



ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE



# Forward

ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE  
ANNUAL REPORT 2019



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## OUR MISSION

To change lives in a spiritual environment that is both compassionate and disciplined as we provide housing for the homeless, food for the hungry, and comfort for the addicted and suffering.

## OUR VISION

To become a model agency to provide services and resources to serve the least of these while seeking to expand the capacity to meet present and future needs in the most effective and efficient manner.

## OUR CORE VALUES

Helpful—We are called to care for the “least of these.”

Healing—We show the love of God by offering healing to all who come to us in need.

Excellence—We strive for the best ministry and business practices in all we do.

God-Honoring—We honor God by serving the hungry, homeless, and broken.

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## Letter from the CEO | VANN ELLISON

For more than 30 years, St. Matthew’s House has pushed what it means to be a “rescue mission” forward. What started as a small soup kitchen in 1987 has grown into an amazing network of services across Southwest Florida; including a full-service restaurant opening summer 2020. When I was asked to lead this humble ministry in 2004, I never could have anticipated the journey we would all take to make us the organization we are today. But I have always been encouraged by the verse from Matthew that says if we are faithful in little things, God will give us responsibility for much. How true that has been for us!

Something many folks don’t realize is that St. Matthew’s House oversees the jail chaplain services in both the Hendry and Collier County jail systems. In this way, we are able to connect some of our most desperate, hopeless neighbors to services and programs that will help them get their life back on track.

Meanwhile, in an effort to help better serve our poorest neighbors—before they find themselves in need of our emergency shelters—we continue to push forward innovative and creative solutions to fighting homelessness and hunger. To this end, we launched a mobile food pantry in partnership with a number of area churches. Also, we continue to build more transitional housing so that the working poor can have a safe, affordable place to call home while they work their way into financial independence.

Of course, none of this incredible programming expansion would have been possible, were it not for our robust social enterprise model. It is not lost on me that our sixth business line launching in the summer of 2020, a restaurant, will bring our organization full circle. Lulu’s Kitchen may not look like our original feeding ministry, but its goal will be the same: To glorify God by serving excellent food to hungry people. Whether we serve this food to the homeless man living in the woods or a local customer who chooses our restaurant for lunch, it is our goal to provide the sort of exceptional food and care that make us stand out in the community.

In John, there is the exhortation: “Just as I have loved you, so you must love one another. This is how all men will know that you are my disciples, because you have such a love for one another.” This is the guiding principle that keeps us moving forward at St. Matthew’s House—be it our businesses or our direct social service programs.

It is into this joyful and fulfilling work—of providing for those in need with exceptional care—that I invite anyone of goodwill in our community to join us. I am confident the next 30 years will be even more amazing than the last.

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God-Honoring—We honor God by serving the hungry, homeless, and broken.

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# Shelter Operations

In the last year, we have made huge strides in continuing to fight against homelessness in our community, as the only provider of emergency shelter in Collier County. From a shelter renovation, to the further development of Justin's Village, we have grown in our ability to help those in a time of extreme transition. We've helped a pregnant mother of five keep her children together, fed and safe, while they find a new home. We've provided affordable housing in a sober-living community, helping those struggling with addiction find their independence. We held a Christmas party for those who thought there wouldn't be any reason to celebrate. St. Matthew's House shelters are more than '3 hots and a cot'—we provide community, hope, and show there is always a way forward.

**80% OF SHELTER RESIDENTS WHO STAYED 30 OR MORE DAYS SUCCEEDED IN FINDING EMPLOYMENT DURING THEIR STAY**

## Emergency Housing THE CAMPBELL LODGE

In 1988, St. Matthew's House purchased the old East Naples Firehouse, which served as our first shelter and provided emergency housing for just 20 men. That facility operated for five years until our current shelter was built in 1993, allowing us to house up to 104 men, women, and children each night. Since then, over 25,000 individuals and families have found a temporary home here, including over 1,000 children and hundreds of veterans. For over 25 years, the shelter has remained largely as it was built, while the population of Southwest Florida has more than doubled.

So in late 2018, through a generous donation from Emeritus Board Member Don Campbell and his wife Ruth, renovations began on the newly christened Campbell Lodge to update the shelter inside and out. Throughout 2019, we've completed the Trachtenberg Courtyard, a central feature to the Campbell Lodge, as well as a new covered dining hall, updated mens bathrooms, new lockers and bunk beds. Preparations for updating the family center and women's dorm are underway.

While city ordinances prevent more beds from being added, creative remodeling will allow us to better care for our residents. We're allocating more space for family dorms, including single fathers with their children. A large playground keeps kids happy as they play and explore, and new security gates keep residents feeling safe and protected.

**133 CHILDREN ARE CURRENTLY HOMELESS OR IN EMERGENCY HOUSING IN COLLIER COUNTY**

BOARD MEMBER

**SPOTLIGHT**  
**DON & RUTH CAMPBELL**

**"WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE RESOURCES ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE PROVIDES TO OUR COMMUNITY.**

**WE FEEL WE'VE BEEN BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING, AND WE'RE HONORED TO HELP RENOVATE THE CAMPBELL LODGE AND CONTINUE PROVIDING HOPE FOR MANY YEARS TO COME!"**





It's not easy running a shelter in the midst of a construction zone, but we are committed to this calling. Many people enter the shelter with no bank account, lost identification, lacking proper healthcare, and other employment barriers. Not only have they experienced physical hardships, but many come to us spiritually broken and without hope. While we accept persons of all beliefs and backgrounds, it is our Christian faith that compels us to care for and serve the "least of these" with the love of Christ.

