➢ LoLita Toney, Vice President of Development – Dismas House of Nashville

1. What is Dismas House of Nashville?

- Dismas was founded 46 years ago by a Vanderbilt University chaplain Father Jack Hickey who had a vision to bring students together with formerly incarcerated men to live together and learn from one another.
- Dismas House is a re-entry facility offering a comprehensive and holistic array of services encapsulated by our "Four Pillars," which are 1) basic needs, 2) health and well-being, 3) life skills, and 4) legal support. Our goal is to reduce recidivism by removing the largest barrier for formerly incarcerated men first which is immediate access to food, shelter, and clothing upon their release.
- We recently completed a $12 million expansion project building a 24,000 square foot campus with 72 beds and affordable housing units at 2424 Charlotte Avenue.
- With Dismas' new expanded facility we expect to serve at minimum 150 men a year with 56 program beds and 16 transitional housing units.

2. What is the mission of Dismas?

- The mission of Dismas House of Nashville is to foster community awareness and understanding of the challenges and obstacles formerly incarcerated men face upon reentry by providing a system for personal transformation and growth as they transition back to society.
- As a Tennessee re-entry provider, it is Dismas' vision that residents remain free and become self-sufficient, contributing members of society. We do that by making communities stronger and reuniting families.
- We offer Four Pillars of Programming to serve the needs of our residents: Basic Needs, Health & Well-Being, Life Skills and Legal Support.

3. How has COVID-19 impacted Dismas?

- The pandemic has affected the prison population increasing Dismas' program applications and shortening release time for new arrivals. In the first four months of operation, we have already served as many men as we would in a typical year.
- Dismas conducted a house blessing and dedication of its Career Center sponsored by Comcast and the Urban League of Nashville to provide 20 laptops for residents.
    - The laptops have made it possible for residents to safely receive programming during COVID-19 including life skills, health and wellness, group therapy, 12-steps, personalized mental health counseling and seek employment.
- Dismas received a grant from the Tennessee Community CARES Program to address health and economic needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic.
    - Funds will go to groceries, COVID-19 personal use items, additional cleaning and janitorial supplies and upgrades to IT infrastructure to accommodate the shift to online programming for residents.

4. How can people support Dismas?

- One of the best ways to get to know Dismas and its residents is to volunteer to host a community dinner at the house.
    - We have groups from universities, churches and other community organizations who volunteer Monday – Thursday to bring dinner for residents.
    - We have time for fellowship and you can learn all about our programs and how to get involved. You can sign up on our website at dismas.org.
- Please follow us on our website at https://www.dismas.org/. Be sure to sign up for the newsletter to stay up to date on ways you can donate.

Learn more:
Learn more:
Twitter: https://twitter.com/dismasnashville
Website: https://www.dismas.org/
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/nashvilledismashouse/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/DismasNashville

VIDEO ASSETS
Tour of Dismas House of Nashville
Dismas House of Nashville a Vital Part of the Community
Gary's Story: Happy Endings Start at Dismas House

- **Hsing** *(Sounds like Sheng)* **Liu, CEO - 3PL Services, Inc.**
- **Board Director - Tennessee American-Chinese Chamber of Commerce (TAC3),**
- **and Co-Chair of Nashville - Chengdu Sister City**

Business: 3PL Services provides PPE and medical equipment for COVID-19 support. One of my favorites is the VeinScan-2.

Jeremy - do you like giving blood or getting injections? Most of us do it, we don't like it. In fact, too many of us are terrified and scared to get an injection. We remember the time when the nurse had to stick me, oops, stick them 6 times before finding their veins. We remember the bruises on our arm. The tears. Needle Phobia.

The VeinScan-2, aka, the Pocket Ultrasound Partner, makes it easier and faster to find your vein. The VeinScan-2, is just like a stud-finder for the vein. It magnifies your vein on the screen for the nurse to clearly see. No more "Needle Phobia" means happy patient, happy nurse.

