

# **WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER**

#### To our friends and supporters:

With winter coming to an end, we hope you are doing well! As our community continues to normalize and we move towards spring, we want to provide you with some organizational updates. Recently, Matthew 25 has overcome plenty of challenges as an organization, and that was made possible by the support of people like you! As the past two years have taken a toll on many marginalized groups, we are committed and eager to continue serving homeless men in Middle Tennessee who are most in need of compassion, support and accountability.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of **Dr. William Anderson Spickard**, **Jr.** Andy was a revered physician, an expert in the treatment of addiction, and a long-time Matthew 25 Board member. He was also a dear, dear friend to our staff and so many of the men we have served over the years. At the age of 90, Andy elected to resume leading his addiction treatment group sessions with the men of Matthew 25 after these were postponed early on in the pandemic. His selfless commitment to serving these men in-person at our facility was simply awe-inspiring and a perfect example of his lifelong character and values. We are so thankful for his long years of service and leadership, and while we miss him dearly, we know that his impact and presence will always be felt at Matthew 25.

In our fall newsletter, we mentioned the progress being made on **Nathan Gafney's Eagle Scout Project**. We are so pleased to announce that he has completed his project and completely transformed our patio space! Nathan and his team put in nearly **300 hours of work** to pressure wash the space and build and stain all new furniture. We are so thankful for his hard work, and we know that this refurbished area will provide our men with a functional and relaxing patio space that will be used for years to come.

On December 16th, we resumed our annual **Founders Breakfast fundraiser** at the Frist Art Museum in downtown Nashville. We were so grateful to reconnect with our community in person for the first time in nearly 20 months, and the event was a wonderful success – **our supporters raised over \$48,000!** The breakfast was a time for us to demonstrate the impact, power and necessity of our work, and we are unbelievably thankful for everyone that chose to invest in the mission and vision of Matthew 25. We hope you can join us next December!

We also plan to kick off a **new fundraiser walk** event this spring! This wil be an annual event that offers our community an easy way to engage with us by raising awareness of our mission and supporting us through peer-to-peer fundraising. We have set a date of **May 15, 2022 at Edwin Warner Park**, so be sure to be on the lookout for finalized details!

At Matthew 25, we offer **Christ-centered care** on a daily basis – improving, empowering, and restoring the lives of those most in need. Matthew 25 is both a calling and ministry, and we are honored to serve these men every day. While we are proud of our work and perseverance over the past two years, we are even more excited for what's to come. Any way you can contribute today will help us secure our foundation and build towards the future!

Jim Ward

Executive Director

LEARN MORE

matthew25nashville.org

GIVE NOW

matthew25.kindful.com

### **MATTHEW 25 HAPPENINGS**

### **EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT**



The finished patio space!



**Nathan Gafney** with **Dr. Andy Spickard** on Veterans Day 2021.

## **ZEAL CHRISTMAS**



For the second year in a row, our wonderful friends and supporters at Zeal church stopped by for an evening of Christmas cookies, treats and music!

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

One of the best ways to keep up with our work is through our social media pages. By following and interacting, you can help spread awareness of our mission!



Facebook account: matthew25helps



Instagram account: matthew25nashville



LinkedIn account: **matthew-25-inc** 



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