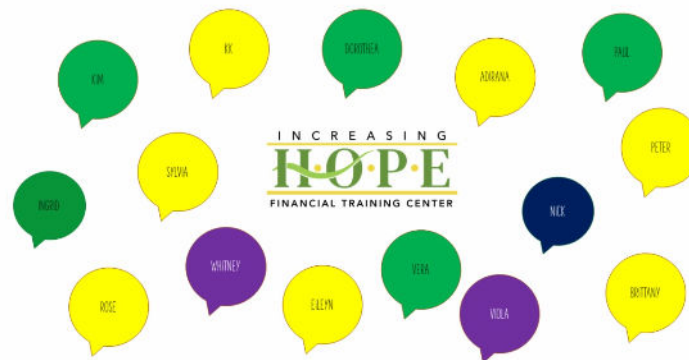


Direct Deposits

The Financial Training Center's e-Newsletter

WE ARE INCREASING HOPE!



One of the many things learned through the COVID-19 experience is how important and valuable employees are to any organization. We must never lose sight of the role we play in the success of an organization.

This past week, Increasing H.O.P.E held an employee appreciation celebration for staff members and in-house volunteers. These individuals are the reason that we have been able to make an impact with clients in our community by serving them with compassion, resolve, and excellence.

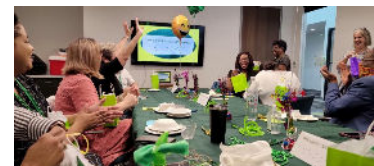
Increasing H.O.P.E is always ready to serve you.



Special thanks to our client Brandon Rivers Catering for the amazing spread of food for our event. [Click for his website](#)



Executive Director Dorothea Bernique recognizes each staff member and his/her contribution to the agency.



Yay for gifts!

Only six weeks left to file your taxes



At Increasing H.O.P.E., we host the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which provides **FREE** tax preparation services for low to moderate income individuals and families in the Lowcountry. So far this year we have served 200 people and facilitated refunds totalling over \$270,000.

We are taking calls for appointments and they are filling up quickly. Appointments are available on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 5PM to 8PM at our location in the Opportunity Center, located at 8570 Rivers Avenue, in North Charleston. Walk-ins are not accepted. Give us a call at 843-225-4343 to schedule your appointment.

AmeriCorps Week is March 12th - 18th

History: During AmeriCorps Week we recognize the commitment of the millions of Americans who have chosen to serve their country through AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors and encourage others to follow in their footsteps of service.

The second full week of March, the country recognizes and gives thanks to those members and volunteers who raise their hands to help when the need arises. They are often the first on the ground and last to leave—making sure to leave their projects better than they found them.

AmeriCorps engages 200,000 Americans each year in sustained, results-driven service through our AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs. Members and volunteers continue to help communities manage COVID-19 response, ensure students stay on track to graduate, combat hunger and homelessness, respond to natural disasters, fight the opioid epidemic, help seniors live independently, support veterans and military families, and much more. *(AmeriCorps Newsroom)

Increasing H.O.P.E. Financial Training Center is proud to be a participant in the AmeriCorps Seniors Demonstration Project. We are actively recruiting volunteers, 55 yrs of age and up, who in exchange for their valuable life skills, might be eligible for a modest stipend. If you have a passion to help others learn about financial literacy or job coaching, please reach out us today! Our next AmeriCorps Volunteer Orientations are on April 19, and April 26. Please email eileyn@increasinghope.org for an AmeriCorps Seniors application, today!

The I-HOPE Testimony Corner

For the staff here at Increasing H.O.P.E., making an impact in the lives of the people we serve is the most rewarding part of what we do. This section is dedicated to sharing some of the feedback that we have received about the work and impact we are making in our community, one person, one family, and one business at a time.



Ray Enverga - longtime VITA tax client

"I would like to commend the services of the Increasing H.O.P.E staff whose dedicated service to SC folks like myself are fully appreciated.

Tax preparations are professionally done and I for one am very grateful for all these years (8) for their services. Thank you Paul and John whom I met since their days at the Remount Road office.

The other staff members I met on the 27th Of February, Rhonda and Laura, are quite amicable and informative for all the clients needing their help. God bless you guys."

Has Increasing H.O.P.E helped you or your family?

If you have benefited from one of our services, we would love to hear from you. We are collecting success stories that we can share on our website and via social media to inspire others. If you have an encouraging word to share, please take a moment to click the link and fill out the form.

Submit your story

Upcoming Events



Entrepreneurship Orientation

Thursday, March 9th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Entrepreneur Orientation is an opportunity for community members and clients to learn about our one stop financial training agency which provides financial and business services to individuals and entrepreneurs. Small business owners, non-profit agencies, and individuals considering starting a business are especially encouraged to attend.

Register here



Budgeting 101 - Get More Bank for Your Buck

Tuesday, March 21st from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Take control of your money with Budgeting 101!

Make budgeting work for you to make your dreams a reality. And you know what those dreams start with? Money, or at least the peace and financial freedom that you have from from taking control of your finances.

Register here



The transformational event you've been waiting for is here!

Motivate Her SC
CHARLESTON | 2023

Encouraging, inspiring and motivating women in business!

Motivate Her SC 2023 conference

Saturday, March 25th 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Your business possibilities are limitless and so are our session offerings at Motivate Her SC 2023 conference! You'll have the opportunity to attend a variety of sessions including topics on:

- Leadership skills
- Establishing yourself as a minority business owner
- Business certifications

Registration is \$199.00.

Register here



CITY OF CHARLESTON FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOPS

WED. MARCH 8

Money Management

Hear from the Experts about effective budget and savings strategies and how to better manage your finances.



WED. MARCH 15

Build Your Credit

Learn how to get and stay on track so you have the credit score you need to achieve your goals!



WED. MARCH 22

Homeownership 101

Set yourself up for success in purchasing a home. Learn how to navigate the process.



Arthur Christopher Community Center
265 Fishburne Street
6:00-8:00PM

DINNER PROVIDED
ALL ATTENDEES WILL RECEIVE
A \$100 GIFT CARD

Space is limited to 30 participants!

Certified financial trainers will provide a 3-part workshop series to help residents increase their financial stability and build towards homeownership. Preference given to city of Charleston residents of zip codes 29403, 29405.

Register here: bit.ly/fin_emp_workshop



For more information please call
Mindy Sturm at (843)956-4190

[VIEW ALL UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

Support Increasing H.O.P.E

Donate Now

Supporting us means a return on your investment (ROI) in the form of a community that is more financially stable and knows how to grow — meaning less poverty, better credit, and increased economic benefits through homeownership and employment.

[Donate Here](#)

Increasing H.O.P.E | 8570 Rivers Avenue, Suite 120, North Charleston, SC 29406

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