



**IMPACT**

**REPORT**

**2023-2024**

**DISMAS HOUSE**

# A Note From Our CEO

I am thrilled to share with you Dismas House's annual impact report, a testament to the incredible strides we've made together in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This report celebrates the commitment of our team, the guidance of our Board of Directors, and the invaluable contributions of our volunteers, donors, and partners. Each of you has played an essential role in transforming the lives of our residents and setting the national standard for reentry programs.

This year has been one of innovation, growth, and impact. Here are a few highlights:

**Empowering Housing Solutions:** We welcomed a Housing Coordinator to our team, addressing one of the most significant barriers our residents face—finding safe, affordable housing. Having an advocate to ensure fair consideration for housing applications, our residents are overcoming challenges such as felony-related application hurdles and credit checks. This initiative has opened doors to brighter futures.

**Exceeding Graduation Goals:** Our 90-day reentry program achieved a 75% graduation rate, a testament to our individualized care model, with case manager-to-resident ratios of 1:14 and a holistic approach to programming. We surpassed peer benchmarks averaging 40-50%, demonstrating the effectiveness of our methods and the resilience of our residents.

**Achieving Historic Recidivism Rates:** The three-year recidivism rate for our 2021-2022 fiscal year cohort is in the single digits—an extraordinary outcome. Key to this success was the introduction of enhanced recovery programming that prioritizes mental health and proactive relapse prevention planning from day one.

Behind these numbers are powerful stories of transformation. Our residents are reuniting with their families as fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, and grandfathers. Through our Individual Placement and Support program (IPS), justice-involved individuals are securing meaningful employment and contributing to their communities. Together, we are proving that reentry programs can do more than reduce recidivism—they can restore dignity, foster belonging, and inspire hope.

This year's accomplishments belong to all of us. Your support—whether through time, expertise, financial contributions, or partnership—has fueled our mission to create lasting change. I invite you to explore the milestones and success stories detailed in the pages ahead, knowing that your belief in our vision makes this impact possible.

As we look toward the future, let us do so with optimism and determination, united by a shared commitment to restoring faith in humanity. Together, we can continue to redefine what's possible for justice-involved individuals.

With gratitude and hope,



Kay Kretsch, Chief Executive Officer

# Board of Directors

*Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024*

Lori Bell  
EOA ARCHITECTS

Paul Connelly  
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

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LFM CAPITAL

Vincent Dixie  
TENNESSEE STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Sarah Fairbank  
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Taylor Fortune  
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Dmetria Gibson  
TRICOR

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EXTERIOR WHOLESAL SUPPLY

Phil Henry  
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Donald Holmes  
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## ADVISORY BOARD

Gabrielle Chapman  
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Daron Hall  
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Jolene Ramirez  
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ASURION

DarKenya Waller  
LEGAL AID SOCIETY

# OUR PROGRAM

Our holistic programming removes barriers to reentry and utilizes evidence-based practices to support the whole-person, fostering lasting change from the inside out.

**BASIC NEEDS**

**HEALTH & WELL-BEING**

**LIFE SKILLS**

**LEGAL SUPPORT**

**OUR MISSION IS TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES BY PROVIDING THE FORMERLY-INCARCERATED WITH HOLISTIC REENTRY SOLUTIONS.**



**DAYS 1-30: HEALING**

**DAYS 31-60: BUILDING**

**DAYS 61-90: GROWTH**

**DAYS 91+: TRANSITION**

*As a direct result of enhancing our recovery programming that prioritizes mental health and relapse prevention, we are proud to report a 2.5% recidivism rate.*

OUR RESULTS:

# 2.5%

**RECIDIVISM RATE**

**2.5%**  
**Dismas House**  
Recidivism rate

**29.6%**

**Tennessee**  
Recidivism rate

0% 10% 20% 30%

# BASIC NEEDS

“Being here has made a huge impact on my life. I don’t think that I would be as confident in my sobriety or as confident in everything else that I’ve been doing without the support I’ve found here. **This place is my home. This is where I feel safe, where I feel comfortable.** I’m held accountable, and that’s something I need.”

