

BEHIND THE DOVE



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM DISMAS HOUSE
FALL 2021



Even though we couldn't be together in person, we saw how TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK! Thanks to your generous support, we raised over \$175K for Dismas House. Donations raised during the one-hour event will fund Dismas House's mission of changing lives through our Four Pillars of Programming - Basic Needs, Health & Well-Being, Life Skills and Legal Support.

If you missed the luncheon, you can watch the encore on our website or our YouTube page.

FORGIVENESS LUNCHEON REWIND



We were grateful to have our keynote speaker, Dr. Remington Richardson, share his story as the eldest son of two formerly incarcerated parents. He was featured in *TIME*, a 2020 documentary that follows his mother, Sibil Fox Richardson (aka Fox Rich), as she fought for the release of his father, Rob, who received a 60-year prison sentence at the notorious Louisiana State Penitentiary known as Angola. Dr. Richardson, a recent graduate of Nashville's Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry, is the couple's eldest son of six and recently began his postdoctoral orthodontic residency at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Help us reach our goal of \$250K! Please make your generous gift at dismasinc.kindful.com.

FORGIVENESS LUNCHEON REWIND



Former resident Edward and Dismas House staff



Speakers Dr. Remington Richardson and Edward surrounded by (l to r) Brian & Karen Vingelen, Clarke Byard, emcee Lelan Statom, Blair & Kelley Durham, Dawn Mason, CEO Kay Kretsch and Damon Hininger

Speakers Dr. Remington Richardson and Edward share a laugh



Keynote speaker Dr. Remington Richardson shares his story with the Forgiveness Luncheon audience



Co-chairs Blair Durham and Brian Vingelen chat before the luncheon



Emcee Lelan Statom kicks off the Forgiveness Luncheon



Please scan the QR code to watch the video encore of the 2021 Forgiveness Luncheon!

LIGHTS. CAMERA. ACTION!

CEO Kay Kretsch and two Dismas residents made their television debuts recently. The trio were guests on The Plus Side of Nashville show which aired all through the month of September on NewsChannel5+.

Kretsch shared details about our move to the Dismas House 2.0 campus as well as the Forgiveness Luncheon with host Tuwanda Coleman. Residents De'Angelo and Eddie were also interviewed and shared insights on life at Dismas House, as well as their goals after graduating the program.



Eddie when asked what he would tell other men thinking about applying to live at Dismas House. "I would say go for it. Make a goal for yourself and follow it. This place right here has helped me accomplish so many goals that I set in prison. This is the first time I've ever made goals for myself. These people here, they really care about you and they want the best. Give this place a chance."

OUT AND ABOUT

For some our residents who are not natives of Nashville, learning about and having access to the events happening around town can be a challenge. Ticket prices, transportation to and from the event, and parking can all be cost prohibitive.



Thanks to the generous support of community partners, Dismas House has been able to share some of these experiences with our residents. They have been able to go indoor rock climbing at CLIMB Nashville, many for the first time, and cheer for the Nashville Sounds and the TN Titans.

The outings help build community among residents as well as reinforce lessons about resiliency, growth and work ethic.

SPECIAL DEDICATION

It's not every day there is an opportunity to celebrate those who have given so much of their time, talent and treasure to an organization for such much of their lives.

Dismas House was grateful to honor one of its longest standing volunteers, Jeff Lynch, with a well-deserved surprise. The administrative suite on level one of Dismas House 2.0 was named in his honor in appreciation for his long standing commitment dating back to his time as an undergraduate student at Vanderbilt.



During the ceremony, Jeff told the heart-warming story of how he came to first be a volunteer at Dismas House. He was paired with a returning citizen to serve as a mentor but he felt that he was the one doing all the learning during their time together. The experience left an indelible mark on Jeff and he has continued to be a supporter of Dismas House ever since that experience decades ago.

On hand to congratulate Jeff Lynch were (l to r) John Rogers, CEO Kay Kretsch, Patrick Theobald, Tom Stearns and Board Chair Steve Cook.

Chef Sean Brock, of Husk restaurant fame in downtown Nashville, planned an opening of both a fine dining, contemporary concept as well as an a la carte option built around rustic flavors of his family's Appalachian roots. However, the pandemic forced every industry to pivot, including restaurants.

FEAST FROM THE EAST



Rather than just close its doors and wait until indoor seating capacity limits expanded in Nashville, new eatery Audrey, located in the Cleveland Park area of East Nashville, took a different approach.

The restaurant decided to help the community by providing free meals to those in need and now provides 2,000 free meals per week to non-profits, including Dismas House. Thanks to the outstanding culinary skills and generosity of Chef Ben Tyson at Audrey, our residents enjoy a gourmet meal twice a week. Audrey is set to open its doors in the Fall.



Catch up on the work of Dismas House over the last year!
Scan the QR code to view our Annual Report

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FATHER JACK HICKEY CIRCLE OF GRACE RECEPTION

For the first time since moving into Dismas House 2.0, we were finally able to open the doors to some of our biggest supporters, members of the Father Jack Hickey Circle of Grace for a reception two years in the making.

