



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WREC and Community Partners Build Hope Through Vincent House Pasco Homes

March 30, 2026 — Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative (WREC) proudly hosted Vincent House Pasco, Gus Bilirakis, state and local elected officials, county commissioners, and community members to celebrate a meaningful milestone—the dedication of the first homes in a new supportive housing community for individuals living with mental illness.

Held in Hudson, the ceremony marked the completion of the first two homes in what will become a 15-home neighborhood focused on providing safe, stable, and affordable housing for those on their path to recovery and independence.

This achievement reflects years of dedication and vision—especially from WREC’s General Manager, who also serves as President on the Vincent House board. Through his longstanding leadership, advocacy, and commitment to the mission, this project moved from an idea to a life-changing reality. His continued support has been instrumental in bringing partners together, championing the need for supportive housing, and helping ensure that individuals facing mental illness have access to a stable place to call home. Without his unwavering dedication, this milestone would not have been possible.

WREC extends its sincere gratitude to everyone who attended and supported the event, with special thanks to Congressman Bilirakis, state and local elected officials, county commissioners, WREC board members, and community partners who continue to stand behind this important initiative. The strong turnout and shared enthusiasm underscored a powerful message—when a community comes together, meaningful change happens.

“This project is a true testament to what can be accomplished when people unite around a common purpose,” David Lambert shared. “It’s about neighbors helping neighbors and creating opportunities for individuals to build a successful and independent future.”

The Vincent House model provides a unique, non-clinical environment where individuals build relationships, gain job skills, and become part of a supportive community. These new homes expand that mission—offering residents not only affordability, with rent set at 30% of income, but also stability and a renewed sense of belonging.

For many members, the impact is profound. Access to safe housing removes one of the biggest barriers to recovery, allowing individuals to focus on employment, personal growth, and long-term success. As the development continues to grow, Vincent House Pasco will expand its reach—helping more individuals avoid housing insecurity and move toward a brighter future.

WREC is honored to stand alongside Vincent House and its partners in supporting this transformational effort and remains committed to investing in initiatives that strengthen the communities it serves.

About Vincent House:

Vincent House's mission is to assist, promote, and celebrate individuals as they improve their social and vocational skills, offering a path of recovery and hope for those with mental illness. Through the Work Ordered Day, members work alongside staff during typical working hours, developing essential skills for successful recovery. The Clubhouses are restorative communities that emphasize the power of work and relationship building in the recovery process.

About Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc. (WREC):

Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a not-for-profit electric cooperative serving over 280,000 homes and businesses in Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Polk, and Sumter counties since 1947. WREC is dedicated to providing safe and resilient energy and services at the best possible value to its members while actively contributing to the communities it serves.

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Below: WREC General Manager David Lambert joins Congressman Gus Bilirakis for the ribbon cutting



Below: The first homes in a new supportive housing community for individuals living with mental illness



Below: WREC General Manager, WREC board members, state and local officials, county commissioners and community partners



Below: WREC employees, Board Members and Vincent House Co-Founders, Elliott and Dianne Steele

