

St. Mark's Hands & Feet Ministry

Meeting Summary - July 9, 2024

Key Takeaways

- 1. Echo Ministry (POC: Randall Nichols)**
 - Ministry's focus is primarily on foster children.
 - Randall has agreed to join us on August 13th. While we are focused mainly on the homeless and disadvantaged, there still may be areas for future collaboration.
- 2. Potential Collaborations**
 - Proposal to invite Amy from So All May Eat to discuss their initiatives.
 - Four Oaks Day Center.
- 3. Four Oaks Update**
 - Al sent email to the director but no response yet.
 - Four Oaks operates similarly to the Help Day Center and is a potential resource for those in need.
- 4. Thrive Resource Guide**
 - 2024 edition is available.
 - St. Mark's plans to host the resource guide on their website for easy access.
 - Suggest to print out pages 36-39, 48, and 52 for the homeless (food & shelter).
- 5. Bus Passes Initiative**
 - Discussion about the viability of distributing bus passes to the homeless.
 - Cost analysis: \$70 per month for a Go Pass.
 - Exploration of bulk purchasing for significant cost reduction (\$5 per pass for a bulk order of 50, plus \$1 per swipe charged monthly).
 - Challenges discussed regarding potential misuse and uncontrolled cost escalation.
- 6. Thrive Organization**
 - School supplies drive until August 2nd.
 - Kroger card fundraising initiative.
 - Achievement: Thrive earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.
 - Suggestion to promote these initiatives on the St. Mark's private page.

Action Items

- 1. Echo Ministry Collaboration**
 - Confirm Randall Nichols' attendance for the August 13th meeting.
 - Explore potential collaboration details during his presentation.
- 2. Bus Passes Pilot Program**
 - Proceed with the purchase of 50 bus passes at \$5 each.
 - Launch a pilot program issuing up to five passes.
 - Clarify the definition of a swipe and transfer costs with HRT.
 - Monitor and evaluate the usage and costs before expanding the program.
 - Bring the proposal to the vestry for approval.
- 3. Thrive Initiatives Promotion**

- Promote the school supplies drive and Kroger card initiative on St. Mark's private page.
- Encourage congregation participation in these efforts.