IMMOKALEE  
FRIENDSHIP  
HOUSE

WE SERVED  
1,193 PEOPLE  
THROUGH OUR  
EMERGENCY  
SHELTERS  
THIS YEAR

IT COSTS \$40  
PER RESIDENT  
PER DAY TO  
OPERATE OUR  
SHELTERS

The Immokalee Friendship House is a shelter owned and operated by St. Matthew's House that serves the small farm community in Immokalee, Florida. The Immokalee Friendship House opened in 1987, the year that St. Matthew's House began. After running independently for 21 years, Immokalee Friendship House merged with St. Matthew's House in 2008, helping expand our area of service to include room for 44 more beds. In 2019 alone, IFH served 339 men, women, and children. All of our services that are available at the Campbell Lodge are equally available in Immokalee.

With the nearest town 40 minutes away, IFH is a vital community resource to the men, women, and families who live in Immokalee, many of whom are immigrants from Haiti, Guatemala, and Mexico. IFH is also unique as it is the only homeless shelter within the tri-county area that can house a single father and his children together. We are thankful for this addition to St. Matthew's House, allowing us to serve more people who need our help.



We strive to provide a hand up, not a handout to the men and women we serve. Not only do we provide the basic necessities of shelter, food, and access to healthcare. We also equip them with life-skills, community resources, and employment training needed to live a life of self-sufficiency. We strive to identify and alleviate the root causes of poverty and homelessness, rather than simply providing temporary relief. As such, each resident is equipped with the time, tools, mentorship, and resources needed to make gains for sustainable housing and employment.

AVERAGE LENGTH OF A STAY IN  
OUR SHELTERS IS ONLY 52 DAYS

The answer to homelessness isn't always clear or easy, but we are proud to be doing our part in creating a place where individuals have the support to thrive. Our program staff assist in seeing families restored and cycles of poverty, substance abuse, trauma, and neglect broken. Future generations are impacted and the entire community is affected when residents leave our facilities and successfully reintegrate as productive members of society. This may be hard work, but it is good work.

WRAP-AROUND  
SERVICES

- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| LIFE-SKILLS CLASSES<br>& WORKSHOPS | CAREER DEVELOPMENT<br>SERVICES    |
| A.A. & N.A. MEETINGS               | TECHNICAL TRAINING                |
| PHYSICAL & MENTAL<br>HEALTHCARE    | SPIRITUAL GROWTH<br>& DEVELOPMENT |
| CHILDCARE &<br>TUTORING            | CONTINUING ED.<br>OPPORTUNITIES   |





GRANT  
**SPOTLIGHT**  
SCHULZE FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

**“WE ARE SO PLEASED TO HELP FUND THE EXPANSION OF JUSTIN’S VILLAGE, PROVIDING A HAND UP AND NOT A HAND OUT. THIS KIND OF WORK CHANGES A COMMUNITY, BUT IT ALSO CHANGES THE ENTIRE TRAJECTORY OF A PERSON’S LIFE AND FUTURE.**

## Transitional Housing

### WOLFE APARTMENTS + JUSTIN’S VILLAGE

Housing costs are rising across the country, making affordable, transitional housing even harder to find. In Naples, where the average renter will pay \$1,500 for less than 1,000 sq. ft., it can feel nearly impossible. According to the Hunger and Homelessness Coalition of Collier County, 40% of county residents are considered housing-cost burdened, and an average of 500 people are currently living in a place not fit for habitation.

Transitional housing provides more affordable, independent housing for people in recovery, while still maintaining the structure, accountability, and community that is vital for success. St. Matthew’s House owns two transitional housing properties, Wolfe Apartments in Golden Gate and Justin’s Village in Naples. All transitional housing locations are drug and alcohol-free, affordable, and connect residents with resources they need to flourish.

There are currently five homes inside Justin’s Village, and we are beginning the necessary steps to build multifamily homes and apartments to increase the number of people we can serve.

## MICHELE | *Testimony*

There were no hurricanes in Michele’s native Connecticut just a lot of snow. So when the former “ski ambassador” moved down to Florida to be with her ailing aunt, surviving Hurricane Irma was a new—and devastating—experience.

“We lost everything,” Michele recalls. “We came down from Orlando, going to where there was electricity.” The women stayed in a hotel in Fort Myers but soon ran short on money. Michele tried staying with a couple of friends, but neither arrangement worked out.

“We ended up at St. Matthew’s House—and I’m very fortunate and blessed that we did,” says Michele. She admits she was terrified at the thought of staying in a homeless shelter. But St. Matthew’s House put all of her fears to rest.

“The staff is wonderful,” Michele tells us. “They’re very caring. You can really talk with them or pray with them. They help you see that God has a plan for you.”

