2023 IMPACT REPORT





OUR CORE

As an expression of God's love in Southwest Florida, we are growing to ensure that no one experiencing hunger, homelessness, or addiction is alone or without a pathway for their

JOURNEY

from crisis to contributor.

TOGETHER

with our partners and participants, we cultivate communities where people are progressively seen, accepted, challenged, and supported.



A LETTER FROM THE CEO: STEVE BROODER

DEAR FRIENDS:

For St. Matthew's House, 2023 was a year of significant growth while we worked to restore what was damaged by Hurricane Ian.

Thanks to the compassionate community we live in, we're recovering. In fact, we have been so blessed this past year with generous donations from partner organizations and individuals, that we not only rebuilt much of what was lost but are planning to expand our programs beyond their existing footprint due to the increasing waitlists for our shelter and recovery programs.

You'll read about some of the 2023 developments in the following pages: adding a new freezer and generator to our food and emergency assistance warehouse, increasing space for residents at Campbell Lodge and Justin's Village, opening the Scott & Dolly McCartan Empowerment Hub and more!

As we move into 2024, we are resolved to strengthen our focus on helping those in need. We intend to grow with purpose to show love and share hope as Jesus challenges us in Matthew 22:39 – "Love your neighbor as yourself."

God Bless,

Eve (Smale

ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE LEADERSHIP



Steven Brooder CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Ben Bridges VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS



Bill Curry VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT



Michael Muskat VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS



Debbie Simmons VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE



Andrew Wasch VICE PRESIDENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Rick Fumo CHAIRMAN Founder/Partner, Fumo Consulting Group, LLC

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Richard Grows TREASURER Executive Director, J.P. Morgan Private Bank

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Douglas Londal Senior Advisor MSD Partners, L.P. Rachael S. Loukonen Attorney, Cheffy Passidomo, P.A.

Sam McCullough President/CEO, Griffin Holdings Group, LLC

Neale Montgomery Partner, Pavese Law Firm

Mimi Scofield Principal, Banyan Marketing & Distributing, LLC

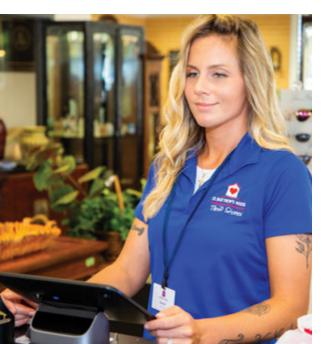
John Svirsky Commercial Real Estate Financing

William Wright Retired, CEO

Cindy Yoder-Brown Retired, LCSW, CADC, CEAP







TOTAL OPERATING **REVENUE** \$53,149,605 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$50,531,446





41% IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS \$21,648,016

34% GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS \$18,080,582

25% social enterprises \$13,421,007 7% MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION \$3,324,169

7% FUNDRAISING \$3,624,608

86% PROGRAM SERVICES \$43,582,669

OPPORTUNITIES OF **GROWTH**

Average MONTHLY PRODUCTION During Peak Growing Season:

Lettuce (6 Different Varieties) 240 lbs.

Swiss Chard 50 lbs.

Arugula 10-20 lbs.

Green Beans 50 lbs.

Grape Tomatoes 30 lbs.

Herbs (Dill, Cilantro, Basil) 15 lbs.



IN 2014, WHEN THE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM BEGAN, it was merely a sprout. Now, it's taken root with plans to grow, propagate and flourish in the future.

The agriculture program serves as an opportunity for those in the Justin's Place Recovery Program to learn and grow while providing food for themselves and their fellow residents. It's work therapy.

"It's more than just farming," said Jeff McDowell, Senior Director of Justin's Place. "Within the heart of the agriculture program lies a profound lesson: as residents tend to the earth, nurture plants and care for animals, they cultivate something deeper within themselves. Each seed planted is a promise of new beginnings, each harvest a triumph of persistence."

Dr. Shawron Weingarten, Manager of Agriculture Programs, says that the program also gives the participants purpose and teaches them the importance of responsibility and pride in their work—things they'll need when they graduate and look for employment whether that's in the field of agriculture or something completely different.

In 2019, our agriculture program grew significantly with a generous donation from Scott and Dolly McCartan, and as a result it adopted a new name: **Scott's Garden**.

Though Scott's Garden is an arm of the Justin's Place Recovery Program, its bounty is a blessing organization wide. On a regular basis, they provide produce to LuLu's Kitchen and when harvest is especially good, Shawron notes there are times they provide food for the community meals and the shelters in Naples and Immokalee.

Gardening requires optimism for what tomorrow may bring, and as the Justin's Place Recovery Program expands to meet the need in Southwest Florida, so too will Scott's Garden, providing abundant hope and opportunities of growth.









