of Bluffton Self Help. You kept me from eviction and put food on the table for myself and my disabled nephew.

-BSH Client

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>153</th>
<th>938</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Job Searches</td>
<td>ERC Visits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>257</th>
<th>195</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GED Students</td>
<td>Workshop Participants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because a neighbor should never have to choose between paying rent and earning an education.

PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

BREAKING the cycle of poverty through EDUCATION.
Red Apron VOLUNTEERS

Our Red Apron volunteers dedicate hours of their time to make the programs at Bluffton Self Help possible. We benefit from regular volunteers who run our Wellness Food Pantry and Confidence Clothing Closet, teach classes and workshops, tutor, interview Emergency Financial Assistant applicants, support staff with administrative duties and events and help with cleaning and improving our facilities.

222 VOLUNTEERS donated 41,103 hours of their time valued at $1,045,249

2019 Volunteer of the YEAR | Rich Swartzwelder

People with great passion can make the IMPOSSIBLE happen.
2,617 children in 4 counties woke up to 23,553 toys under the tree provided by our generous community through our Holiday Toy Shop.

Last year, we received your wonderful gifts and I was really grateful. I never received any help ever and this was really emotional and overwhelming last year. Someday, I will be able to donate to you and make someone’s Christmas just as merry as ours was.” - BSH Client

1,064 families received 32,736 pounds of holiday meals including more than 950 turkeys, chickens and hams for Easter, Thanksgiving and December holidays, helping to alleviate stress and bring families together around the table.

More than 10 local schools received school supplies to help teachers create an environment for children to learn without having to pay out of their own pocket.

Bluffton Self Help partnered with 3 schools to launch our Bluffton area School Snack Closet program to help children stay energized and focused through the school day.
On Friday, October 18th, Bluffton Self Help celebrated our community’s generous support for our neighbors in need by hosting our Third Annual Red Apron Sips & Seafood Party, held in conjunction with the Historic Bluffton Arts & Seafood Festival. More than 280 guests sipped cocktails and enjoyed delicious food under the stars at the beautiful and historic Heyward House - all to raise critical funds to further our mission.

www.sipsandseafood.com
In recognition of neighbors helping neighbors | 2019 ANNUAL DONORS

Thank you all so very much. Your kindness and generosity have alleviated an extremely difficult health issue.

-BSH Client

$50,000 +
Community Foundation of the Lowcountry
Ike and Letty Evans
on behalf of Doug and Ronda Adamson
George T. Lewis Jr. Foundation

$20,000 - $49,999
Anonymous
Anonymous
Beaufort County

$10,000 - $19,999
Doug and Ronda Adamson
The Bargain Box
Berkeley Hall Charitable Foundation
Coastal Community Foundation of SC
David and Sue Fleiner
Ginn Family Foundation
Palmetto Electric Trust
Neil and Carol Anne Rasmussen
Charlie and Dianne Russ
Wexford Plantation Charitable Foundation
Jeff and Laurie Zapp

$5,000 - $9,999
Anonymous
Belfair 1811 Charitable Fund
David and Beth Brush
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
Dr. Durwood and Gloria Almkuist
Paul and Nancy Fisher
Charles and Schuyler Hinnant
Ed and Mary Leary
Live Oak Christian Church
Lowcountry Community Church
Palmetto Bluff
SC Roadrunners Motorcycle
Gary Wilcox and Cynthia Smith
Kevin Sevier State Farm Agency
Sisters of Charity Foundation of SC
Watterson Family Foundation

$2,500 - $4,999
Barbers of the Lowcountry, Inc.
Bluffton Family Chiropractic
Bridge Bowl
Burr & Forman LLP
Marc and Sharon Bigley
Christopher and Diane Bullock
Coastal States Wealth Management
of Raymond James
James and Carole Cuff
Richard and Karen Dale
Friends of Callawassie Island
Richard and Eileen Fontaine
Hampton Lake Tiger Bass Race Charitable Fund
ITW
Kroger
James and Sharon Mattei
George and Rebecca McCarthy
Tom and Kay Mills
Nix Construction Co.
William and Maureen Oberdorf
Pearce Scott Architects
Publix Super Markets Charities
RS Andrews
Ben and Diane Robinson
Saint Andrew By The Sea
Thomas W. Smith
Nancy Sypniewski
St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
Joel and Marsha Taylor
Tenet Health
Wells Fargo Foundation
Michael and Kelli Ventling
Wal*Mart
Billy and Brenda Watterson

$1,000 - $2,499
Anonymous
James and Diane Berlier

Micki Boan
Bolton Family Foundation
Morgan and Allison Bonner
Peter and Suzanne Bromley
Thomas and Diane Bronzert
William and Marianne Boyd
Roy and Inca Carpenter
James and Kathy Casson
Carolina Dreamers
Charles Schwab
Classic Home Mortgage
Coastal Carolina Medical Center
Congregation Beth Yam
Stan and Cindy Dennis
David and Cheri Dowdall
Dude's Bike Run / Jim Moore
AJ and Mary Falvo
Susan Farnham
William Faucett
Jeff and Ashley Feaster
David and Kim Furman
Michael and Teresa Gannon
Dr. Walter and Dixie Gilbert, Jr.
Vivian Green
Richard and Rebecca Harris
Sybil Harvey
Heritage Classic Foundation
David and Carol Hevey
Hilton Head Island Shag Club
Reid and Venus Holland
Jackie Hovan
John and Marie James
Bob and Joan Koenig
Brenda Lang
Ken and Barb Louis
Laura Lutz / Burn Boot Camp Bluffton
Henry Martin
David and Donale McColloch
Bruce and Marilyn McPherson
Neil and JC Milner
Adrian and Elaine Morris
Linda Morrow
Neighbors helping neighbors make impossible choices, POSSIBLE.