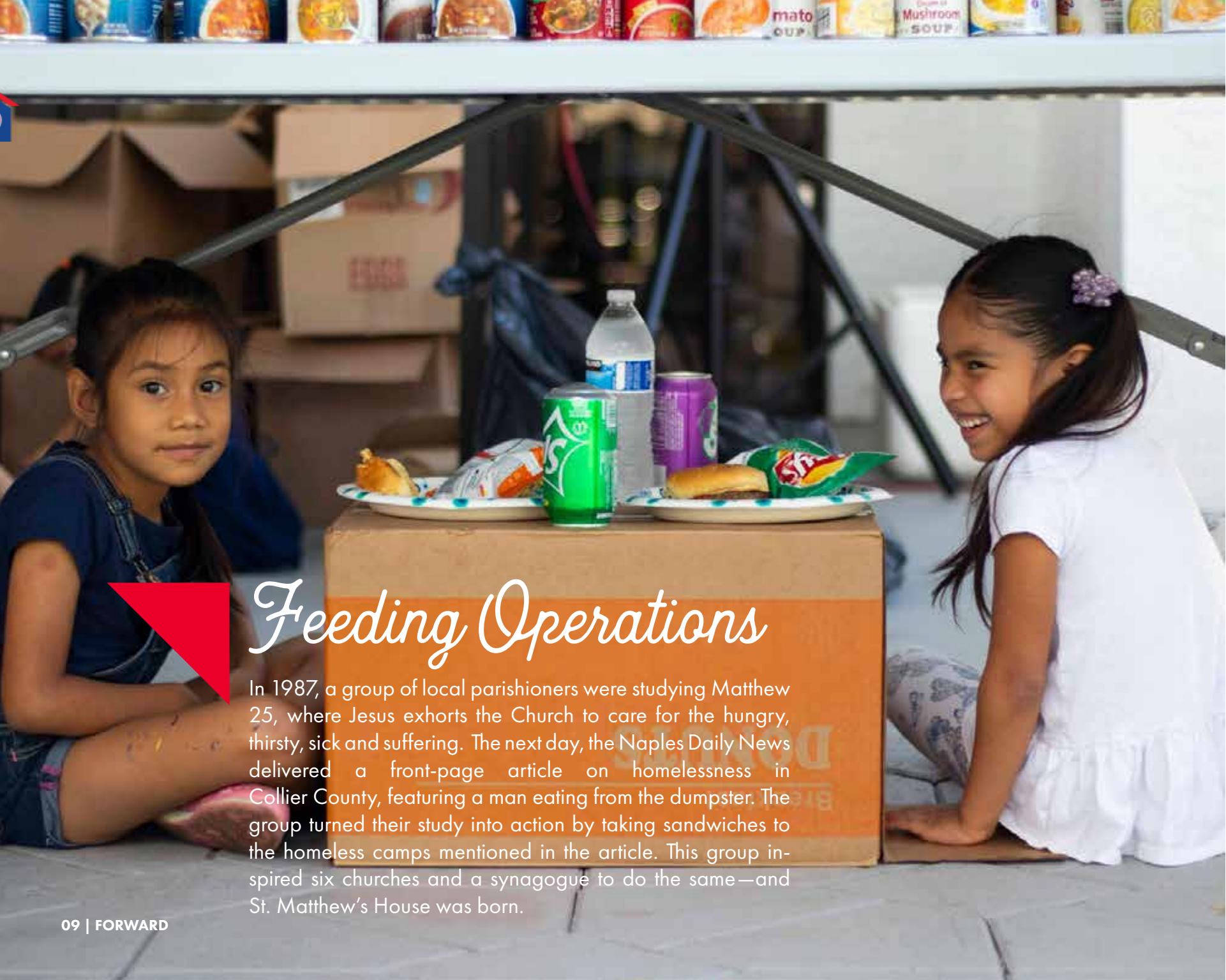
Michele, a senior citizen, never thought God’s plan for her would include being homeless. However, she credits staying at St. Matthew’s House with opening her eyes to what homelessness means.

“Everybody has a reason for being here,” she explains. “We’re not all drug addicts or alcoholics. This place is for anyone who needs to start over. Things happen that change your life dramatically. St. Matthew’s House trains you so, when you leave, you can work and support yourself. They prepare each and every person here for life.”

Clearly, it would take more than a hurricane to keep Michele down for long. After only a few months with us, she moved into a condo where she enjoys working on her art, reading and raising her Siamese kitten. St. Matthew’s House will always be close to her heart and she plans to come back and volunteer. “I’m in a wheelchair,” she says, “but I can do as much as anybody if I work at it.”

**OVER 300 MEN AND WOMEN SUCCESSFULLY TRANSITIONED TO STABLE HOUSING OUTSIDE OF ST. MATTHEW’S HOUSE IN 2019**





Our story is rooted in this call to feed the hungry. What began as a modest effort to feed and care for the homeless population living in the woods of East Naples has grown into an expansive program providing more than 500,000 meals annually across six different locations in Southwest Florida, where we've never missed a day of service in over 30 years. Today, our Feeding Operations offer a comprehensive continuum of care to the hungry in our community through the following areas: the Justin's Place Feeding Ministry, Direct Assistance, emergency shelters, and residential addiction recovery programs. This past year, we've taken great strides in expanding our Feeding Operations, inaugurating the Mobile Food Pantry, so that we could expand our reach beyond our brick and mortar locations in Naples and Immokalee.