-Jason



BASIC NEEDS  
CARE PACKAGES



COMMUNITY DINNERS



BED NIGHTS



# HEALTH & WELL-BEING

“The people sitting across the desk from me at the addiction center tell me they’re proud of me. **They see hope, because they see someone who looks like them but changed for the better.**”

-Erik



# 558

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING SESSIONS

# 166

GROUP THERAPY SESSIONS



# 248

CPRS SESSIONS



# 239

MEDITATION SESSIONS



# LIFE SKILLS

**“I found a place where everything was thought of. **Not only did I find people who I could trust, I had classes where I could learn to let my guard down. I had to learn how to accept love. I’d never known what that looked like. But I’ve been supported every step of the way.** Everybody’s path looks different, and we’re all met where we’re at.”**

-Danny



# 91.9%

EMPLOYMENT RATE



RESIDENTS COMPLETED  
JOB READINESS PROGRAM



LIFE SKILLS  
COURSES



CASE MANAGEMENT  
SESSIONS



# LEGAL SUPPORT

“When I passed the CDL test, I felt the same way I felt walking out of prison. **It felt like a new door had opened.** The support I’ve received at Dismas House helped a childhood dream come true.”  
-Eddie

**\$148,052**  
LEGAL FEES WAIVED



23  
DRIVER'S LICENSE REINSTATEMENT SESSIONS





## FATHER JACK HICKEY CIRCLE OF GRACE RECEPTION

On November 9, 2023, we hosted our annual donor recognition event, honoring our founder, Father Jack Hickey, and celebrating those who generously support Dismas House. This special gathering provided our guests the opportunity to connect with residents and staff in an open-house setting.



## FORGIVENESS LUNCHEON

Our signature fall event offers the community a chance to celebrate second chances while financially supporting the mission of Dismas House. Held on October 3, 2023, the event welcomed 500 guests.

We were honored to have Louis L. Reed as our keynote speaker, with Christina and David Arquette serving as honorary chairs alongside co-chairs Dr. William Arnold and Lori J. Bell.

## WHISKEY, WINE, & WHISKERS

Our third annual spring event took place on May 18, 2024, bringing the community together for a pet-friendly fundraiser. Guests enjoyed a silent auction, live music, food trucks, and tastings from the region's favorite distilleries and wineries—all while learning about our mission and impact in Middle Tennessee.

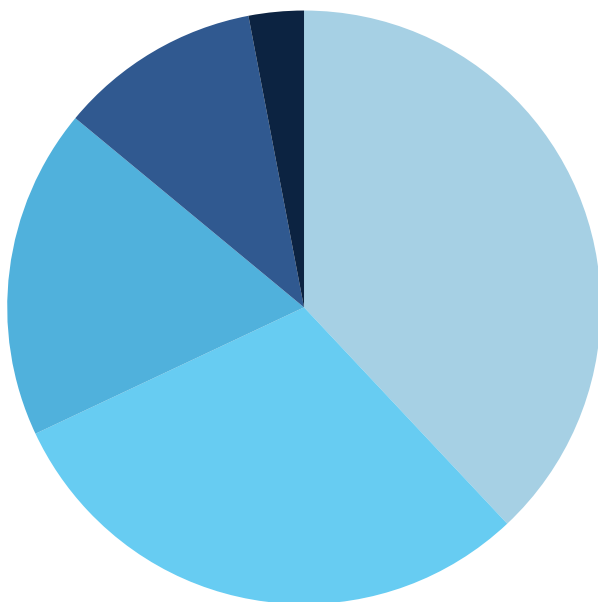
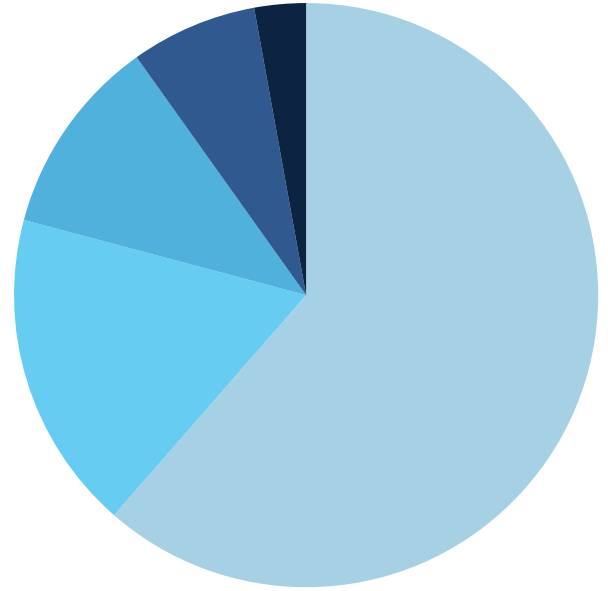
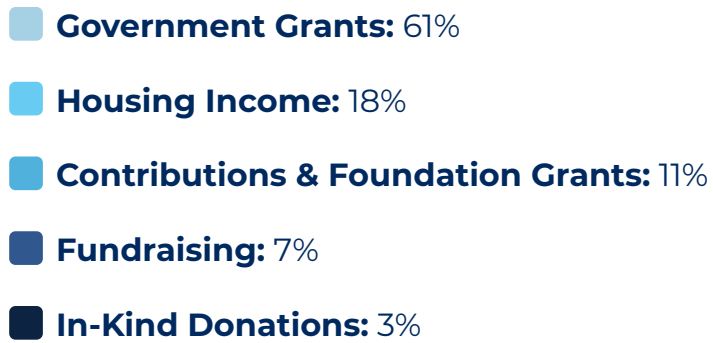


## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

On June 13, 2024, we gathered on campus with residents, volunteers, mentors, and board members to celebrate and honor the incredible contributions of those who generously dedicate their time and talents to supporting Dismas House. Honored for their exceptional contributions were (in order from top left to bottom right): John Jenkins, Jr. Resident Service Award: Erik Dunn; Student Service Award: Vanessa Kirschke; Community Partner Service Award: Urban League of Middle Tennessee; Volunteer Service Recognition Award: Alex Joynes; Board Service Recognition Award: Dmetria Gibson.

# Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Funding

## Revenue by Source



## Expenses by Program



# Thank you to our generous supporters.

## Father Jack Hickey Circle of Grace Members

The Circle of Grace is comprised of members whose annual financial contributions total \$2,500 or more.

Gail Alexander	Sarah Fairbank	Kay Kretsch	Evan Trommer
David & Christina Arquette	Taylor & Jen Fortune	Trent Litchfield	Stacy WidELITZ
Lori Bell	Nicole Gunasekera	Mark Miller	Crissy Wieck
Eileen Beehan & Bill Sinclair	Jane F. Guzikowski	Phillip Ryan & Meredith Libbey	David & Dr. Pampee Young
John Clayton	Ramon & Nakisha Guzman	Matt Snyder	David Zwaschka
Michael Connelly	David Hart	Shirley & Stuart Speyer	
Paul & Jamie Connelly	Rick Heagarty	Tom & Marida Stearns	
Stephen & Shannon Cook	Jamal Hipps	Klaus Theime	
Brijesh Desai	Donald Holmes & Deborah Smith-Holmes	James & Miyoshi Thomas	

## Foundations & Corporate Grants

Boulevard Bolt, Inc.	The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
CoreCivic Foundation	The Foundation Office at Fifth Third Bank
HCA Healthcare Foundation	The Memorial Foundation
Joe C. Davis Foundation	United Way of Greater Nashville
PwC Charitable Foundation, Inc.	

## Government Grants

Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County	Tennessee Department of Human Services
Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority	Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
Tennessee Department of Correction	

## Event Sponsors

Gail Alexander	Brijesh Desai	Rick Heagarty	James & Miyoshi Thomas
Amazon	Dodd Electric, Inc.	Donald Holmes & Deborah Smith-Holmes	Latonya & Ari Todd
American Paper & Twine	Entoto Gear	HUB International	LoLita Toney
David & Christina Arquette	Ernst & Young	Kay Kretsch	TRICOR
Asurion	Exodus HR Group	Louisville Tile	Evan Trommer
Attention To Detail Promotions	Exterior Wholesale Supply	Nobody Trashes Tennessee, TDOT	Cayley Jade Turrin
Bart Durham Injury Law	Fifth Third Bank	NuBody Concepts	Vanderbilt University
Lori Bell	Taylor & Jen Fortune	Power Management Corporation	Victory Supply
CapStar Bank	Frost Brown Todd	R.C. Mathews Contractor	Stacy WidELITZ
City Living Group	Nicole Gunasekera	Phil Ryan & Meredith Libbey	David & Dr. Pampee Young
Stephen & Shannon Cook	Ramon & Nakisha Guzman	Tom & Marida Stearns	
CoreCivic Foundation	Harvest Wine		
	HCA Healthcare Foundation		

The list above reflects donations, grants, and sponsorships in fiscal year 2023-2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024).

# **DISMAS HOUSE**

2424 Charlotte Ave  
Nashville, TN 37203

**WE THANK YOU**  
**FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**

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**MAKE AN IMPACT**

