

the **HUMAN IMPACT**
2023 ANNUAL REPORT



The Human Impact is made up of people. The story of our first **10 years** is a story about people—the hundreds of people who have said “yes” to walking alongside each other in friendship. Friendship is mutual; it is open ended. The kind of friendships we form at THI are long lasting and independent of progress or “success.” We commit to people who have experienced long-term, chronic homelessness. We say “yes” to going where they go—to their medical appointments, to their counseling sessions, to rehabilitation facilities, to rounds of chemo. We help them as they transition into housing and stay their friend even after “homeless” is long from being an associated term of theirs. For those that come back out to the streets, we are still there. **The beauty we see in each person regardless of their circumstance is because of the eyes Christ has given us.** Jesus saw each person as beloved—made in God’s image. He met with all the people others wrote off. He offered new life through a lifelong relationship with him, his Father, and the Holy Spirit. **As we walk alongside our brothers and sisters on the streets, the reality of God’s love and life becomes real to us.** They teach us to praise God when we have little or when plans don’t go our way. They teach us to live dependent—on him and on others. They show us that no amount of loss or pain can take God’s love away from us.



We have been at this 10 years... it's hard to believe. **I am absolutely certain that if all of you had not said “yes” to walking with us, we would not be here today.** Thank you for loving our brothers and sisters; thank you for walking with them and with us. We look forward with hope to the next 10 years and seeing more ways friendship heals.

Elisabeth Jordan

Founder & CEO, The Human Impact

LEARNING TO LET GO & GETTING OUT OF GOD'S WAY

There are a lot of lessons to be learned over a decade. Our Founder, Elisabeth Jordan, has learned many lessons since that day in July of 2013 when she went on the streets for the first time. But even before that day, the people and situations God put in Elisabeth's life began to shape the work of The Human Impact and this call to love and friendship...

"Before I started The Human Impact, before Larry James invited me to the streets, I sat down across from my leadership coach, Robin Pou. I was in transition, having lost a job and awaiting the next step, which was at the time unclear to me.

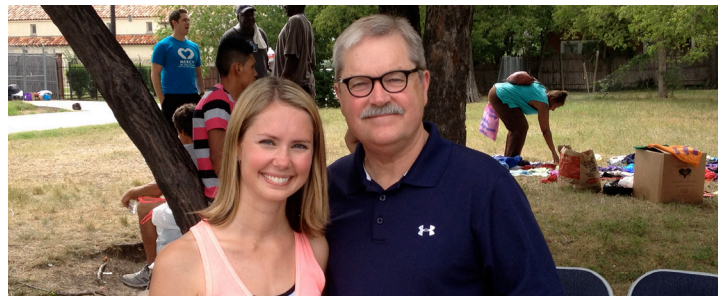
"Since I'd met Robin years before that, he'd been coaching me around one particular struggle I had. As a Type A, I liked to make a plan, work it, and get my desired outcome.

"But my plans had turned upside down, which led to humility and willingness to listen to a different perspective—one Robin had been coaching me in for years at this point.

"Robin shared **'Be committed to the process, not**

attached to the outcome. Imagine, you are walking along a path, and at the end of the path you expect to find a red bike. It's cool and going to get you where you want to go next faster than your feet could. But what if you arrive at the destination and you scan for a red bike but find none? You are disappointed and hang your head. So disappointed that you miss the blue scooter right in front of your eyes. The blue scooter is actually cooler and faster than the red bike, but you were so focused on the outcome you wanted you missed the actual provision, the better outcome.'

"There is perhaps no group of people who could more reinforce this lesson Robin was trying to teach me than the long-term, chronically homeless. Because of trauma, loss, and disability, life alongside them is rarely linear. But Robin, and God through Robin, prepared me for the adventure of a lifetime: to be continually invited to lay down the outcome I think is best in exchange for *being with* people on the journey. I have learned to look people in the eye, lay down my agenda, and finally get to **actually love.**"



2023 NEW STAFF MEMBERS

The Human Impact welcomed Ricky Jimmerson as our **Chief Community Officer (CCO)** in September 2023. Although he may be our newest employee, he became a friend of THI years ago, when he was VP of Operations for Bonton Farms, a local community partner.

A native of Louisiana, Ricky received a degree in Computer Science Engineering from Louisiana Tech University and is a certified speaking instructor through Dynamic Communicator's Workshop. As a public speaker he has taught on issues related to urban development, individual and organizational leadership, development, training, diversity, reconciliation, equity, and inclusion.