**150,000 INDIVIDUALS IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARE FOOD INSECURE; NEARLY 50,000 EARN TOO MUCH TO QUALIFY FOR GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE, BUT STRUGGLE TO MAKE ENDS MEET NONETHELESS**

**THIS PHOTOGRAPH, PUBLISHED IN THE NAPLES DAILY NEWS, SERVED AS THE CATALYST FOR ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE FEEDING MINISTRY IN 1987**



Though Collier County is an area of great wealth, the Community Foundation reports that only 1.4% of the county budget is designated for human services, compared to an average of 8.3% statewide. This gap negatively impacts the disadvantaged in our community, including the over 40,000 residents who suffer from food insecurity.

# Feeding Operations

In 1987, a group of local parishioners were studying Matthew 25, where Jesus exhorts the Church to care for the hungry, thirsty, sick and suffering. The next day, the Naples Daily News delivered a front-page article on homelessness in Collier County, featuring a man eating from the dumpster. The group turned their study into action by taking sandwiches to the homeless camps mentioned in the article. This group inspired six churches and a synagogue to do the same—and St. Matthew's House was born.



# Justin's Place Feeding Ministry

## AT THE FIREHOUSE

The Justin's Place Feeding Ministry is a traditional soup kitchen, operating out of the former East Naples Fire Station. In the morning, hot coffee and pastries are served for breakfast, as well as a hot lunch and dinner to the public. This is done free of charge, seven days a week, and since it began in 1988 has maintained a consistent demand for more than 75 meals daily.

**ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE IS THE ONLY FACILITY IN COLLIER COUNTY APPROVED FOR PUBLIC FEEDING**



# Mobile Food Pantry

## LEE + COLLIER COUNTY

Until last year, Direct Assistance at St. Matthew's House required individuals to come to our Food Pantry, located within the Campbell Lodge, at certain times of the week to receive groceries. While limiting the scope of service to those with flexible schedules and transportation, we still distributed 6,387 bags of groceries, which represents nearly 12,500 individuals. But we knew we could do even better.

Beginning in June, we began our Mobile Food Pantry to better serve people across Southwest Florida. Using existing social enterprise locations and new and continuing relationships with local churches and organizations, we're building a network of partners to create a dependable source of food for those who need it, and it's working! 55% of individuals served at the first mobile distribution were new clients. In November alone, the Mobile Food Pantry served 1,464 households. That puts us on track to serve more than 10,000 people over this next year. In 2020, we hope to add a refrigerated truck to our fleet, and provide more fresh fruits and veggies grown from our agricultural efforts across St. Matthew's House locations.

As we expanded our services this year, we have already seen the effects on those we serve: renewing hopes, relieving worries, and providing a community as we get to know the individuals we serve.





**ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE PARTNERED WITH CAPITAL WEALTH ADVISORS AND OTHER LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR THE 15TH YEAR TO BRING 2,700 COMPLETE THANKSGIVING MEALS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED—THAT'S 500 MORE THAN LAST YEAR!**

EMPLOYEE  
**SPOTLIGHT**  
**BRITTANY  
HARGROVE**

**"I ENJOY SHOWING LOVE BY MEETING PRACTICAL, EVERY-DAY NEEDS."**

**OUR ABILITY TO SHARE A MEAL WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE CLOSE TO INVISIBLE ALLOWS US TO DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP THAT IS OTHERWISE IMPOSSIBLE."**



**MARIAN | *Testimony***

The Mobile Food Pantry has allowed more people to receive the food they need on a dependable schedule. It has also allowed us to make new and stronger community ties. Our Mobile Food Pantry has been serving those in and around the Goodlette Arms Apartments in Naples since June. Throughout this time, we've had the opportunity to get to know the individuals we serve and to hear more of their stories, like this one from Marian.

"The Mobile Food Pantry has really helped me because I don't have transportation to go to the store and get the food I need all the time.

I have a daughter and a granddaughter who come and take me from time to time, but they have their own lives so it's hard for me to ask them every time I want something.

I appreciate being able to come over and get this. And there's a lot of things I've never tried before so I get to enjoy trying new things. You don't know what you like until you try it.

I was raised on a farm in Missouri and we were very poor growing up. I don't ever want to go back to being that way again, so this helps. It's a security blanket."

**IN ADDITION TO ALL THE MEALS WE SERVE AT EACH ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE LOCATION, WE ALSO PROVIDE OVER 10,000 OUTREACH MEALS ANNUALLY TO PARTNER AGENCIES INCLUDING NAMI'S SARAH ANN CENTER, NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CLINIC, GRACE PLACE, AND IGLESIA DE DIOS.**



# Justin's Place Recovery Program

The issues of homelessness and hunger don't always exist in isolation. After identifying substance abuse as one of the leading causes of poverty and homelessness among our shelter residents, the Justin's Place Recovery Program was established in 2010 to provide a way forward to those struggling with addiction.



Since the program began, the crisis surrounding addiction has continued to deepen. From 1999 to 2017, more than 700,000 people died from drug overdoses in the United States. In 2017 alone, there were more than 70,000 drug overdose deaths. Around 900 Americans die each day from a drug overdose.

