



(Interim) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BOARD MEETING – MAY 19, 2025

Board & Governance

- Potential new member recommended by Jeff Risk. Marci Peebles met with Marie Giffen, and she is filling out her application. Marie is a CPA with non-profit experience.

Staffing Changes

- Individual hired for Mobile Program to start on May 1. She backed out April 28. Position re-posted, interviews in progress.
- Madison Yee started as Program Assistant and is getting acclimatized / trained around Tau and Garden

Strategy & Planning

- Phase 1 of Strategic Plan with Ryan Mulligan / Sidekick Services complete. Phase I services focused on assessment with information to be gathered through meetings with staff, a board retreat, and other data-gathering exercises. Further update in regular Board meeting discussion.

Development

- Fundraising activities YTD include the following:
 - 2025 General giving, appeals, tributes: \$ 10,578.84
 - \$85k Gift to Tamar's Center from Estate of Paul Wenzel (unrestricted within Tamar's)
 - \$10,382.42 - The Peddler Thrift Store, Q1
 - \$6,400 - Grants received:
 1. \$4,500 grant received from Church of the Incarnation for the student voucher program.
 2. \$1,900 raised in SeedMoney campaign for Garden fence and faucet fund
 - Grant submissions:
 1. Church of the Incarnation – grant for \$5,000 submitted for the Haircuts from the Heart student voucher program for 2026. Additional in-person presentation made by Marci Peebles to the Social Action Committee. We have received funding from this source in the past for vouchers.
 2. Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl (local funds) – grant for \$3,000 submitted for Community Garden water costs. We have received funding from this source in the past for vouchers.
 3. Dater Foundation – grant for \$12,000 submitted for the Haircuts from the Heart student voucher program.
 4. The Lawrence Foundation – grant for \$5,000 submitted for strategic planning.

General Update on ED / Interim Period

- Strategic Planning, Phase 1, Part 2
- Watching online trainings and “playing” in Donor Perfect to learn / work in the program.
- Onboarding Program Assistant on all things FM and specifically on Tau / Garden programs.
- Interviewed and hired for Mobile Program position. Hire fell through, process restarted.
- Reached out to OneSource Center for Nonprofit Excellence EXCEL Program
 - Attended sessions that had been missed originally due to family health issues.
 - Met with Dave Wallace from OneSource about training resources and OneSource offerings
 - Resumed coaching with Sheri Vogel. Sheri had been Marci’s coach as part of the EXCEL Program.
- Searching out Development / Grant-Writing / Fundraising resources, trainings, sources
- Working with Tamar’s Center Committee and staff towards new focus to serve women.
- Maintaining Tau House, Community Garden, and Haircuts needs.
- Looking toward future needs and strategic planning, Sr Marilyn had suggested I detail what currently falls under Director of Operations – with Board docs

PROGRAM REPORT

BOARD MEETING – MAY 19, 2025

The Community Garden

The Garden season has begun, and all plots are claimed at this time. We continue to have a sizeable waitlist. First Work Day was held April 12. Informal volunteer day was held May 10 with a crew from Heartfelt Tidbits – so much was accomplished that May's formal Work Day was cancelled to encourage people to attend to their own plots. Efforts to address necessary repairs on the fence surrounding the Garden continue – Eads Fencing is not easy to work with. As result, there have been delays, again, and Marci is waiting on a new bid from Mills Fence and has reached out to a fence repair person recommended by Peter Huttinger of Turner Farm. We do have funds set aside for this. Conversations are planned with Heartfelt Tidbits to continue to improve the overall function and experience of the Community Garden. We also have a current long-term gardener offering to assist Madison as she grows more familiar with the Garden.

Haircuts from the Heart

Our Mobile Program stylist resigned in late March, and the program has been suspended since. We had interviewed and hired for the role with a start date of May 1, but the individual backed out on April 28. The position was reposted, we have been holding interviews. Ideally this role will be filled as soon as possible so that there is no need to return any portion of mobile fees for the year. Operations at Mary Magdalen House (MMH) continue. The partnership with MMH remains strong, and the staff is very supportive of our efforts and generous with their space. We have applied for two new grants and are pursuing additional funding to meet anticipated demand within the Voucher Program.

Tau House

Spring was slow this year – as is historically the case when Easter falls late in the season, resulting in fewer spring break trips. However, we did host LaSalle HS just prior to Easter and Lehman Catholic HS just after Easter. Additionally, we unexpectedly hosted individuals from the Lalanne Program from University of Dayton when their housing fell through last minute. The 2025 schedule is fully booked for summer groups (May 25-July 25), Volunteer sites and programming are confirmed, we are collecting final balances and paperwork, and final prep work for each week is starting. Below is a summary of bookings to date:

- Winter/Spring: 3 retreat groups - 51 ppl total and 3 mini-trips 38 ppl total; unexpected hosting – 3ppl
- Summer - 8 trips - 170 ppl total
- Fall: Groups typically book during late summer
- Winter: Groups typically book in the fall.

Tamar's Center

Documents relating to data collection and outlines have been requested and are being uploaded to the Teams drive. A session was held on May 8, and six women attended. Kroger donated flowers for Mother's Day, and Tamar will be collaborating with them as part of their quarterly give-back program. New oven install should occur mid-June. Not cost-effective (or particularly safe) to attempt repair. Cost will be \$3,814, including electrical upgrade needed for installation. Installers will also remove and dispose of old unit.