



**Image: Megan and her daughter, Rachel S. O'Hara, Herald Tribune
From a Herald-Tribune series on dental care written by Maggie Clark.**

There is a way to help the person begging at the corner: Donate to Turning Points!

Families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population.

My name is Susan Michael Barrett. I wonder if you're like me and wonder how to help people who are homeless or near homeless, or people with low incomes get a supportive boost. There is a way to help! Instead of handing money to the person on the street, tell your business family about Turning Points in Manatee County.

This Silver Star Charitable Organization in our town helps these individuals and our town* by providing hot meals EVERYDAY, a food pantry, clothing, shoes, showers, laundry, VA services, food stamps, jobs, transitional services for those with eviction notices or those requesting rental assistance, and much more.

AND, stunning, but true, their Medical and Dental Center offers free dental and medical services to homeless and low-income clients who have no health insurance and meet eligibility requirements.

**Would you and your business family consider a gift to Turning Points?
Donate here - <http://tpmanatee.org>**

*Did you know? "Turning Points can now quantify its value to the community. South Florida's Muma College of Business **study finds Turning Points worth more than \$43 million to Manatee County...Turning Points spares Manatee \$22 million—saved in taxpayer money from medical and dental treatment at the Bill Galvano One Stop Dental Center instead of hospital emergency rooms and inpatient hospitalization**, plus the high cost of incarceration (the average stay of a homeless individual behind bars is 40 days, a state study found). Those are all huge expenses, all at the heart of the indigent care crisis haunting Manatee County government and thus taxpayers. Taxpayers save \$2,800 a day on each and every ER visit a day." (*Bradenton Herald*).