**AS OF JANUARY 2019, RECORDS SHOW FOR THE FIRST TIME IN U.S. HISTORY, OVERDOSE DEATHS SURPASSED DEATHS INVOLVING CAR ACCIDENTS**

The Justin's Place Recovery Program offers a voluntary, year-long, residential recovery solution designed to equip adult men and women battling addiction with the tools needed to live a sober and productive life. Our 12-month program is multi-faceted and employs a variety of recovery practices in order to achieve holistic balance and lasting sobriety. This includes use of the 12 Core Functions of Counseling, 12 Steps of Recovery, Alcohol and Narcotics Anonymous, Celebrate Recovery, the Bible, and other widely accepted best practices. We also collaborate with outside agencies to provide a wider array of services. The basic requirements to come to the Justin's Place Recovery Program are (1) honesty, (2) willingness, and (3) compliance.

**THE JUSTIN'S PLACE RECOVERY PROGRAM ONLY COSTS \$82 PER DAY PER RESIDENT**

Most inpatient rehabs are only 30-day programs, but deeply rooted and life-dominating addictions can be hard to overcome. By implementing a year-long approach, we allow for deeper life transformation and physical and mental healing. A strong community of support is established and wraparound services such as employment training, legal assistance, physical wellness, community service, and family reunification are provided. We don't want the men and women who come through our program to just survive, we want them to thrive.

According to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, some inpatient rehabs may cost around \$6,000 for a 30-day program. Well-known centers often cost up to \$20,000 for the same amount of time, and 60 or 90-day programs could cost upwards of \$60,000. That's \$600 dollars a day. The Justin's Place Recovery Program only costs \$82 per day.





## Men's Program AT LABELLE

The Justin's Place Recovery Program originally opened in 2010 with 16 beds available for men. They lived inside the old East Naples Firehouse, at the Justin's Place Feeding Ministry. Now with 160 beds for men and women across four locations, the men still spend their first month at Justin's Place Feeding Ministry.

After completing their first month in Naples, the men move to the Port LaBelle Inn & Conference Center, where they spend a majority of their year in recovery. This operating hotel and conference center provides a unique experience for the Justin's Place men, incorporating a vast agricultural curriculum, taking care of the 47-acre property including multiple hydroponic gardens, and a culinary curriculum, working in the hotel's restaurant and catering business. Not only does this help with skills and job training to bridge resume gaps, but it introduce new interests and passions as old habits are replaced.



### TYLER | *Testimony*

"I grew up in a family where alcohol was socially acceptable. I started drinking around the age of 13. In high school I started hanging out with the wrong crowd to try and be cool. Around the age of 16, I got introduced to opiates and found my new favorite thing to do.

I started to isolate from everyone and wouldn't hang out with my friends or family because I didn't want them to know. After a while nobody wanted to be around me so I just became more isolated.

### DONOR SPOTLIGHT

#### DANA & BARRY COLLIER

"AFTER SPENDING TIME WITH THE LADIES OF JILL'S PLACE, WE ARE EXCITED TO HELP EXPAND THE EFFORTS AND THE REACH OF ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE SO MORE PEOPLE COULD FIND HOPE IN RECOVERY."

TO DATE MORE THAN 525 MEN AND WOMEN HAVE SUCCESSFULLY GRADUATED FROM THE JUSTIN'S PLACE RECOVERY PROGRAM



Justin's Place Recovery Program residents gather at the beach to celebrate new life through baptisms.



**85% OF JUSTIN'S PLACE GRADUATES  
ARE SOBER TWO YEARS AFTER  
GRADUATION**

## STEPHANIE | *Testimony*

"I grew up in Naples, in a middle-class family. My parents gave me everything I ever wanted, and more than material things, they gave me plenty of love. I was cared for, wanted and loved. And yet there was still a darkness in me, and a feeling of not fitting in, something that always plagued me and brought me to seek acceptance in the outcast group of society.

I was an excellent student and graduated with a 4.5 GPA. I could go to any school that I wanted, but I chose to go to a school well-known for its parties. It was there that I discovered prescription pills. My downward spiral began. I dropped out, and after a decade of abuse I hit rock bottom.

In my darkest moment I found Justin's Place. My life was then tremendously changed. I now live in the freedom that I've always dreamed of and always deserved. I am happy today, experiencing a peace and joy in my life that I never knew was possible. I have discovered that the emptiness I had felt my whole life was the lack

of God, that it was a God-shaped hole in my soul that I had tried to fill with drugs and alcohol. Now with the Lord in my life, I know that anything is possible, and that my future is bright."



## *Women's Program* **JILL'S PLACE RETREAT CENTER**

In 2013, the Justin's Place Recovery Program opened its doors to women for the very first time. It took a few years—and eventually a hurricane—before the women of Justin's Place found a home in Alva, Florida at the Jill's Place Retreat Center. The 11-acre property, which had once been a spiritual retreat center, had fallen into disrepair. With the help of generous and dedicated donors, the property has been renovated to include a new kitchen, expanded dining hall, and updated flooring. Today, Jill's Place houses 30 women, but plans to expand the number of women served are underway for 2020, including innovative ways to add to St. Matthew's House social enterprises and provide further vocational training opportunities. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration notes that it is "imperative for vocational services to be incorporated into substance abuse treatment, given that work is necessary for physical and emotional recovery..."

