



# IMPACT REPORT 2024-2025

DISMAS HOUSE

# A Note From Our CEO

It is my honor to present Dismas House's 2024–2025 Annual Impact Report, highlighting a year defined by resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to our mission. This reporting period also marked a significant leadership transition, as I assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer in January 2025. It has been a privilege to lead this extraordinary organization and to witness firsthand the dedication of our staff, the strategic guidance of our Board of Directors, and the steadfast support of our donors, volunteers, and community partners. Together, we continue to advance the mission of Dismas House through transforming lives, strengthening communities, and creating pathways of opportunity for justice-impacted men across Tennessee.

**Expanding Housing Support:** With support from a one-year grant, Dismas House welcomed a Housing Coordinator to help residents overcome one of the toughest barriers to reentry of finding safe, stable housing. By guiding residents through challenges like felony related restrictions and credit checks, this new role opened doors to lasting independence and stability.

**Preserving Case Management Services:** When Families First funding was unexpectedly reduced, one of our case management positions was at risk. Through swift action, including submitting a new application and expanding our grant portfolio, we successfully preserved this vital role. What could have been a setback became a testament to our resilience and commitment to keeping residents' needs at the forefront.

**Achieving Remarkable Outcomes:** Our residents continue to surpass expectations. The three-year recidivism rate among Dismas House graduates is just 2.5%, compared to the

statewide average of 29.6% for individuals released from Tennessee Department of Correction prisons. This extraordinary difference reflects the strength of our holistic model, combining recovery support, workforce development, life skills training, and a healing community.

**Fueling Transformation:** Behind every number is a story of transformation, a father, son, brother, or grandfather rebuilding his life. Our residents are reuniting with family, securing meaningful employment, and shaping brighter futures. Each success reflects their determination and the unwavering support of those who believe in our mission.

As we look ahead, our mission remains clear, to open doors, reduce barriers, and restore dignity and hope. The achievements in this report reflect the collective efforts of our team, partners, and supporters like you who make this work possible.

With deep gratitude and hope,



**Steven R. Murff**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Board of Directors

*Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025*

Lori Bell  
EOA ARCHITECTS

Stephen Cook  
LFM CAPITAL

Vincent Dixie  
TENNESSEE STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Sarah Fairbank  
HARVEST WINE MARKET

Taylor Fortune  
ERNST & YOUNG

Dmetria Gibson  
TRICOR

Rick Heagarty  
EXTERIOR WHOLESALE SUPPLY

Phil Henry  
CODEX ACADEMY

Bruce Miller  
VICTORY SUPPLY

Mekesha Montgomery  
FROST BROWN TODD

Priscilla Norman  
CATERPILLAR FINANCIAL SERVICES

Rick Prickett  
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Phil Ryan  
VILLAGE COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

Tom Shaw  
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Jordan Slay  
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Klaus Thieme  
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James Thomas  
HCA HEALTHCARE

Latonya Todd  
ASURION

Nikki Turner  
TRICOR

Cayley Turrin  
CAYLEY J. TURRIN ATTORNEY AT LAW

Aleta Young  
FIFTH THIRD BANK

David Young  
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

## ADVISORY BOARD

Gabrielle Chapman  
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Paul Connelly  
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Daron Hall  
DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jamal Hipps  
MPYER MARKETING & ADVERTISING

Eric Jackson  
ELEMENT 47

Lethia Mann  
REGIONS BANK

Jolene Ramirez  
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Patrick Theobald  
ASURION

DarKenya Waller  
LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Stacy Widelitz  
STACY WIDELITZ MUSIC

# OUR PROGRAM

Our holistic, evidence-based approach removes barriers to reentry and supports every aspect of a resident's journey, laying the foundation for healing, growth, and lasting independence.

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

Our commitment to whole-person care continues to deliver measurable results; Dismas House holds steady at a 2.5% recidivism rate, far below the state average of 29.6%.