With our new walk-in freezer, we can ensure that individuals and families have access to daily nutritious meals," said Alesi Fernandez, St. Matthew's House Warehouse Manager. "This [donation] is more than important; it's *crucial* in order for us to respond to the community's needs and alleviate hunger."



6

FOOD IS LOVE



ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS WIFE'S PASSING, two thoughts came to the mind of Dave Biggers, a generous, down-to-earth Naples man: he wanted to remember his wife, and he didn't want to be alone.

So, Dave reached out to Brittany Curry, a Development Officer at St. Matthew's House, and the two enjoyed a conversational lunch at LuLu's Kitchen. Dave told Brittany that he and his late wife shared a charitable passion for eradicating hunger.

"When you can have anything you want, go anywhere you want, do whatever you want, but your eyes are fixed on ensuring others have basic necessities and comfort that says a lot," Brittany said.

As a monthly donor, Dave knew of St. Matthew's House but not the extent of the programs. After touring the facilities and seeing current organizational needs, Dave was moved by the potential to feed multitudes through a substantial donation: a freezer for the food warehouse.

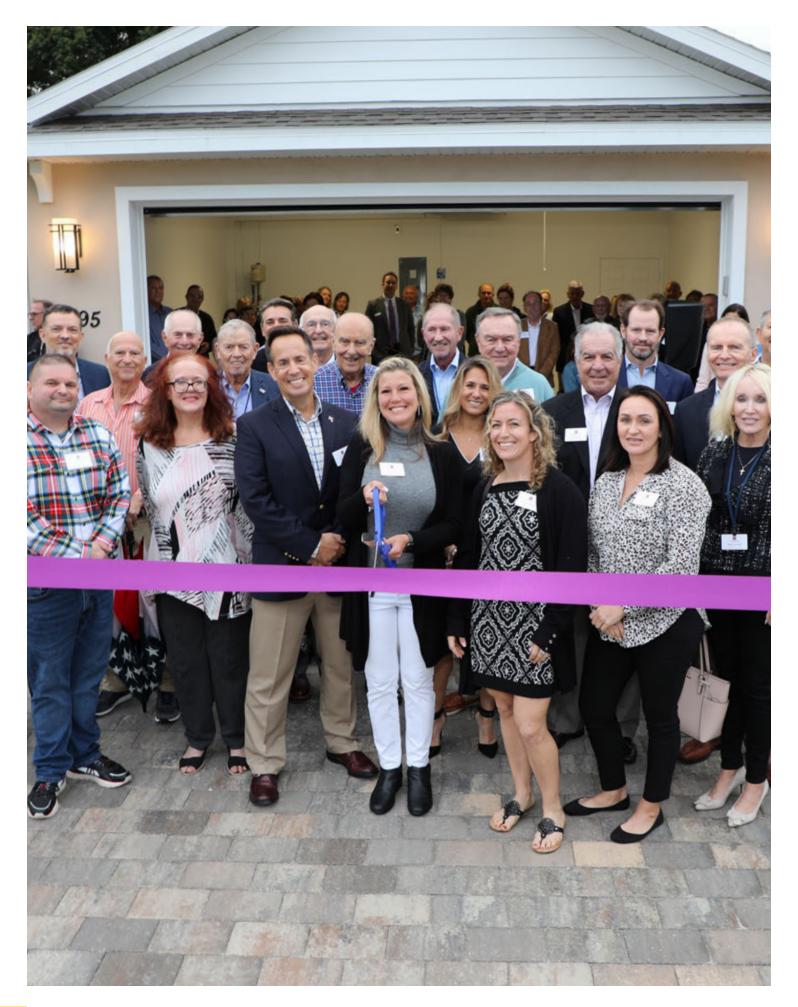
So, in his wife's honor, Dave gave a gift that helped us purchase the walk-in freezer and a generator.* This would allow our Food Assistance Program to provide people with healthy staples such as produce, dairy and meat, which many families can't afford.

In April 2023, the installation began and since then, our Food Assistance team has been able to distribute over 125,000 bags of groceries to people across Southwest Florida through 125 food distributions.

Though Dave's health prevents him from serving meals at our shelters, he enjoys stopping by to share a meal and a smile with those around him, and every month, without fail, Dave calls Brittany asking how many people have been fed through St. Matthew's House.

"When you talk to people in the programs at St. Matthew's House, they often say, "This place saved my life," Dave said. "Well, I'm just a donor, but this place saved my life, too."

*The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also contributed to the freezer and generator costs.



LIVING IN COMMUNITY

IN 2023, WE COMPLETED THE CONSTRUCTION OF 3 NEW HOMES IN JUSTIN'S VILLAGE, our transitional

housing for graduates of our recovery program. Our future goal is to add 28 more residences to the village, so a total of 146 individuals can safely live in community.