Much like the men in LaBelle, the women's program employs the power of agriculture to assist in life-transformation. At Jill's Place, the women work together three times a week caring for the farm, land, and livestock on their property. Each resident is assigned a chore area for which she is responsible: feeding chickens, supervising compost worms, watering the herb garden or greenhouse, and more. The women's property boasts a moringa grove, various fruit trees, raised beds, herb garden and 18 egg-laying chickens. Two dairy goats and a horse were added this past fall.

**WE EXPECT TO HELP OVER 200 MEN AND  
WOMEN OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS FIND LIFE  
TRANSFORMATION AND SOBRIETY WITH THE  
JUSTIN'S PLACE RECOVERY PROGRAM**





## Social Enterprises

A social enterprise can be described as a small-business, but to us, it is so much more. This initiative began over a decade ago with one thrift store and a small catering company. Today, our social enterprises have grown to a total of 6 thrift stores, 2 catering companies, a hotel and conference center, café, car wash, and breaking ground in 2019, our newest enterprise, LuLu's Kitchen.

Our social enterprises advance St. Matthew's House mission in three main ways:

1) Revenue: Nearly 60% of the budget is raised using market-based enterprises. This means that all of fundraising and administrative costs are covered, so that 100% of donations go directly to our life-saving programs.

2) Jobs: Over half of St. Matthew's House 240 employees are current or former residents of our programs.

3) Community: An often overlooked aspect of our thrift operations is the environmental impact our stores have by recycling tens of thousands of items that are resold instead of being thrown away.

This is often described as the "triple-bottom line" of our social enterprises: a financial, social, and environmental profit center.

The remaining 40% of our income is comprised of private donations from individual donors, foundations, church and business partners, and special events. This affords us the flexibility to operate all of our programs in unique and individualized ways, without rigid restrictions that are often placed on non-profits that use government funding.

Homelessness, poverty, and addiction are complex issues with a variety of contributing factors and root causes, so it is crucial that our solutions remain adaptable and responsive to the changing needs of this population.

Second, our social enterprises directly help the people we serve by providing employment training and job opportunities for our residents, especially those who face significant barriers to employment such as criminal histories, inadequate education or lack of marketable skills. This component, called workforce readiness, is a large facet to both our emergency shelters and addiction recovery programs.

**100% OF EVERY DOLLAR DONATED GOES DIRECTLY TO SUPPORT THE MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN WHO NEED IT MOST THANKS TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR UNIQUE SOCIAL ENTERPRISES**



**58% OF OUR CURRENT JOB POSITIONS ARE RELATED TO OUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISES**

BOARD MEMBER  
**SPOTLIGHT**  
JOHN R. WOOD

**"I BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF THE FREE MARKET, AND I LOVE THAT THE ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE MODEL REPRESENTS THE BEST THAT LOCAL BUSINESSES HAVE TO OFFER A COMMUNITY AND, AT THE SAME TIME, SAVES MANY LIVES FOR GOD."**

**I'M DELIGHTED TO HELP ADVANCE THEIR UNIQUE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MODEL."**



The Justin's Place Recovery Program uses the final four months of their year-long recovery program to begin employment training. Our culinary institute, catering and banquet services, café and barista training, hospitality management, car wash and detail center, agricultural program, and retail operations offer residents the opportunity to gain skills and hands on experience. So, instead of a year or more gap on resumés, residents leave with new skills, a job history, references, and often a job offer from a St. Matthew's House social enterprise. Either way, they'll have had opportunities to reestablish themselves as credible candidates for employment.

**OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS MORE THAN 800 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BENEFITED FROM ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE WORKFORCE READINESS TRAINING AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES, INCLUDING 500 GRADUATES OF JUSTIN'S PLACE RECOVERY PROGRAM**

Our opportunities for residents to find employment training are steadily growing. In 2019, we broke ground on our newest social enterprise, a multifaceted facility called LuLu's Kitchen.

After serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner every day for over 30 years, we have outgrown our central kitchen facility. Even while experiencing substantial growth, the kitchen has remained relatively unchanged. Located within the Campbell Lodge, this 1,200-square-foot kitchen was initially designed to serve meals to shelter residents.

*Port LaBelle Inn*  
& Conference Center



delicious  
by design



**OVER \$9 MILLION DOLLARS WAS RAISED BY OUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISES LAST YEAR!**

Today, we still serve all our meals from the original kitchen, plus we now serve the needs of our catering, café, and culinary training initiatives. LuLu's Kitchen, located on St. Matthew's House property immediately adjacent to the Campbell Lodge, provides a 500% increase in square footage and combines our existing café and catering operations with a formal culinary training institute and full-service restaurant that will be open to the public.

As the new central kitchen for St. Matthew's House, the facility will be responsible for accommodating a wide array of services. First and foremost, the kitchen will receive donated food and prepare more than 500,000 meals a year for residents and the public. It also will provide increased access to our culinary training program for the disadvantaged and underemployed across Southwest Florida. With addition of a full-service restaurant, drive-thru, bakery, and coffee bar, we'll provide a more comprehensive overview of the hospitality industry and improve employment marketability of residents. Further, diversifying our food-service business ventures will generate increased revenue for St. Matthew's House programs, leading to future expansion and the creation of more jobs.