OUR RESULTS:

# 2.5%

RECIDIVISM RATE

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

**29.6%**

**Tennessee**  
*Recidivism rate*

0% 10% 20% 30%

# BASIC NEEDS

**“The biggest thing I’ve gained here is structure.** A lot of people want to hit the ground running, but Dismas House kept me from doing that. People don’t realize how important that is. Looking back, I see that’s what truly helped me.”

-Mark

**148**   
RESIDENTS SERVED



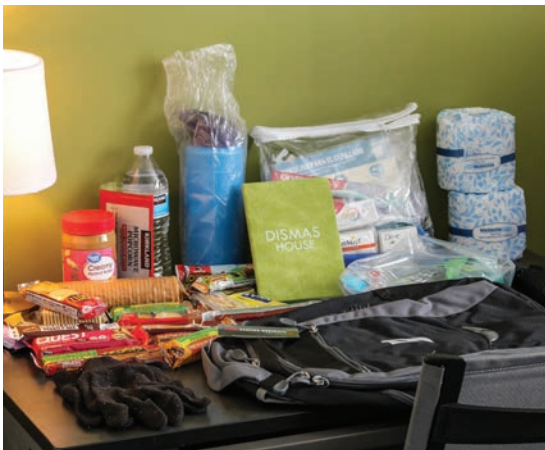
BASIC NEEDS  
CARE PACKAGES



COMMUNITY DINNERS



BED NIGHTS





# HEALTH & WELL-BEING

“Dismas House isn’t just a place to stay. It’s a place to breathe. To get your feet under you again. **The staff, the environment – they treat you like a person, not a case file.**”

-Jayson

600  
INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING  
SESSIONS



160  
GROUP THERAPY  
SESSIONS



176  
CPRS  
SESSIONS



232  
MEDITATION  
SESSIONS



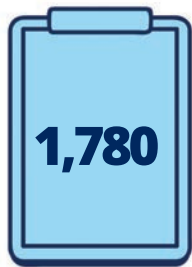
# LIFE SKILLS

“Dismas House has been behind me 110%. They’ve helped me navigate normal life – they showed me how to manage my finances and regular life things that I would’ve never thought possible. **I would’ve never dreamed or thought possible the things I’ve achieved in the last six months.**”

