

# EXPLORING DECADES OF SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH ART



Thanks to your commitment, guests experienced a powerful journey



Recently, a group of guests participating in the art program took a trip to the Woodmere Art Museum for a guided tour of "In the Moment- the Art and Photography of Harvey Finkle". The exhibit showcased more than 60 years of social justice movements in Philadelphia and the struggles of those living in poverty. Woodmere's Curator of

Education led the tour and spent much of it listening to guests' reactions and insights to images that were deeply familiar to them. Guests relish the chance to go on art "field trips" and along with the Woodmere, have visited the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Frances M. Maguire Art Museum at St. Joseph's University. We are grateful to the museums for generously covering the cost of admission, ensuring that all guests could fully engage with this powerful experience.

### **EXPANDING OUR IMPACT**

Your *support* is creating private and respectful meeting spaces

Thanks to your generosity, Face to Face is expanding to better serve our community. As our programs have grown so has our team, and now we need more space to continue this important work. This spring, we began construction on the upper level, transforming part of the gym into much-needed office and meeting space.



Your support is making it possible for our staff to meet privately and respectfully with guests, ensuring they receive the care and attention they deserve. The new meeting space will also provide opportunities for group meditation, stress reduction, and informational sessions.

Thank you for being a vital part of this growth. Your commitment is changing lives.

## PREVENTING EVICTIONS, PROTECTING DIGNITY Your *kindness* helped keep Wanda in her home



Because of your generosity,
Wanda was able to stay in her
home. After falling behind on
rent, mounting late fees made it
even harder for her to catch up.
Despite living in her home for
over 20 years, she faced the threat
of eviction. But thanks to your
support, the Legal Center stepped
in, secured Targeted Financial

Assistance from the City of Philadelphia, and helped Wanda stay in her home. Grateful for the kindness and help she received, Wanda shared, "Face to Face has become part of my family. They are so kind and helpful."

Your support makes stories like Wanda's possible. Thank you for being a lifeline for neighbors in need.

### Making a Difference From Your Own Kitchen

Some of the most meaningful impact can start right at home, in your own kitchen. By preparing and donating casseroles, you provide a warm, nourishing meal while fostering a sense of community. Weekly, our chefs utilize up to 12 homemade casseroles to serve our guests. A simple casserole, made with love, can remind someone that they are seen, valued, and cared for.









### A PERSISTENT FIGHT FOR JUSTICE:

## Securing a Rightful Inheritance

### Your Generosity Provided Critical Legal Advocacy



hanks to the support of donors like you, Face to Face's Legal Center provided critical representation for a guest when he needed help. In January 2023, a guest sought legal advice to understand his rights to a share of his late mother's estate, which included the family home. Since her passing five years earlier, his niece had been living in the house rent-free. Although his mother had assured him he would receive an inheritance, he was left with nothing.

At the time of his mother's passing, the guest was struggling with addiction and homelessness. But he fought hard to achieve sobriety, find steady employment and secure stable housing. When he tried to get information from his sister about their mother's estate, she refused to cooperate. That's when the guest came to Face to Face.

With your generosity fueling our efforts, our Legal Center tirelessly advocated for our guest. Our attorney sent multiple letters to his siblings, seeking a copy of the will and clarity on the estate, but they remained unresponsive. After eight months of failed attempts, legal action was the only path forward. A petition was filed in Orphans' Court to compel his siblings to produce their mother's will. At a February 2024 hearing, his sister testified that the will had been lost. The court determined that no will existed and ordered that the estate be divided equally among the four siblings. Anticipating further obstacles, our attorney requested that the court retain jurisdiction to ensure the sale of the family home would occur, ensuring fairness in the process, and that the proceeds would be divided among the four children.

With our team's support—and your generosity making this possible—a real estate agent was brought in to mediate the



challenging family dynamics and list the house at fair market value. The house was appraised, and the guest's niece secured a mortgage to purchase it. The deed was officially transferred to her, and at last, after nearly two years of persistence, our guest received his rightful inheritance.

Your support made this possible. Because of you, he had a legal advocate by his side, ensuring justice was served. Your support helps give our guests the chance to reclaim what is rightfully theirs.

### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS**

For over three years, *Emily* has been making casseroles with her young children. "We enjoy doing service together as a family", Emily shared. While making the casseroles, the children have thoughtful questions about poverty. "It opens the door for important conversations and helps us show our kids how small actions can help our neighbors in need."

Peggy learned about the casserole program at her church, Our Lady of Guadalupe. As a teacher and youth ministry leader at Mater Dei school, she saw it as a perfect project for her middle school students. "This is a wonderful way to teach the kids about the Corporal Works of Mercy," Peggy said. "It's not just about making food—it's about showing love and care for our neighbors in need."

She shared that the students have truly embraced the project. "They love it! It gives them a real, hands-on way to make a difference in people's lives."

### **CASSEROLE SIGN UP INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Sign up for casserole (4 options) in volunteer hub.
   Recipes change every 6 months.
- 2. *Make* assigned casserole recipe.
- 3. **Deliver** frozen to Face to Face
- 4. *Spread the Word:* Encourage friends, family, or community groups to join in.



Students from Mater Dei School cook up compassion with homemade casseroles

# SAVE the DATE

Scan the OR code for event information

# TURKEY TRO



eorbiddei



Join us for a tour and hear what's new from our Executive Director. Mary Kay Meeks-Hank. Coffee chats are offered several times a year. Check the website for future dates.

RSVP Jeanne@facetofacegermantown.org

# Wish List

**DEODORANT** 

**UNDERWEAR (NEW)** 

**MEN'S BOXER BRIEFS** 

**WOMEN'S** 

**FULL SIZE TOILETRIES:** 

2 IN1 SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER

**LOTION** 

**BARS OF SOAP** 

SHORTS WITH ELASTIC WAISTBAND

**COFFEE** 

**TEA** 

**SUGAR** 

**VINEGAR (WHITE, APPLE CIDER)** 



Volunteer scheduling is available online. Scan the QR code to create your



account and view volunteer opportunities.

Ouestions? Email Ally Monteiro, Volunteer Manager Ally@facetofacegermantown.org

## Ways TO HELP

- BECOME A CASSEROLE COOK
- 🕜 HOST A BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER
- BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR
- 🛂 DONATE ITEMS FROM OUR WISH LIST
- CONTACT US TO DISCUSS A LEGACY GIFT

For more information contact Jeanne@facetofacegermantown.org

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Mary Kay Meeks-Hank

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