



# Deeper Dive

Community Updates from the HHI Deep Well Project

LIVABLE HOUSING



Livable Housing team builds new deck

## All Hands on Deck

The **Livable Housing** program at Deep Well meets the immediate needs of neighbors who may not have the financial resources to make the necessary repairs to keep their homes safe and functioning properly.

**Chris Shively** and the skilled and dedicated volunteers of the Livable Housing team have made significant improvements in our neighbors' homes, and their daily lives.

"When I moved to Hilton Head Island, I wanted to find a place where I could give back to my community," Chris said. "A few of our services at Livable Housing include general plumbing and electrical repairs, carpentry and floor repairs, exterior wood and stair repair/replacement. We also assist our clients with access ramps and safety railings. There doesn't seem to be much we won't take a run at."

"Our team is always open to new skilled volunteers," said Chris. "I am blessed to be connected with Deep Well, an organization that strives to meet the needs of our community."



Wednesday night Circles gathering

# DO YOU COOK?

**Do you have a connection with someone who owns a restaurant? Or possibly a group of friends who want to make a meaningful impact? A church or civic group that would gather together to create a meal? **The Deep Well Circles Program** could use your help.**

**Circles** is designed to inspire and equip our community to reduce poverty, remove barriers, and foster self-sufficiency.

At each weekly meeting, we gather volunteers to support low-income families in our Circles program. These intentional relationships that we're creating across income lines are key to building self-sufficiency within a family, as well as creating a quality workforce.

Sharing a weekly meal together is an integral part of the Circles program—and also our biggest logistical challenge. We are asking our local community to help us provide a dinner for our Circles families and volunteers. For more information, call Karen Bittman at 814-282-3089.

# welcome

## New DW Staffer!

**Gabrielle Husband**, Master of Social Work, joins Deep Well with a passion for helping others. She brings experience in group facilitation, family intervention, and school counseling. We are confident Gabrielle will make exceptional contributions to the **Circles** initiative, allowing Deep Well to scale this self-sufficiency program to a wider base of families. Gabrielle has displayed compassion and expertise throughout her extensive work with children and families, and collaborating with multiple service providers.



## Hablas español?

We're always looking for Spanish speaking volunteers to help in the office or in our Circles Program. If you have a few hours a week to spare, and would enjoy interfacing with our Hispanic neighbors, please contact Lori Alexander, our volunteer coordinator at [volunteer@deepwellproject.org](mailto:volunteer@deepwellproject.org) or call 843-785-2849

*muchas gracias*

## Direct Assessment

Almost halfway through 2024, our year is one for the records books:

- In the first four months, 100 families requested help with home repairs.
- The Food Pantry is serving 700-800 people every month, but thanks to food drives and donors, Deep Well is only spending about \$12,000/month for the \$50,000+ worth of food we're deploying every 30 days.
- Housing assistance through emergency rent/mortgage payments is high.

Our dedicated volunteers, generous donors and grants have enabled Deep Well to help our neighbors in need. We are grateful for this partial list of specific program grants:

Berkeley Hall Charitable Foundation, Hosts4Community, Church Mouse Thrift Shop, Wexford Charitable Foundation, Clark Family Foundation, Palmetto Dunes Cares, Colleton River Charitable Foundation, Frederick and Doris Bristol Foundation, TJX Foundation, United Way of the Lowcountry, Heritage Classic Foundation.

Grants for the Circles program have been received from Hilton Head Presbyterian Church, Ward Foundation, Ekedahl Foundation, Hendrickson Family Foundation.

**And, on a very bright note: Deep Well's Circles program has welcomed a new group of families into our "circle."**



[message from Director, Sandy Gillis]