**THIS STATE-OF-THE-ART 8,000 SQUARE FOOT KITCHEN WILL BE HOME TO DELICIOUS BY DESIGN AND PROVIDE A CENTRAL LOCATION FOR ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE CULINARY TRAINING PROGRAM. LULU'S KITCHEN WILL ALSO OPEN AS A RESTAURANT, SERVING BREAKFAST AND LUNCH TO THE PUBLIC.**



I transferred from Augusta, Georgia to Naples, Florida as a Walmart pharmacy manager in the summer of 2017. When I interviewed for the position, I was told about the unique challenges the store faced because of its location. They explained that within five miles one direction there were multi-million dollar mansions, a nice downtown area with upscale restaurants and shops, and beautiful beaches. In the same distance the other direction there was the county bus station, the county jail, and a homeless shelter.

As I introduced myself to patients, I became aware of the high number of opioid prescriptions that were being presented and what seemed like a constant flow of addicts wanting to buy syringes. As a seasoned pharmacist of over thirty years, I recognized the telltale signs of addiction and the desperation that comes with drug seeking behavior.

## PAULA | Testimony



As months went on, I came to know the “red flag patients” who were seeking drugs for illicit use and who would bounce back and forth from the streets to jail. It seemed like an ongoing, hopeless cycle which would eventually end with me not seeing them again.

My assumptions were that they went seeking to other pharmacies, they ended up imprisoned long-term, or they passed away from their heavy drug use and addictions.

One evening two gentlemen wearing St. Matthew’s House shirts came into the pharmacy to pick up prescriptions for their residents. In my mind, I thought St. Matthew’s House was simply a big donation center with an attached thrift

store, that used its funds to run a small homeless shelter. As they described how extensive the food, shelter, and recovery programs were, I realized how far off my perception was. They walked me through the different phases of the lengthy recovery program and told me what the two year success rate was for those completing the program. Knowing the poor success rates for thirty day addiction programs and corresponding relapse rates, I was truly impressed. They told me that they had each gone through

the recovery program and that they were now helping others at St. Matthew’s House to do the same. They took the time to share their stories, which included genuine praise and deep gratitude for a God they had come to know and believe in through their struggles. I was profoundly touched.

As time went on, whenever I noticed someone coming to the pharmacy wearing a St. Matthew’s House shirt, I would ask them to share their personal stories with me. Personally, I felt that God had placed me in this particular Walmart location so that I could be touched by St. Matthew’s House and give back to them in some way. Professionally, their stories gave me hope that even in the midst of the Opioid Epidemic there were success stories. The day that I recognized a “red flag patient,” who I had not seen for a very long time returning anew, was the day I truly realized that denying to fill an opioid prescription might directly result in an amazing transformation because of St. Matthew’s House. That was it. I registered online to volunteer.

With God’s hand and through his blessings, red flags and horrors are being transformed into hope and hallelujahs, and Naples truly has reason to celebrate all that St. Matthew’s House does and for its perfect location in my own back yard!



**ALMOST 50,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS WERE CLOCKED THIS YEAR, TOTALING \$1.2 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF SERVICE HOURS!**

## Volunteers

Over 1,500 volunteers from across Southwest Florida, representing the community and entities such as churches, civic groups, schools, and businesses served with St. Matthew’s House last year. We are so thankful for every one. To the regulars we’ve grown to love as family, to those who commit to serving each holiday season or whenever they can; every minute makes a difference in the lives of those we serve. This past year, we have enhanced the volunteer experience through an interactive Volunteer Orientation and mini-training series so volunteers are more equipped to serve and understand the scope of all that we do at St. Matthew’s House.

We wouldn’t be who we are without the men, women, and children who donate their time and talents to moving this mission forward.





# Are You A Forward Thinker?



As we begin a new decade, we can look back on what the past ten years has taught us, where we've made mistakes, and see how we've grown. While Southwest Florida has continued to rise up around us, the issues of hunger, homelessness, and addiction are still everpresent. We know the keys to fighting back require ingenuity, flexibility, hard work, and a continued belief in a God who says we're never too broken to find redemption. Everything that has happened in our brief history started from, to borrow words from Mother Teresa, a small act with great love. That's what it will

take as we continue to strive forward, to reach more people in better ways. Will you join us in continuing to do small acts with great love to reach those around us who have lost their way forward?



## WAYS TO HELP

### TAKE A TOUR OF HOPE

See our Naples Shelter, Campbell Lodge. There is no better way to know the work we do and the people we serve. Each tour can be customized to meet your needs and includes lunch prepared by our culinary team. Enjoy the best shelter food in America!

### BECOME A VOLUNTEER

There are hundreds of volunteer opportunities at St. Matthew's House! From working in our thrift stores, helping prep food in the kitchen, working in the food pantry, or assisting our office staff, there is a spot for you. We have options that will be customized to fit your availability, skills, and interest. Sign up online at [smh.volunteerhub.com](http://smh.volunteerhub.com)

### DONATE

One of the most sustainable ways to help is by becoming a monthly contributor! This allows us to plan ahead with confidence and shows us you truly believe in the mission of St. Matthew's House. Every amount makes an impact, whether it's \$5 or \$5,000. We value your contribution and appreciate your partnership. Learn more at [stmatthewshouse.org/give](http://stmatthewshouse.org/give)

### LEARN MORE

Have a question or want to know more about something you read? We would love to get connected!

