

Franciscan Ministries

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

The Begging Bowl



From the Desk of
Executive Director,
Sarah Wagner, LISW-S, CDCA

Graham Cracker Soup

The early part of Summer has proven to be very busy as all of the programs are in full swing. Franciscan Ministries continues to provide invaluable services to our communities and make a real difference in the lives of those we serve.

I am reminded each day why we do the work we do, but it was really exemplified after a recent encounter with a Tamar's client.

A young woman asked the staff if they had ever had "graham cracker soup"? They responded no and asked what it was? The woman said her mom always made it "with graham crackers, then milk poured over the crackers, warmed in the microwave and topped with cinnamon". The woman, despite having a very strained and tumultuous relationship with her mom (who trafficked her from the age of 14), fondly remembers the "soup". The Tamar's staff, always empathic and caring, went to the store, purchased the graham cracker "soup" ingredients, and prepared it for the woman the next time she visited. The woman was very touched by the staff's kind gesture. That is why we do the work we do.

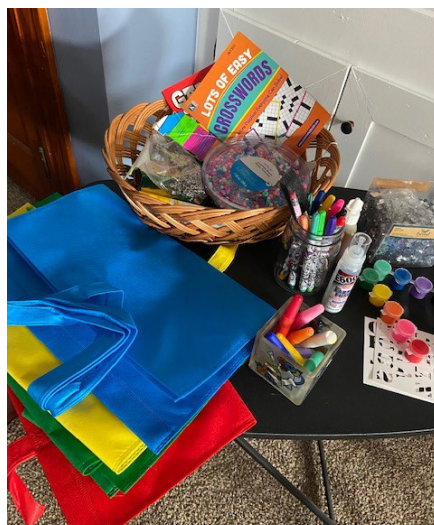
We remain grateful to all of our donors, particularly The Franciscan Sisters of the Poor and The Franciscan Peddler (our onsite thrift store) for their generous support of our mission. If you have not visited The Peddler, I urge you to come see the variety of clothing, housewares, jewelry, artwork, and many other items the store has to offer. The Peddler located on the St. Clare Campus and is open Fridays and Saturdays, 10 AM – 4 PM.



Program News

Tamar's Center

More renovations and enhanced programming provide a positive experience for clients.



Tamar's Center has undergone further renovations and is nearly complete. We have resumed serving clients and our numbers are increasing steadily. The house has proven to be a safe haven for women and the response by those who visit has been overwhelmingly positive.

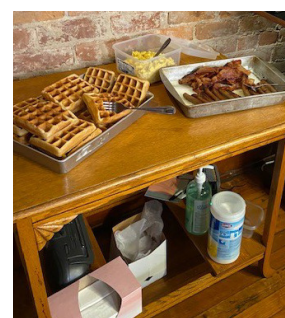


We have enhanced programming by introducing an incentive program, which allows clients to earn tokens and punch cards. Clients can then select items they desire from our pantry

at Tamar's. The intent is to empower our clients and encourage positive behavior.

In addition, we have begun "Tuesdays at Tamar's" which includes inviting women to Tamar's for lunch, camaraderie, and themed activities, such as, crafts, haircuts, spa day, meditation/yoga, etc. "Tuesday's at Tamar's" rolled out

July 11 and will occur every Tuesday from 11:00-1:00pm. Another of Franciscan Ministries' programs, Haircuts from the Heart, will add Tamar's to our list of mobile sites beginning in August. The women will be able to get a free haircut which is intended to improve self-esteem and inspire confidence.



Finally, we started hosting NA/AA meetings at Tamar's on Wednesday's at 10:30am. These meetings began the first Wednesday in August (August 2nd). Transportation and lunch is included.

The staff have done an exceptional job getting Tamar's operational while improving programs to be impactful, trauma sensitive, accessible, and encouraging.

Haircuts from the Heart is back!

We are very pleased to introduce Margarita Whitson as our new stylist. Margarita is a New Jersey native now residing in Cincinnati, OH. She graduated from the Atlantic County Institute of Technology with a certificate of Cosmetology. At the age of 21 Margarita opened up her very first hair salon in which she serviced people from different social, economic and ethnic backgrounds.

Margarita got awarded Business Person of the Year two consecutive years by the Hispanic Alliance of Atlantic County. In 2012 she opened up her second hair salon which she used to hold back to school events so children could receive free haircuts. In 2017 she moved to

Cincinnati and is now Co-Pastor at Reality Sanctuary Church. Margarita is currently attending Cincinnati State College to finish her associates degree in Humanities and Social Sciences. One of her many passions is being able to help people and assist them in acquiring the proper tools to be able to live the life they deserve.



We resumed services August 1, 2022. If you are interested in your agency being a mobile site for Haircuts, please contact Marci Peebles at (513) 761-1697.



The Community Garden

The Community Garden is in full swing which is abundantly noticeable if you happen to drive down Compton Road!

If you would like to hear more about the garden, please visit our website to view the video. It is a beautiful tribute to the garden and especially the Bhutanese population.



Tau House

Tau House had a very busy summer with groups throughout June and July. The groups came from different parts of the country and served in various capacities at Freestore Foodbank, Matthew 25 Ministries, Tikkun Farm, New Life Furniture Bank, St. Vincent de Paul, Wesley Chapel Mission Center, Washington United Church of Christ, and more. Thank you, as always, to all of our community partners! We love working with you.



A healing presence
serving people in need

To learn more about who we are and what we do, visit www.franciscanministriesinc.org

To donate support:

Email
info@franciscanministriesinc.org

Call
513-761-1697

Kroger Community Rewards
Link your Kroger Plus Card to Franciscan Ministries and shop. Kroger processes the donations and sends them to us!

Amazon Smile
Visit smile.Amazon.com, sign in to your account, select Franciscan Ministries, and shop. Qualifying purchases will start earning to provide for the underserved in our community.





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Development News

Bidding for a Purpose

Annual online auction to raise proceeds for Tamar's Center, Haircuts from the Heart, The Community Garden, and Tau House.

The Development Committee has been hard at work preparing for our annual event; an on-line auction, "Bidding for a Purpose". We will have a large variety of items we hope will entice your bid. All proceeds go to Franciscan Ministries' four programs, mentioned earlier in the newsletter. The auction will run for two weeks, October 1 through October 16. Details can be found on our website. Thank you in advance for your support.

If you would like to donate to the auction, either monetarily, or with an item, please contact Grace Marie Eckman at (513) 761-1697.



Bidding for a *Purpose*

Auction opens on October 1st
Final Bids on October 16th

Get the details:
www.franciscanministriesinc.org