"The new homes create pathways for Justin's Place graduates guiding them towards renewed lives and resilient futures," said Matt Seluk, Director of Major Gifts & Individual Giving. "Adding 28 more residences promises to extend this opportunity further expanding our impact and fostering hope and recovery." One of those individuals is Arianna Kidwell-Hays who graduated the program in October 2021 and entered Justin's Village. Arianna credits the transitional housing as a key to her adjusting to a new life maintaining sobriety. Now, she and her husband are proud homeowners and pet-parents.

"Honestly, if I didn't have the Godhonoring, sober living that is Justin's Village and the community there to help me, I don't think I would have made it to where I am right now," said Arianna.



EXPANDING TO MEET A NEED





"It feels like a nice place to behomier," said Courtney Sanders, Administrative Coordinator at Campbell Lodge. "It's changing

attitudes of people when they first walk in. People that come here and have stayed at different shelters say this is a whole other level."



TO AN OUTSIDE EYE, SOUTHWEST FLORIDA MAY SEEM like an affluent area with few who struggle, but the numbers don't lie. According to the Hunger & Homeless Coalition of Collier County's 2023 PIT Count, there were over 700 people experiencing homelessness.* As St. Matthew's House operates the only homeless shelter in Naples, we knew we had to increase our efforts.

"With a fast-growing wait list, several generous families rallied to provide financial gifts allowing us to expand the bed capacity and case management services at Campbell Lodge by nearly 50%," said Bill Curry, Vice President of Development. "This generosity has a lasting impact in the lives of our residents as they battle from personal crisis to being community contributors once again."

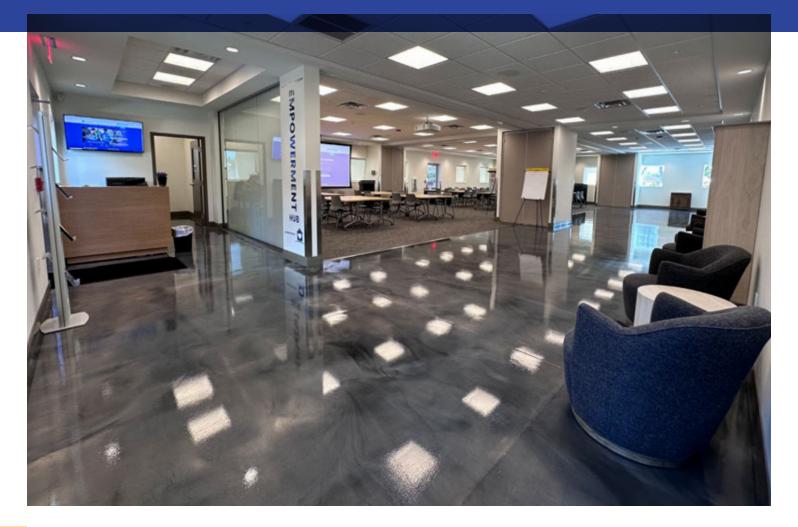
In November 2023, construction was completed adding windows and walls to turn once open-aired areas into livable space—just in time for us to provide aid during the cold-weather months and hope during the holidays.

*collierhomelesscoalition. org/2023-pit-snap-shot





"Jesus didn't come into the world to be served; he came into the world to serve, and he tells us to do the same thing. Serving is not a demand, it's a gift," explains Jim. "When I've taken care of people [who] I'm supposed to be a blessing to, they bless my life every single time."



EMPOWERING CHANGE



AS CHRISTIANS AND RETIRED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS,

Jim and Janet Day's passion lies with helping people, so when they moved to Florida a few years ago, they knew they wanted to get involved in a community organization to serve those in need.

Jim and Janet's experience with St. Matthew's House began as volunteers at Cars on 5th, the largest single day event in Naples, FL, which benefits St. Matthew's House. Then, in the summer of 2022, they began volunteering weekly at our food distributions. Now, just over a year later, they've stepped into a new role as volunteer hosts of our newest community endeavor: the Empowerment Hub.

The Scott & Dolly McCartan Empowerment Hub officially opened in November 2023. Its purpose: to provide a safe and welcoming space for St. Matthew's House program participants, alumni, staff and community partners to learn and grow in their professional endeavors.

Though the Day's new role isn't directly involved with meeting the physical needs of individuals, it's just as integral to their journey from crisis to contributor.

"We're still going to be interacting with people that are coming through St. Matthew's House, getting involved and getting the care and education that they need, so that they can develop self-esteem, better habits, better relationships," Jim said. "Learning and move[ing] on; that is what St. Matthew's House is about."

Transforming Lives

Through our many programs, St. Matthew's House initiates a second chance at life for many people facing their toughest times. With faith-based principles and a team of dedicated staff and volunteers, we've been able to see thousands of individuals and families find a path forward.



239-774-0500 stmatthewshouse.org



LEE COUNTY

2031 Jackson Street, Ste 140 Fort Myers, FL 33901

COLLIER COUNTY

2001 Airport Road South Naples, FL 34112