



Dorothy Day Tampa – in development - 2022

June 2022 NEWSLETTER – Vol. 1 No. 5



Servant of God Dorothy Day

Vision - *“Make the kind of society where it is easier to be good.”* – Peter Maurin

Mission - *Recruit and train volunteers in a Catholic Worker tradition, who recognize the dignity of each person, to provide relief, hospitality, and housing assistance to homeless men and women within the Tampa area.*

Core Values - *“The Sermon on the Mount is our Christian manifesto”* – Dorothy Day

Ministry Overview: www.catholicworker.org

Dorothy Day Tampa, Inc. – officially a 501 c3 nonprofit!

“We must talk about poverty, because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it.” – Servant of God Dorothy Day

Progress Report: We received our IRS 501c3 nonprofit status June 6th. On May 21st, twenty Dorothy Day Tampa volunteers participated in a cosmetic refresh of Gracepoint’s Coffee Shop homeless drop-in center as our first team building exercise. For most of the volunteers, this was their first opportunity to see first-hand what our planned drop-in center would look like.

On May 31st, Mayor Jane Castor and her homelessness team toured the center, interfaced with guests, and over lunch, heard details of our vision to replicate the best practices of the Coffee Shop and another homeless drop-in center, 35-year-old Peace House Community in Minneapolis. Our team presented our five-year development plan outline that starts in 2023 with a single homeless drop-in center. The grand vision would replicate the \$100 million St. Paul, MN Dorothy Day Place that started with a single hospitality house in in 1981.

Next steps? We concluded our tour and lunch by requesting the help of the mayor’s team in finding and securing a startup location for our ministry. We are grateful for Gracepoint hosting our event and the mayor’s interest and willingness to help transform our vision into reality.



“The mystery of the poor is this: That they are Jesus, and what you do for them you do for Him. It is the only way we have of knowing and believing in our love.” – Servant of God Dorothy Day

Come and journey. We continue to invite those interested to join us at the initiative’s ground floor for a six-week virtual study of Dorothy Day’s autobiography, *The Long Loneliness*. We will introduce and explore Dorothy Day’s model of hospitality, as our development team begins a two-year ministry development process to create a fully functional Dorothy Day Tampa.

If you are asking, *“What are my circumstances asking me to do?”* we welcome you to explore joining us. **Our fourth virtual study group, starting September 7th 2022, is forming.** For details, please contact Michael 813-466-9166 (cell).

DOROTHY DAY TAMPA | IN DEVELOPMENT – radical hospitality



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Ann's Reflection: Seeking Abundance in Others.

- Have you ever made or fixed something for others?
- If you could snap your fingers and do anything what would it be?
- What gifts do people say you have?

These sound like typical questions for ice-breaking exercises asked at conferences and retreats – part of getting to know the personalities and gifts present in the group.



Ann M. Doyle, MA, MBA - co-founder, Dorothy Day Tampa

What if I told you these questions are actually part of a homeless shelter survey?

Rather than the typical inquiries – “When was the last time you worked?” “Are you sober?” “Do you have a history of mental illness?” – that sadly are too often the only ones asked of people seeking help, one homeless shelter asked these questions to discover their guests’ skills and passions.

Dorothy Day instinctively looked for the gifts of others and used those gifts in her mission. When everyone is invited to use their gifts, they become part of the community they seek.

Seeking abundance in all people is also a step toward humility and our own transformation. Mutually sharing our gifts with others—marveling at all they are instead of trying to fix them—gives our guests the best chance for transformation. It certainly can bring them hope and kinship.

Fr. Greg Boyle states, based on his experience with gang members: “Be in awe in all they bring you, not in judgement of how they bring it.”

“We are not expecting Utopia here on this earth. But God meant things to be much easier than we have made them.” –
Servant of God Dorothy Day

Missing resources:

- **Ministry location** – centrally located storefront, building, 3+ bedroom home, unused church building, vacant lot, distressed property of any kind to be rehabbed.
- **Prayer support** – His will be done.
- **10 study group participants** – 9/7/2022 six-week virtual study group. \$150 to purchase ten study books.
- **Donations** for start-up media services and website - \$5,000 or more.
- **Volunteers (five)** – interested in helping staff serve The Coffee Shop guests – flex scheduling.

“[T]he only solution is love and that love comes with community. It all happened while we sat there talking, and it is still going on.” – Dorothy Day, *The Long Loneliness*

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P.S. We cannot do this without your support!

DOROTHY DAY TAMPA | IN DEVELOPMENT – *radical hospitality*