



Buell Street Dismas House East Allen Dismas House

SOCIALLY RESPONSIVE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Make a difference in Chittenden County.



Reconciling the formerly incarcerated with society
and society with the formerly incarcerated since 1986.

www.dismasofvt.org



Founded in 1986, Dismas of Vermont operates five supportive family-style homes and a step-down housing program for individuals transitioning from incarceration and trauma.

As a pioneer of the Housing First model in Vermont, Dismas of Vermont believes that stable housing is essential for establishing independence, recovery from substance use, personal growth, and long-term success.

Dismas opened its first house in Burlington on Buell Street in 1986. East Allen Dismas House in Winooski opened in 2008. Across these two locations alone, Dismas has provided more than 168,484 nights of shelter to over 1,200 residents, facilitated more than 12,350 volunteer-prepared meals, benefited from over 75,000 local volunteer hours, and hosted countless hours of pro-social programming and case management.

Dismas of Vermont is the sole family-style housing provider for people leaving incarceration in Chittenden County, approved by the Vermont Department of Corrections.



What we do and why it matters.



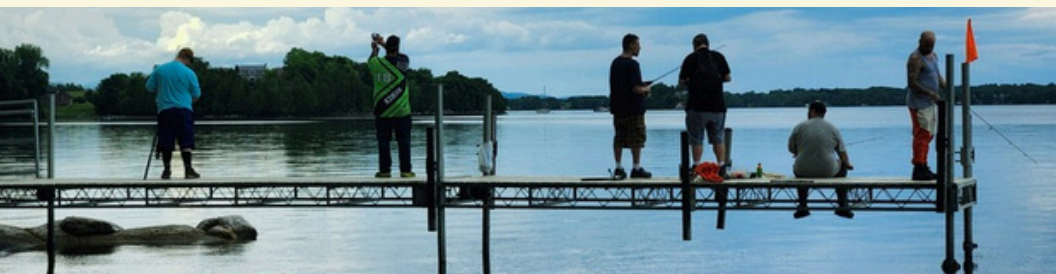
Dismas residents **stay up to two years** in a family-style home, with the option to be supported **another two years in step-down housing**, and benefit from personalized services and individualized plans for success in transitional housing as a stepping-stone to independence:

1. staying crime-free
2. living in recovery from substances
3. achieving financial stability and literacy
4. reconciling with family, community, and self
5. developing pro-social skills for living in community

Dismas residents who stayed for more than 3 months have a **90% success rate in not returning to prison** during their participation.

Dismas is funded by private grants and donations (54%), nominal program fees (5%), and a contract for services from the Vermont Department of Corrections (41%).

It costs an average of \$134,218 annually to incarcerate a person. **At Dismas last year, our costs were \$34,594/person.**



Annual Sponsorship Opportunities

	Your Impact:	Sponsorship Benefits:
<p>Resident Sponsor \$10,000</p>	<p>Covers the cost of supporting one resident with case management for an entire year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo on our homepage • Plaque for your office • Linked logo in 12 eNews issues (1,000 recipients) • Logo and mention in one print newsletter (10,000 recipients) • Mention at all Chittenden County fundraising events (from the stage and in print)
<p>Pathway Partner \$5,000</p>	<p>Support work readiness for one resident for an entire year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo on our homepage • Plaque for your office • Linked logo in 12 eNews issues (1,000 recipients) • Mention at all Chittenden County fundraising events (from the stage and in print)
<p>Full Plate Sponsor \$2,500</p>	<p>Sponsor one resident's meals for an entire year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo on our homepage • Linked logo in 6 eNews issues (1,000 recipients) • Mention at all Chittenden County fundraising events (from the stage and in print) • Quarterly dinners with residents

Limited Sponsorships at Each Level

Annual Sponsorship Opportunities

	Your Impact:	Sponsorship Benefits:
<p>Warm Welcome Sponsor \$1,000</p>	<p>Cover the cost of clothing, bedding, and personal care items for one resident upon arrival to Dismas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked logo in one eNews issue (1,000 recipients) • Logo and shout-out on social media • Printed mention at all Chittenden County fundraising events
<p>Fresh Start Sponsor \$500</p>	<p>Cover one resident's program fees for Dismas of Vermont's 30-day grace period.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked logo in one eNews issue (1,000 recipients) • Logo and shout-out on social media
<p>Sponsor for Good \$250</p>	<p>Sponsor one resident-powered service project in the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have your team join Dismas residents for the service project • Get a shout-out on social media and in one eNews issue (1,000 recipients)

Limited Sponsorships at Each Level

A Face Behind the Mission

Sometimes life presents you with difficult choices, and sometimes none of the options are good ones.

Alex Garrison's son, Connor, was born with cerebral palsy and many special needs that required surgery.



Alex worked hard to provide for his family, and his efforts were rewarded with a promotion at work.

The promotion meant more money for the family. It also meant that they no longer qualified for state medical coverage for their son's upcoming surgery. Alex was heartbroken, and faced with a difficult decision: pay for the surgery with money he did not have, or give up the hope he had for his son. In the end, he took money from his employer to help pay the down payment for Connor's surgery, even though he knew it was wrong. He hid his struggles from his wife and kept records of everything he took. After he was caught, but before he went to prison, he paid back everything he had taken.

Alex was serving concurrent sentences for embezzlement and false pretenses related to credit card use and had been in jail for two years past his minimum sentence when he found Dismas. He was determined to change his life. While living at the East Allen Dismas House in Winooski, he obtained his CDL and served as a resident advisor for two years. He moved into an apartment after Dismas, found a good job, and has owned his own home for over six years.

Alex reconnected with Dismas three years ago to thank them for the support and the second chance. One thing led to another, and Alex joined the Local Council; most recently, he joined the Dismas Board of Directors.

Connor passed away in 2023 at the age of 16, but Alex is doing well today. He is grateful for Dismas staff, who never gave up on him, and knows he would not be where he is today without them. Not only did Dismas give Alex a place to stay, but a family he could lean on.

Yes! We want to make a difference.

To complete sponsorship payment online:



<https://bit.ly/donateBDH>

To request an invoice for your Accounts Payable department,
email: holly@dismasoft.org

To pay by check, please include “Non-Event Sponsor” in the
check memo and mail it to:

Buell Street Dismas House
attn. Non-Event Sponsorships
96 Buell Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401



If you still have questions or want to talk further about
sponsorship opportunities, call 802-658-0381.

Other ways to make a difference at Dismas

Founded by a dedicated group of volunteers committed to providing supportive housing for the formerly incarcerated, **Dismas continues to benefit from the time and talents of hundreds of volunteers. Join us!**

- Volunteer Cook (on a regular schedule or as a fill-in) for an evening weeknight meal with residents and staff
- Special outreach & fundraising events
- Local Council and/or Committee member
- Specialized skills (i.e., maintenance, resident enrichment)



"I owe a lot of my success to Dismas. I have strived and reached goals I never thought possible."

Timothy, former Dismas resident

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