For almost 20 years, Ricky served in various roles with Kids Across America (KAA), an urban sports camp in Missouri. As the Staff DEI Recruiting Director, he ushered in more than 1,000 employees from diverse ethnicities and cultural experiences to serve at the camps each summer. Ricky has also served as a board member for the Salesmanship Club's Momentous Institute.

In Ricky's first interactions with THI, he specifically remembers how well we "showed up." THI had placed people at Bonton Farms to work and live, and Ricky remembers how the staff showed up daily to encourage people, pray, go to appointments, and just be there for both the difficult and joyful moments. Ricky says, "They demonstrated a genuine love and care for every single friend of the community that served at the Farm."

As CCO, Ricky will build community between the housed and unhoused using **"the gifts God has blessed me with to support**

[THI] in becoming even better at our mission. I hope to see this work draw in the people that God desires us to reach for His glory! I want us to challenge false beliefs about those who do not have secured housing." This vision, combined with Ricky's long history of serving in places of social impact, confirms that he is the perfect fit for THI.

He and his wife, Yamonica, have been married for 22 years and have two sons, Christian and Gabriel, who are both in college. His hobbies include bass fishing, exercising, reading, vacationing with his family, and cheering for his Dallas Cowboys and the Atlanta Braves. One of his favorite quotes: "Whenever people try to bury you, remember it can be a good thing because you are a seed."



Ricky Jimmerson **Chief Community Officer**



Kaitlyn Castillo
Friendship Advocate



David Ling
Friendship Advocate



Tammi Jones
Friendship Advocate



Angela Frear
Senior Development Officer



Dana Spangenberg
Bridging Advocate



Jeremiah Lin
Senior Advocate

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

ANNALISA

I started to volunteer with THI around February 2018. I come back weekly because of the relationships. After so many years, there are too many wonderful moments to choose just one. A recent memory is when Amanda (THI staff member) and I played outdoor childhood games with a new friend named Monica. The games were favorites of Monica's, and we all had such a fun time with laughter and joy. **My relationship with God has deepened through my time at THI. I have a deeper understanding of healthy boundaries, see more of how God sees people versus the world's point of view, and know that I am enough.** To anyone that is thinking of becoming involved with THI but feels a bit nervous, just come. We're all nervous the first few times we come. It's different in that we're not handing out food or giving clothes. What we're doing is having people feel seen, valued, and celebrated: just like Christ does.



“What we’re doing is having people feel seen, valued, and celebrated: just like Christ does.” - Annalisa

LAITH

Laith is one of THI's youngest volunteers. **His story reminds us that God can speak his purpose into the lives of anyone who is willing to listen, no matter their age.**

A few years ago, Laith was at church when he heard God asking him to help others. Several months later, he was playing with his Legos and felt that tugging again. **God specifically told Laith to “take care of the homeless.”** He didn't know where to start, so he talked to his mom, and she helped him connect with The Human Impact. They have since joined THI for streets time, where Laith was able to directly interact with our friends experiencing homelessness in South Dallas.

After mentioning that he wanted to read God's word with our unhoused brothers and sisters, Laith took the opportunity to share scripture during two of our Worship Nights. He's loved it, saying it has been an amazing experience. He remembers when our friend Teresa let him know how encouraged she was by hearing someone his age talk about trusting God. His words had brought her comfort because she had been struggling with just that.

“When I found THI, it was a big change. I realized where I should be going and how God wanted to use me. I would like to encourage other kids to find their path of helping others because it has brought me so much happiness and finding that path is important.” - Laith





2013 Our Calling – Matthew 25: 35-40

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

2017 Our Creed

There is a finiteness to what we can do in our bodies, a finiteness to how many relationships we can meaningfully engage in at one time, a finiteness to time, to how many hours there are in a day or a week, and to how much can be accomplished in those blocks of time. There is a finiteness to our energy. There are times when we are tired, sick, or injured. These are times when we are reminded that we are finite human beings living in the presence of an infinite God. God is the one who can be all things to all people, the one who can be in all places at once, the one who never sleeps. We are not.

Are we honoring?

- Life in the body at this age and stage?
- Life in the family at this age and stage?
- Life in this personality?
- Life with this community?
- Life in the midst of this calling?

Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership by Ruth Haley Barton

2021 Our Conviction – Psalm 68:6

“God sets the lonely in families”

MOMENTS OF IMPACT

OUR WORK

2013

Elisabeth experiences the streets of South Dallas for the first time.

2014

THI affirms the need to recognize God's image in every person.

2015

THI becomes an official entity and receives nonprofit status.

2016

THI names its core mission: Friendship.

2017

THI chooses its creed from *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership* by Ruth Haley Barton—We are not God and have limits.

2018

THI commits to forming friendships that are relational not transactional.