2601 AIRPORT ROAD S. NAPLES, FL 34112  
[WWW.STMATTHEWSHOUSE.ORG](http://WWW.STMATTHEWSHOUSE.ORG)  
[INFO@STMATTHEWSHOUSE.ORG](mailto:INFO@STMATTHEWSHOUSE.ORG)  
(239) 774-0500

## Board Members

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Joseph Trachtenberg  
Retired President/CEO Victaulic Co.

### TREASURER

Sam McCullough  
President/CEO, Griffin Holdings Group, LLC

### SECRETARY

Mimi Scofield  
Principal, Banyan Marketing & Distributing LLC

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Dr. Gordon L. Hyde  
Dr. Greg Loman  
Rachael S. Loukonen  
Fr. Michael Orsi  
Kris Pfaehler  
Mark R. Pratt  
Robert D. Steele  
William Wright

## Accreditations

### CITYGATE NETWORK

[www.citygatenetworks.com](http://www.citygatenetworks.com)

### CATALYST KITCHENS

[www.catalystkitchens.org](http://www.catalystkitchens.org)

### CERTIFIED BEST CHRISTIAN WORKPLACE

[www.bcwinstitute.org](http://www.bcwinstitute.org)

### THE GREATER NAPLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

[www.napleschamber.org](http://www.napleschamber.org)

### GUIDESTAR—PLATINUM MEMBER

[www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)

### FARESTART MEMBER

[www.farestart.org](http://www.farestart.org)

### BEST OF NAPLES WINNERS

[www.bestswfl.com](http://www.bestswfl.com)

## Collaborating Organizations

NAPLES COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

LEE HEALTH

NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CLINIC

DAVID LAWRENCE CENTER

SALUS CARE

PROJECT HELP

COLLEGE SOURCE

COLLIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S AND CORRECTIONS OFFICES

LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S AND CORRECTIONS OFFICE

20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF FLORIDA

JACKSON COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

LORENZO WALKER TECHNICAL COLLEGE

STARBUCKS

ECHO SUSTAINABLE FARMING

FIFTH THIRD BANK

WELLS FARGO

IBERIABANK





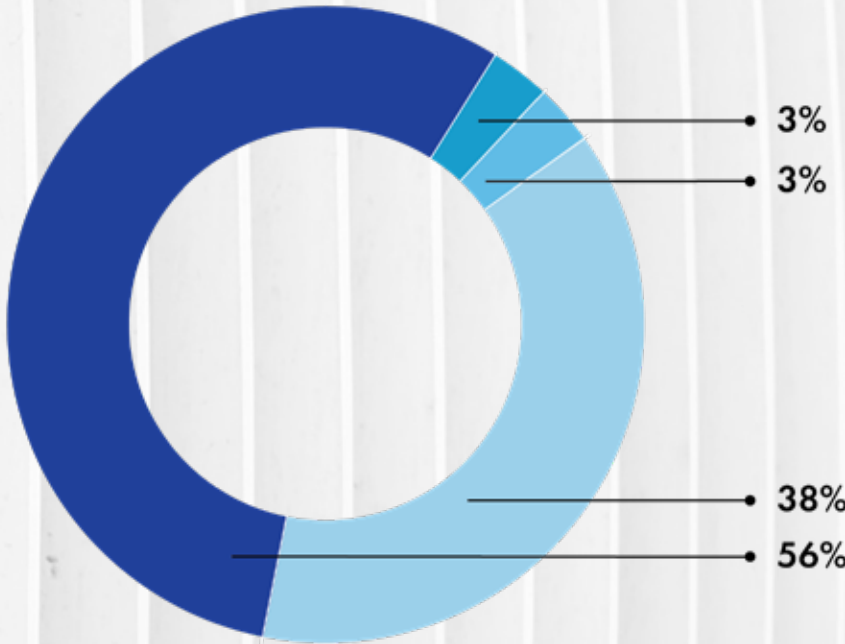
# Fiscal Year 2019

## ANNUAL REPORT

St. Matthew’s House does not solicit any government support. And because of our robust social enterprises, all administrative and fundraising costs are covered by the profits from our businesses.

This means that 100% of every dollar donated to St. Matthew’s House goes directly to support the men, women, and children in our care.

Based on our FY18 Independent Auditors Report CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP



### OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT

- EVENTS—3%**  
\$437,697
- IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS—3%**  
\$572,319
- GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS—38%**  
\$6,247,195
- SOCIAL ENTERPRISES—56%**  
\$9,220,935

**TOTAL \$16,478,147\***

\*AN ADDITIONAL \$750K HAS BEEN RAISED FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF JUSTIN’S VILLAGE



### EXPENSES

- MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION—9%**  
\$1,490,575
- FUNDRAISING—10%**  
\$1,739,892
- PROGRAM SERVICES & SOCIAL ENTERPRISES—81%**  
\$13,550,259

**TOTAL \$16,780,726**



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NAPLES, FLORIDA 34112



ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE

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STMATTHEUSHOUSE.ORG