



It is with a heart full of gratitude that I write this thank you today. Our "Together We Rise" event was a huge success in large part to your support.

So many heartfelt "thank you's" and tears of gratitude from the attendees. Some folks are still living in their cars or doubling up with family and friends. Their homes and apartments were destroyed due to Helene and Milton. We heard so many heart-breaking stories and will be processing them for weeks to come.

We had 672 adult residents who received resources, were fed and had a smile on their face, at least for a little while. Your participation allowed us to give out over \$19,000 to residents in gift cards to Target, Walmart and Publix grocery stores, 1,000 meals from food trucks were provided for attendees and their families. They were also offered baby and adult diapers, baby formula, baby wipes and 1,000 cases of water. Attendees were also able to check on their FEMA status or make application due to your team and their kind and compassionate help. The American Red Cross provided water and information and applications for financial aid.

It was such an uplifting event. Our motto at HEA is "The work we do isn't hard work . . . It's HEART work.

Grateful for you!

**Sylvia A. Alvarez**  
**Executive Director**  
***Housing and Education Alliance, Inc.***  
***PBS/WEDU Non Profit of the Year***  
***Tampa Bay Business Journal Woman of the Year***  
***Tampa Bay Hispanic Chamber Non Profit of the Year***