2019

THI grows to a team of five and expands our capability to focus on deepening friendships.

2020

THI steps into the gap created by Covid to help meet needs and alleviate loneliness.

2021

THI doubles in size.

2022

The Little Human Impact is created so that families and children can build relationships with our friends.

2023

Come to the Table events create a beautiful and gracious space for sharing a meal together, regardless of where you lay your head at night.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

FRIEND STORY: MATTHEW

Everybody has hard days. It's a fact of life. But when you've either lived in poverty or on the streets for most of your life, it takes a lot of faith and courage to manage what can seem like a lifetime of hard days. **Even so, our friends experiencing homelessness are often the first to remind us that God is always working for our good, even when we can't see it.** They teach us, pray with and for us, and we have the privilege of doing the same for them. Matthew is one of those friends. We've known him for years and he feels like family. Last December, Matthew came to our offices one morning, and it was obvious that he was upset. He knows about hard days, but he also knows that we are always here to help him work through them.

Earlier that morning, Matthew had hoped to find some temporary work at a day labor placement center so that he could earn enough money to visit his family over the holidays. Matthew has his own place and no longer lives on the street, but he had chosen to spend the night outside on the front steps of the placement center to make sure he would be the first in line. Even though he had secured his spot at the front of the line, when the placement center opened, he was passed over, wasn't given a reason why, and was released for

the day. He had tried to do everything right and had put in the extra effort to be the first in line. He left feeling wronged, frustrated and defeated.

The fact that Matthew came straight to our offices was already a sign of how God is always working through the relationships that we have with our friends affected by homelessness. Matthew had reason to be upset. He needed \$250 to pay for bus fare and a hotel room for his visit to see his family, and he didn't want a handout...he wanted to earn it. So, he came to us as our friend, because he knew that someone would listen without judgment, help him problem solve, and pray for him and his circumstances. Our team did just that. Matthew and one of our advocates were even able to talk to the job placement agency to get some clarity about the hiring process, and they encouraged him to come back the next day.

God is always working. While Matthew was still in our office, our founder, Elisabeth Jordan, called to tell our team some good news. She was unaware of Matthew's experience that morning and didn't know that he was in the office when she called. **The good news was that her daughter's class had chosen Matthew as the**

recipient of their Christmas fundraising project—they had raised enough money to purchase him a bicycle. What started out as a hard and frustrating day for Matthew, ended up being God's way of reminding us to trust in his grace and provision. An advocate took Matthew to Academy, where he got to pick out his new bike and feel the pride of having his own transportation. God is always working.

The next morning, Matthew rode his bike to the train station, arrived at the placement center, and was put to work that day. He was excited for the opportunity to start earning money for his trip. **Later that week, Matthew was blessed by an additional, unexpected \$263. Within a week's time, not only had Matthew been gifted with a new bike, but he now had everything he needed and a little extra to safely get home to his family for the holidays.** God is always working.

One of the best parts of our job is that we get to witness God's hand working in beautiful and unexpected ways in the lives of our friends. We see it in Matthew and every other friend that God puts in our path. We see it in the good and the bad. The hard days and the days filled with joy. All of them reminders that God is always working.



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

One of our partners, Catholic Charities, owns several properties that include multi-phased homelessness and supportive housing programs. Starting in 2021, Catholic Charities invited us to partner with them at their Park Central property, located in North Dallas. Initially, we had the opportunity to meet with about 10 of the residents at Park Central, and through that conversation, it became clear that our work of friendship could apply just as easily to people sleeping on the street as it could to the residents—many who needed help adjusting to the realities of life and loneliness in their new environment. **We have continued to connect and build relationships over coffee and donuts each month and what started as a conversation has grown into a partnership where friendships have consistently grown, friendship advocacy is actively working and where monthly attendance has tripled in size.** We are now visiting weekly with the residents at Catholic Charities' other property, The Cottages, where there have been plenty of games, prayer times, cookouts, celebrations and new friendships. It has been a privilege to work together with their case management team to serve our friends as best we can. **This partnership has been a beautiful example of what facilitating community can look like and we look forward to many more years to come.**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE AMAZING PARTNERS WHO SERVE OUR FRIENDS ALONGSIDE US:



EST. 2013

the **HUMAN IMPACT**

Celebrating 10 years of Friendship

10th Birthday Party Event Sponsors and Host Committee

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Trotter Tribe



HONORARY HOSTS MEREDITH AND SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER

"The Human Impact is one of the organizations that means a lot to Meredith and me. We just recently went on the streets with them, and I usually feel out of my comfort zone at first. But watching Elisabeth talk so easily with everyone we meet, and hearing people's stories, it starts to change your perspective on all of it. **If you haven't gone on the streets with THI before, try it at least once. It will change something in you.**" - Scottie