-Jacob

# 69%

90-DAY  
EMPLOYMENT RATE  
RESIDENTS SEEKING WORK



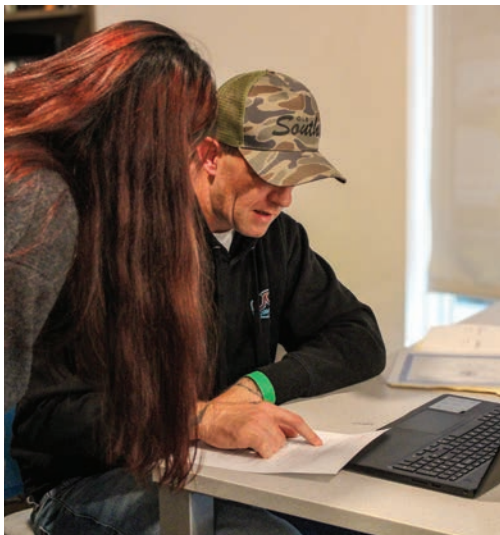
CASE MANAGEMENT  
SESSIONS



LIFE SKILLS  
COURSES



RESIDENT OUTINGS





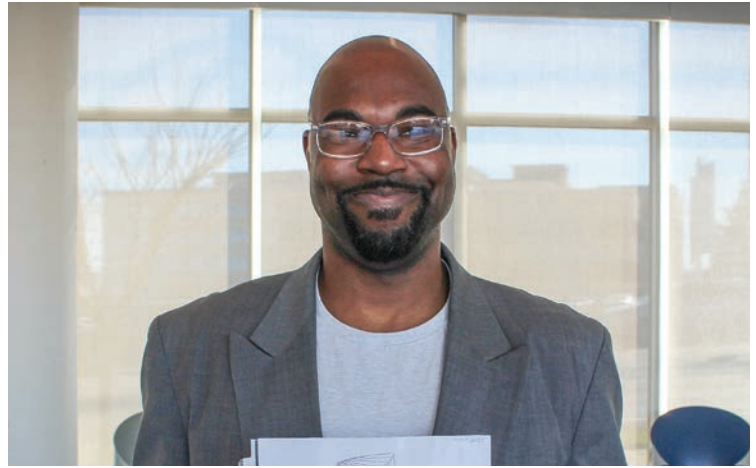
# LEGAL SUPPORT

“Graduating from the program was very rewarding for me. **The joy that I feel on a daily basis changed after incarceration.** I’m so grateful now for each and every day.”

-Delchon

# \$95,697

LEGAL FEES  
WAIVED



# 55

RESIDENTS  
SERVED



# 29

RESIDENTS RECEIVED  
TAX PREP SERVICES

# 19

DRIVER'S LICENSE REINSTATEMENT SESSIONS







## FORGIVENESS GALA

To mark our 50th anniversary, Dismas House reimagined its signature event as an elegant evening gala on September 21, 2024. Nearly 200 guests joined in celebrating second chances, raising more than \$205,000 and setting the standard for future events. We proudly honored Chelsea Nicholson, HCA Healthcare, and Scotty Story with the *2024 Father Jack Hickey Changemaker, Grace Morales Legacy, and John Jenkins, Jr. Achievement Awards*.

## FATHER JACK HICKEY CIRCLE OF GRACE RECEPTION

Held November 14, 2024, the Circle of Grace Reception welcomed supporters for an intimate open-house celebration of generosity and community. Guests heard resident David White's powerful story and watched a video featuring resident reflections. The evening honored our founder, Father Jack Hickey, and the donors whose compassion sustains our mission year after year.



## WHISKEY, WINE, & WHISKERS

On May 17, 2025, our fourth annual Whiskey, Wine & Whiskers brought together supporters, neighbors, and their furry friends for an evening of tastings, live music, and auctions. Featuring local distilleries, wineries, and pet vendors, the event raised more than \$55,000, our highest total to date, while introducing new supporters to the Dismas House mission.

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

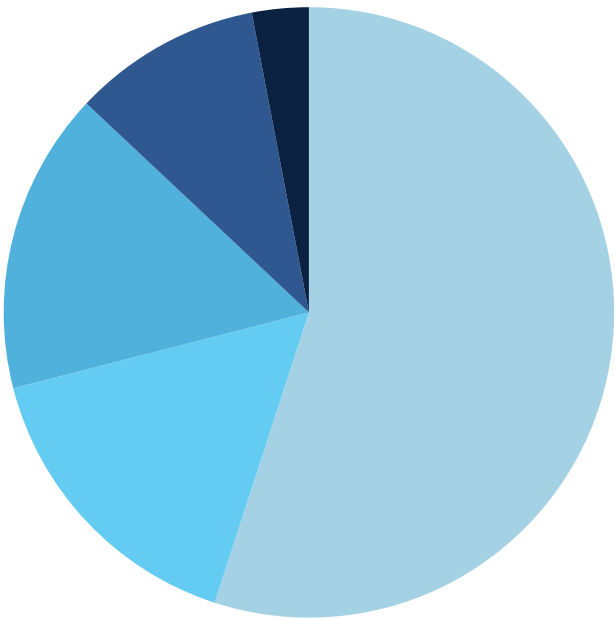
On June 26, 2025, Dismas House celebrated the volunteers, board members, and partners who make our mission possible. The evening honored outstanding service and community impact, with awards presented to Audra Davis, Cindy Hui-Lio,, Stephen Cook, Mental Health Cooperative, Tom Shaw, and Delchon Weatherspoon for their inspiring dedication to the Dismas House community.



# Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Funding

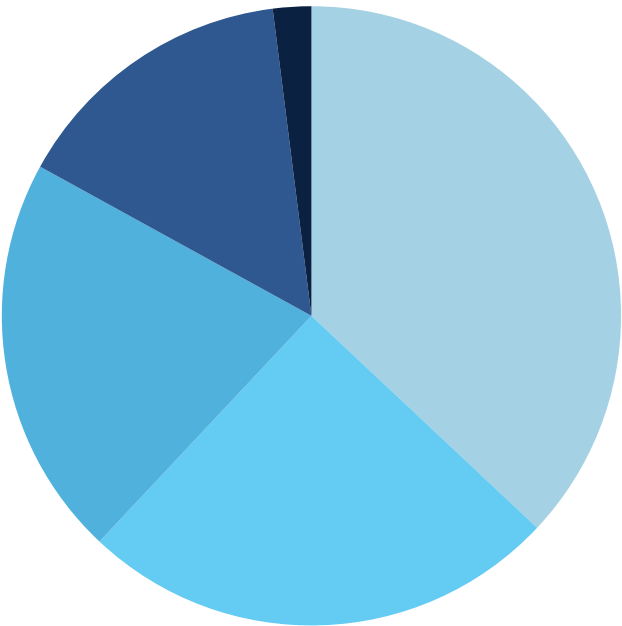
## Revenue by Source

- Government Support: 55%
- Contributions & Foundation Grants: 16%
- Housing Income: 16%
- Fundraising: 10%
- In-Kind Donations: 3%



## Expenses by Program

- Basic Needs: 37%
- Life Skills: 25%
- Health & Well-Being: 21%
- Independent Living: 15%
- Legal Support: 2%



# 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.*

Lori Bell	Taylor & Jen Fortune	Jamal Hipps	James & Miyoshi Thomas
John Clayton	Nicole Gunasekera	Donald Holmes & Deborah Smith-Holmes	Evan & Kathy Trommer
Michael Connelly	Jane F. Guzikowski	Mark House	Cayley Turrin
Paul & Jamie Connelly	Michael Guzikowski	Teresa Schmidt	Aaron & Kathryn Leigh Walls
Stephen & Shannon Cook	Ramon & Nakisha Guzman	Shirley & Stuart Speyer	David & Dr. Pampee Young
Kyle David	Robert & Patricia Hairston	Tom & Marida Stearns	David Zwaschka
Sarah Fairbank	Justin Hall	Klaus Theime	
Mark Fishburn	David Hart		

## Foundations & Corporate Grants

Boulevard Bolt, Inc.	Old National Bank
CoreCivic Foundation	The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
Dettwiller Foundation	The Dorothy Cate & Thomas F. Frist Foundation
Enchiridion Foundation	The Memorial Foundation
HCA Healthcare Foundation	United Way of Greater Nashville
Joe C. Davis Foundation	

## 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

Amazon	Ernst & Young	ONE Community & Titans Foundation	Victory Supply
Avid Fence & Gate	Fifth Third Bank	R.C. Mathews Contractor	Stacy Widelitz
Bart Durham Injury Law	Taylor & Jen Fortune	Tom & Marida Stearns	
Lori Bell	Nicole Gunasekera	The Wayne Wise Wellness Fund	
Cayley J. Turrin Attorney at Law	Harvest Wine Market	TRICOR	
Paul & Jamie Connelly	HCA Healthcare Foundation	Urban League of Middle Tennessee	
Stephen & Shannon Cook	LFM Capital	Vanderbilt University	
CoreCivic Foundation	Nashville Hair Doctor		
Entoto Gear	Old National Bank		

*The list above reflects donations, grants, and sponsorships in fiscal year 2024-2025 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025).*



# **DISMAS HOUSE**

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Nashville, TN 37203

**WE THANK YOU**  
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

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**MAKE AN IMPACT**