Brian Neumann / Mortgage Network
Wayne and Katie Murphy
Charles and Patricia Murphy
Vernetta Nelson
Network for Good
Gilbert and Sandra O’Connell
Paul Mathias Arthur and Kathy O’Neill
Palmetto Electric Cooperative
Al and Judith Panu
John and Robin Pickens
Fran Raus
Rich and Jamie Reed
Terrance and Jacqueline Reynolds
Rotary Club of Hilton Head Island
Rotary Club of Okatie
Robert and Diana Sanders
Pearce and Maggie Scott
Sew What Stitches & Crafts
South State Bank
St. Francis Thrift Shop
St. Lukes Methodist Church
St. Peter’s Catholic Church
Scott Songer and Stephanie Santos
Temple Oseh Shalom
Gene and Gail Stephens
The Church Mouse
William and Caroline Tye
Josh and Mandy Walters
Charlie and Susan Wetmore
Linnea Wilson

Bluffton United Methodist Mens Club
Jonathan and Sam Boyd
Ron Bruno
Brian Cameron
Campbell Chapel AME Church
Joe and Patricia Cannarozzi
Charter One Realty
Larry and Brenda DeForest
Richard and Linda Delcore
Eugene Dolan
Brad and Angela Ellis
Ben and Tracy Ferguson
Tom and Holly Fish
Joseph and Alice Fraser
Michael and Barbara Garrigan
Fred and Irvine Gaskin
Sue Gassner
Stuart Gates
Evan Goodwin
Amy Graybill
Harold and Mary Hannan
Tom and Karen Harvey
Hilton Head Area Assoc of Realtors
Richard and Nancy Hoff
Italian American Club of Hilton Head Island
Hank Johnston
Paul and Marilyn Jones
Junior League of Savannah/HHI Sustainers
John Kenney
Craig Knoll
Dennis and Linda Lee
Dr. Jessica Rockwell and Hampton Long
Joseph and Doris Loveless
Shawn Mahoney
Jacob and Ida Martin
Karim Massey
Josh and Jennifer Matthews
Michael McCurdy
Marc and Diana McDougall
James and Madge McElvey
Michael and Karen McGrath

Eileen McHenry
J. McLaughlin
Howard and Marianna Mitnick
Irene Miller
Microsoft
Walter and Darlene Nester
Netflix
Bob and Karen Norwood
Cynthia Nye
Robert and Bethia Newmarker
PJ O’Neil
Okatie Creek Bridge Club
Overman Siegel Charitable Gift Fund
Palmetto Wire
Shannon Provenzano
Patricia Ryan
Sa Ming Foundation
Bill and Elizabeth Sauter
Richard and Terri Savoury
Thomas and Nancy Schloss
Wendy and Tony Schlegel
Fred and Carol Siegel
Margaret Skonberg
Don Smith
Angela Sotiropoulos
South Atlantic Bank
Richard Spruce
John and Lisa Sulka
Sun City Tennis Association
The Haven Craft Club
Town of Bluffton
William and Shaaron Thomas
Leddy and Melanie Vanderpool
Thomas and Susan Vollmuth
Dick and Lucee Vollmuth
Heidi Waller
Martha Whitley
William Younis
Roger and Sandy Yoder

$500 - $999
Pete and Susan Albero
Nigel and Suzanne Allen
Sondra and Paul Ammeen
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Arnold
Roger and Jill Baim
Bryan and Jennifer Baker
Catherine Bell
Charles and Edythe Birkett

Microsoft
Walter and Darlene Nester
Netflix
Bob and Karen Norwood
Cynthia Nye
Robert and Bethia Newmarker
PJ O’Neil
Okatie Creek Bridge Club
Overman Siegel Charitable Gift Fund
Palmetto Wire
Shannon Provenzano
Patricia Ryan
Sa Ming Foundation
Bill and Elizabeth Sauter
Richard and Terri Savoury
Thomas and Nancy Schloss
Wendy and Tony Schlegel
Fred and Carol Siegel
Margaret Skonberg
Don Smith
Angela Sotiropoulos
South Atlantic Bank
Richard Spruce
John and Lisa Sulka
Sun City Tennis Association
The Haven Craft Club
Town of Bluffton
William and Shaaron Thomas
Leddy and Melanie Vanderpool
Thomas and Susan Vollmuth
Dick and Lucee Vollmuth
Heidi Waller
Martha Whitley
William Younis
Roger and Sandy Yoder
Get INVOLVED

DONATE
We rely on donations from our community to further our mission.

DONATE ONLINE
blufftonselfhelp.org/donate

DONATE BY MAIL
PO Box 2420 | Bluffton, SC 29910

DONATE GOODS
Drop-off donations Monday-Friday 10am-4pm
Visit blufftonselfhelp.org/host-a-drive-or-event to learn more.

VOLUNTEER
Volunteers make the day-to-day operations of Bluffton Self Help possible. We offer volunteer opportunities for individuals, groups and children.

Visit blufftonselfhelp.org/volunteer for more information.

2019 AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

MAILING ADDRESS
PO BOX 2420 | Bluffton, SC 29910

STREET ADDRESS
39 Sheridan Park Circle Suite #10 | Bluffton, SC 29910

info@blufftonselfhelp.org
843.757.8000
www.blufftonselfhelp.org