"When we did our last streets walk with Elisabeth, I met a new friend. After we started talking, he said he wanted to show me his Bible, which was carefully tucked away under a tarp to keep it safe and dry. Life had taught him that all he really had to hang onto was Jesus, and his Bible was his most important possession. **That's something we all have in common no matter our life circumstance; we all desperately need Jesus. He reminded me of that in a way I don't think I'll ever forget.**"

- Meredith

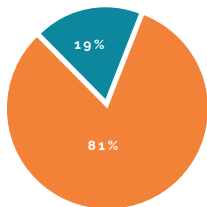
2023 YEAR-END IMPACT REPORT

Our advocacy work allows us to support our friends experiencing homelessness through friendship building, meeting immediate needs, and ensuring that the gifts of love, life, and friendship are celebrated. Below are some ways our advocates did that this year:

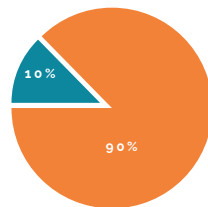
FRIENDSHIP BUILDING

- **Helping friends pack belongings** and move during several encampment closings
- **Having a daily presence** at the motel where friends were relocated at the beginning of the year
- **Meeting new friends** during weekly Meet & Greets at the office
- **Having coffee** with new friends
- **Having a meal** with friends
- **Going to a housed friend's apartment** for homemade gumbo
- **Involving a friend** in advocacy strategy meetings
- **Helping friend prepare** for and taking him to job interview
- **Hanging out** with friends at White Rock Lake
- **Gathering with friends** for a BBQ
- **Completing Life Plans** with friends
- **Helping friends** search for housing
- **Holding the first bible study** at The Cottages

Spending

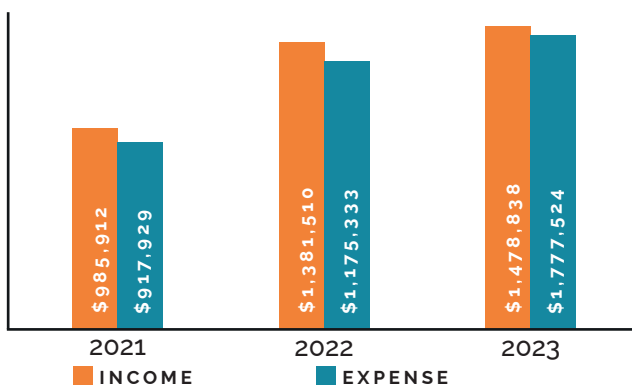


Revenue



PROGRAMS
OPERATIONS

INDIVIDUALS
GRANTS



ADVOCACY IMPACT SNAPSHOT

354

People in the trust-building phase

145

People in Friendship & Advocacy

37

People Stabilized through our work

MEETING IMMEDIATE NEEDS

- Helping friends **secure birth certificates**
- Taking friends to the **food pantry**
- Taking friends to **doctor's appointments**
- Taking friends to **chemo**
- Taking friends to **appointments at Dallas Housing Authority**
- Helping friends **get to court**
- Helping friends **get an appointment for an ID**
- Taking friends to **counseling**
- Supporting friends **during heart surgery and eye surgery**
- Securing a **green card** for a friend
- Getting a friend a **new pair of glasses**
- Helping friends **apply for disability**
- Helping a friend **get a phone and email for the first time**

CELEBRATING

- **Taking a friend to the Arboretum** after successful eye surgery
- Celebrated several friends **moving into housing**
- Taking friends to the **State Fair**
- Taking friends to the **Rangers' World Series Parade**
- **Watching football** with friends, staff, and board members
- **Celebrating multiple birthdays** with favorite foods
- **Sharing a Thanksgiving** meal with Friends
- Celebrating monthly at **Come to the Table meals**
- Taking friends to **have a movie day**
- Taking friends to **play Top Golf**
- Experiencing first **Worship Night** together with friends
- **Celebrating Mardi Gras** with friends from New Orleans
- Having a **popsicle party** with friends
- Celebrating summer with a **pool party**
- Celebrating a friend **getting their driver's license**

Last year, our Advocate team spent more than **1,800 hours** visiting friends on the streets.

WHAT OUR FRIENDS HAVE TOLD US ABOUT THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK THIS PAST YEAR

"I know God led me to this place. I've been praying that he would show me how to receive his love again. This is where I'm supposed to be. I feel so much love here."

"The Human Impact has saved me. You are always there for me in the good and bad. I wouldn't be off the streets if it weren't for you."