We recently joined an initiative to increase blood supplies by replicating an existing Pay For Success initiative in Delaware. We will create additional opportunities for people to volunteer, donate and invest capital to address the negative impact on blood supplies due to COVID. I would like to invite CItyCurrent, your members, and their network to be a part of this collaborative.

We also help start-up and small businesses to identify manufacturers overseas. We provide a solution to help these companies to communicate with the manufacturers. We also help these businesses to work on their product production and logistics. The most difficult challenges for overseas businesses are language, culture and legal issues. We have the ability to support these needs.

TAC3: Mission Statement of TAC3:
We are a defined connection point between the American and Chinese cultures as businesses expand their marketplace engagement.

It is the only chamber of commerce in Tennessee dedicated to:

- Connecting American and Chinese business owners in the Nashville area, across the US and in China
- Highly informational meetings. Our goal is to give members useful knowledge and information, by experts in their fields, which can be immediately applied to growing and empowering your business.

We share our experiences with those who face challenges when planning to enter China for business opportunities or Chinese companies and investors who come to the US to establish their business. This experience sharing is not just a conversion during the chamber's meeting. We have an Economic Development Committee to put these needs into working projects. The TAC3 members can work on these projects. This is the true strategy in "putting your business into action."

a. Sister City of Nashville: My partner, Charles Li and I, worked with the Metro Nashville Mayor's Office to build the second Chinese sister city, Chengdu, in China. Chengdu is the 5th largest city in China, with 16 million in population. They are planning to be the Music City of China. We have been bringing musicians, and businessmen and women in

music and industry, and city officials from both sides to visit each other for the past 3 and a half years, Nashville and Chengdu established the formal sister city relationship in June 2020.

b. How do these work together and impact the city of Nashville and Tennessee?

There is no distance between countries anymore. It is just like human beings. People need to establish relationships with other people. TAC3 is the bridge between the United States and China. The Sister City of Nashville creates a very specific relationship with Chengdu. 3PL Services links the bridge to a specific location.

3PL Services utilizes these connections in helping business exchanges in Tennessee and China. We fill in the gaps in cultures, languages, legal, regulations, and many areas.

We also extend the students and schools into another level of academic's interaction. We had public students who went to Chengdu to attend the high school debate competitions. We had young musicians who went to Chengdu to attend the Youth Music Festivals week. We had students who came to the United States to participate in a week of the student exchange program. Students were hosted by American families.

We use this platform to increase people's level of relationship in different countries. We also use this connection to create business and cultural opportunities.

This is a Win/Win/Win solution. Beyond Nashville, we use the same platform to connect more cities and states, such as Memphis, California, etc. The only limitation of this connection is our imagination.

Our next TAC3 meeting will be a luncheon meeting on December 8 at 11:30 am at The Dynasty Super Buffet in Nashville. People can register online at www.tac3.org

Learn more:
Instagram: pupscan2
Website: https://3plservices.com/ | https://3pls.com/ | www.TAC3.org
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/hsing-liu-64a8486/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/probe2020 | https://www.facebook.com/TNAmericanChineseChamber
Email: hliu@3pls.com

➢ Eric Higgs, CEO – Boys & Girls Clubs of Middle Tennessee

- #Dub100by2026 – our wildly important goal to double the number of youth served by 2026 and make sure they are 100% ready for their great futures
- Club NEXT – a new digital Club for youth at home to connect with peers, mentors, and programming to fight isolation and learning loss
- Club Fresh – a special food program where our Clubs become distribution hubs for food insecure families.
- AAAAAAND if you have time, Club Blue is the young professional association that grooms the next wave of philanthropic professionals through impact-driven events.

Learn more:
Twitter: https://twitter.com/BGCMidTN
Website: https://bgcmt.org/
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/BGCMidTN/
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/bgcmidtn/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BGCMidTN
Email: ehiggs@bgcmt.org