

BEHIND THE DOVE



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM DISMAS HOUSE
WINTER 2022



IT TAKES A VILLAGE REWIND

Dismas House's year-end campaign focused on the well-known proverb 'It Takes a Village.' The five-week campaign was centered around current resident Antonio and the various components of his Village that have been essential for his successful reentry.

Antonio shared snapshots of how Dismas House has given him More Than a Chance, A Change during his time here. Week one's theme, Acceptance for All, shares how Dismas House unconditionally welcomes each man who comes through the door. The following week, Antonio shared about his personal journey and the impact Dismas House has had on his reentry journey.

Our third week focused on another vital aspect of our Village - our case managers. Senior case manager Audra detailed the role of the case manager in the reentry process and how it supports our returning citizens. Family was at the heart of week four and saw the effect of the support and resources Dismas House provides his family members.

For the final week, one of our workforce partners, Blue Dog Merch, shared the importance of giving returning citizens an opportunity to become successful through job placement.

Visit dismas.org/village to catch up on the It Takes a Village video series!



HOLIDAY ROUND UP



Resident Brij shows his pumpkin carving contest entry



Resident Support Specialist Laurel and resident Terric compare their pumpkin carvings before the contest

Dismas House resident Aaron hopped in the kitchen to contribute to the Thanksgiving meal



Taking a quick break from watching football for a group photo on Thanksgiving night



Our case manager Dwanna on flute accompanied resident Wilfredo sang "Silent Night" at our Christmas dinner

We are so grateful for volunteers who helped us decorate campus for Christmas

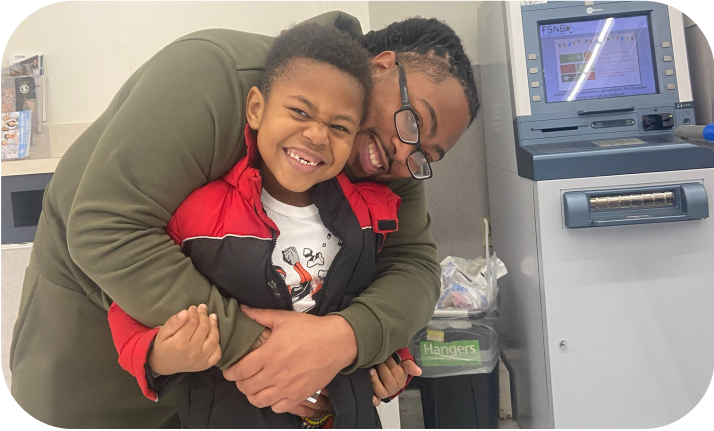


Dismas House residents awaiting Christmas dinner



BYARD FAMILY LEGACY FOUNDATION IMPACT

Kevin and Clarke Byard, who served as the honorary co-chairs for the 2021 Forgiveness Luncheon, continue to embrace the Dismas House village long after the annual fundraising event.



The Byard Family Legacy Fund (BFLF) embodies the Dismas House tagline - More Than a Chance, A Change. BFLF believes everyone deserves a second chance and welcomed an opportunity to partner with Dismas House.



Dismas House is grateful for BFLF generously sponsoring five Dismas House families with an all-expense outing for holiday gifts at a local retailer.



BYARD FAMILY LEGACY FOUNDATION IMPACT



Not even falling temperatures and busy stores could bring down the smiles on the faces of our families at the event as they shopped for gifts and clothing items together, many for the first time being reunited after many years.

"All kids look forward to Christmas and we just wanted to make their holiday a little brighter," said Kevin Byard.

Thanks Kevin and Clarke Byard and the Byard Family Legacy Fund! To learn more about the foundation, visit byardfamilylegacy.org.



WELCOME TO DISMAS HOUSE!



Caroline Clipper

We recently welcomed Caroline Clipper, LPC-MHSP as our clinical director and case manager Dwanna Lowery.

Caroline spent four years at The Next Door, working in the residential program as a therapist and later as part of the clinical leadership team. At Dismas House, she will oversee all clinical and counseling services for our residents.

She will also lead the Dismas House clinical graduate internship program.

Dwanna began her career as a correctional counselor with the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC).



Dwanna Lowery

She also served as a pod counselor and a CBIP (Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Program) class facilitator for men at Turney Center Industrial Complex. As case manager, Dwanna will help manage all aspects of resident care including weekly progress meetings with the Dismas House care team.

THANK YOU JULIE!



Dr. Julie Doochin surrounded by Dismas House graduates
Jeremy (I) and Edward

In December 2021, Dr. Julie Doochin received a one-of-a-kind service award from the Vanderbilt Prison Project in salute of her outstanding work with Dismas House and as the founder of the Tennessee Higher Education in Prison Initiative (THEI).

Vanderbilt Prison Project hosted the inaugural "Reimagining Reintegration" event with the assistance of two Dismas House graduates, Edward and Jeremy.

The event, hosted at Benton Chapel on Vanderbilt's campus, was attended by state and local legislators, members of the Vanderbilt community, representatives from American Paper & Twine, and members of Professional Outstanding Women Engaging in Redevelopment (POWER), Dismas House, and numerous returning citizens impacted by the organizations present.

The keynote was presented by Nashville State Community College Dean Patricia Armstrong who spoke about the impact of agencies committed to giving returning citizens a second chance and what returning citizens could achieve when given the opportunity.

After a great video presentation, Jeremy and Edward, who are also both THEI graduates, surprised Dr. Doochin with her service award.

Dr. Doochin stepped away from Dismas House in January 2022 to pursue other opportunities. We wish Dr. Julie Doochin all the best in her future endeavors!





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SCORE AND WIN!

Preds score! Dismas wins! Dismas House is excited to be a part of the Score and Win program, hosted by DEX Imaging for the 2021-22 season. Now in its 17th season of rewarding goals and wins by the Nashville Predators while lending financial support to Nashville area charitable and community service organizations, the DEX Score and Win program has now distributed over \$470,250 amongst 76 outstanding local charitable and community service organizations through the first 16 seasons the program has been in place.

For every goal scored by a forward or win recorded by a goaltender, DEX contributes \$100. The contribution is \$150 for goals scored by a defenseman and there is a \$200 bonus for hat tricks and shutouts.

Dismas House has been paired with goaltender Juuse Saros and defenseman Dante Fabbro.