"Thanks to you, my children's father was open to relationships again. You gave my children back the hope of getting to spend time with their dad."

COME TO THE TABLE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “COME TO THE TABLE”?

Our Come to the Table meals began in 2023 as an invitation to a literal, communal table where a beautiful meal could be shared between our housed and unhoused brothers and sisters. It also began as an invitation to join us in thinking differently about what it looks like to come together around a table with people you might not otherwise encounter. Sharing a meal with others is something Jesus often did during his ministry on earth. He used meals as a means of connecting with people and as a way to invite others to experience his love and grace. He continues to open his table to all of us, a table big enough to seat anyone who seeks to know him better.

Bringing people together around good food is familiar to almost everyone. Since we began, families, groups, businesses, and churches have hosted family-style meals together one Saturday a month, in a venue that is close to

where our friends live. The beauty of the table settings and food is intentional. Think about the effort and planning you put into hosting a dinner party at your home. That's how we want these meals to feel, as though we were hosting our friends in our own homes. As we have continued to gather, our hope has always been that everyone who attends will begin to experience a sense of family and familiarity with those they meet. That they will see our communal tables as places of grace and love, where no one is excluded, everyone is welcome, and where we experience transformation together—nurtured by the food we eat and by others sitting around the table with us.



IMPACTS & HIGHLIGHTS

- More than **850 meals** shared throughout the year
- Attendance doubled from about **70 to 150 attendees**
- Over **450 volunteers** registered in total, including **120 new individual or family volunteers being** introduced to our work
- Accessibility and engagement with new friends increased
- More than **\$2,000 worth of gift cards** were donated and given to our friends for additional meals
- Groups such as Girl and Boy Scout Troops, Community Groups, college ministry groups, Sunday School classes, volunteer clubs, employee groups, t-ball teams and more, attended and were introduced to our work
- Multiple repeat volunteers and friends from the streets shared with us that this event is **something they look forward to every month**



STREETSIDE SALON

What does a new haircut mean to you? For many of us, it's a privilege that is often taken for granted. We live in a world that judges people based on their appearance or how they present themselves. And we all know that how we look can affect how we feel. For our friends living on the streets, getting the opportunity to feel good about their appearance, or having someone take the time to cut and style their hair to their liking is rarely an option. So twice a year, THI hosts Streetside Salon events with the help of our volunteers. This event is one of our longest running and continues to be one of the best attended. It's great to watch the confidence boost that a few minutes in a stylist's chair can create!



FEET ON THE STREET

Feet on the Street is a time of serving our friends in a unique way while also providing them with new shoes—something that is not easy to get if you live on the streets or in a shelter. These events are meant to connect volunteers and those experiencing homelessness by allowing them to wash each other's feet like Jesus did with his disciples. It's so humbling and personal—to wash someone's feet and to let your feet be washed. But we have found that Jesus meets us in those moments of feeling uncomfortable or intimidated and turns them into moments of connection and grace. Luke's Locker has come alongside us as a partner and generously provides hundreds of brand-new, top-of-the-line shoes each year that we pass along to every person who gets their feet washed.

STREETS TIME

Every Thursday morning, and one Saturday a month, a group comprised of our staff and both housed and unhoused friends, walk the streets near our offices, south of Downtown Dallas. It's a simple and easy way to serve our community, make connections with the people we share it with, and learn about the experiences of others. We don't bring anything but ourselves. We aren't there to convince anyone of anything... other than that they are loved. If you look someone in the eye who you might have looked away from before, if you learn someone's name, if you get or give a smile, then you've accomplished all that we ask of our streets time volunteers. Just being human with another person is enough. One of our core beliefs at The Human Impact is that, regardless of housing, we are all equal and have something to offer. On the streets, we experience Christ through others—often when we least expect it but most need it. We would love for you to join us.



KINGDOM EXPERIENCE

For more than two years, our staff has gathered every Thursday for a weekly prayer meeting, establishing a sacred space to meditate on God's word and to share and reflect on all the ways God has been active in our lives. With every passing week, more friends have started to join as well as volunteers. To allow for more time and space for us to be together in prayer and worship, we started to hold worship nights, known as the Kingdom Experience. During this time, friends experiencing homelessness, staff, friends, family, and volunteers can leave all their worries at the door and enter a time of praise, worship, prayer, and sharing together. Witnessing people share their unique experiences is beautiful, and it fosters a sense of community unlike any other as walls come down and hearts are changed.



THE KING WILL REPLY, 'TRULY I TELL YOU,
WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST
OF THESE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF MINE,
YOU DID FOR ME.' MATTHEW 25:40

THE HUMAN IMPACT
FOUNDED 2013