



Community supports homeless youth at 4th Annual Mini Golf Tournament

The 4th Annual SWING INTO ACTION Mini Golf Tournament sponsored by RockIT Solutions was held on Monday, March 6th. Businesses, organizations and individuals came together to raise funds to benefit the youth of Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center.

144 golfers enjoyed a beautiful sunny day as they played in a tournament-style mini golf event at Fiesta Falls Mini Golf, raising over \$20,000 for the youth of Port in the Storm. Ed Dwyer of North Avenue Capital, LLC and Scott Rock of RockIT Solutions, board members,

served as emcees, starters and assisted in giving away the trophies and plaques.

Prizes were awarded for Round One Champion, Round Two Champion, Grand Champion, Best Dressed Team, Most Team Spirit, Oldest Golfer and Highest Score.

Our 1st Round Champion was Covenant Closing and Title Services and our 2nd Round Champion was the St Johns County Sheriff's Office. In the end, Covenant Closing and Title Services won the title of Grand Champion!

The mayor of St Augustine Beach, Don Samora, joined Judy Dembowski, Executive Director, to give brief remarks, and congratulate our winning teams.

This event would not be possible without our volunteers, and the generous donation of the Fiesta Falls course by Rich O'Brien & Lauren



A beautiful day for the Swing Into Action tournament at Fiesta Falls Miniature Golf

Ringhaver, local business owners and longtime advocates for the needs of those facing homelessness.

Other sponsors included: Leonardi Seaside Realty, MasterCraft Builders, Silver Feather Jewelry & Gifts, Estate Title of St Augustine, Harbour Island Tennis Centre, Kiwanis Club of Historic St Augustine, Gordon Dental, Herbie Wiles Insurance, Builders Stainless, Inc., PGA Tour, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty – Lise Murphy, Zaxby's and a generous anonymous sponsor. In addition, local businesses sponsored all 18 holes.

Of course, the real winners of the event are always the homeless youth in our community! Thank you to everyone who made this event such a great success.

Mark your calendars for March 2024 when we hit the course again to raise money to support our homeless youth.

To get on the list for 2024 contact Joy Burton at joy.burton@stfrancisshelter.org.



Round 1 Winners and Grand Champions from Covenant Closing & Title Services



The "Flamingos" from Harbour Island Tennis Centre, who won Best Dressed!



Round 2 Winners, St Johns County Sheriff's Office



Team Business Builders grabbing some swag after scoring a hole in one

GLIMPSE

Through Our Door

Compassion
Shelter
Opportunity



ST. FRANCIS HOUSING CRISIS CENTER and
PORT IN THE STORM HOMELESS YOUTH CENTER
Programs of St. Augustine Society

The Circle of the Life of your gift!

When we ask you to help, we tell you what your gift **WILL** do.

When we thank you for your gift, we tell you what your gift **IS** doing.

When we report to you, we tell you what your gift **DID**!

Today we close the circle and let you know the amazing things **YOU** accomplished with your gifts in 2022.

2022 was not a normal year. But then I have been here for 10 years and have not seen a "normal" year yet. We started 2022 with Port in the Storm closed because of a sewer back up the end of December 2021. The youth were temporarily living in the St. Francis House dining room while the 7 months of repairs were completed. The year ended with 2 hurricanes and damages to 2 buildings on our St. Francis House campus. Gratefully, all repairs were complete as we started 2023. We are hoping for a nice quiet "normal" year to come.

Each number is a person – a man, woman, child, family or youth whose life you have touched in a very personal way with your generosity.

You are amazing! Every gift you give touches a life and brings hope and opportunity. Thank you! Would you like to do more? Send your gift today or visit www.stfrancisshelter.org to give online.



But what about last year? Here is what YOU did in 2022.

You ...

- Sheltered 404 people at St. Francis House
- Kept 28 families and 51 children off the streets
- Provided assistance to 383 people through drop-in services
- Helped 87 people transition to a positive housing situation

You ...

- Assisted 57 youth through day-drop and shelter programs at Port in the Storm
- Intervened when a youth was contemplating suicide
- Provided a safe place for youth being trafficked

You ...

- Engaged 198 unsheltered people on the streets through Street Outreach Services
- Helped 41 of them achieve a positive housing situation

Visit our website at stfrancisshelter.org



Sadie's Story

Sadie had lived with her Grampa as long as she could remember. After her mom died, he was all she had. She turned 18 a month ago and a week later her Grampa died. Her rock, the only person she could count on is gone. So is her home and her future. Little is left after the funeral. Where can she go? Who can she trust? Sadie needs your help. YOUR gift can help Sadie with shelter at Port in the Storm and caring adults that can help her find her way. Without YOUR help there is only the streets.

No one can replace what Sadie lost. But you can give her the support and opportunity to be the best version of herself! Please help Sadie today! To give online visit www.stfrancisshelter.org.



Homelessness Has No Age Limit

Mr. Jacobs is 82. He and his wife lived in St. Augustine for most of their lives. Everyone loves Mr. Jacobs. He walks every day and likes to chat with the neighbors. Last year his wife of 62 years died. It was a hard time for him. But this year was even worse. The apartment he had lived in for years raised his rent \$400 a month. An increase Mr. Jacobs could not afford with only one social security check and a small savings. He worked hard all his life and never asked for help from anyone...now he is homeless. Mr. Jacobs is just one of the victims of the rising cost of housing in St. Johns County. Many of them are elderly and are in no condition to get a job to help pay for this increase.

YOU can help Mr. Jacobs. Your gift will provide a safe place for him to stay at St. Francis House while staff help him find a place he can afford where he can live out his life. Mr. Jacobs needs your help! Please send your gift today or visit www.stfrancisshelter.org to give online.



Watch our facebook page for more information about a groundbreaking event to be held soon and plan to come celebrate with us!

St. Francis House Campus Update

Several times I have reported that we were on our way to completing the 3rd building at the St. Francis House adult/family campus. Then our attention would be diverted to emergency repairs at Port in the Storm or hurricane damage or other needs that had to be addressed first.

Well...NEWS FLASH... the process has started. Thanks to a collaboration with the City of St. Augustine, grant

funding from HUD has been secured to help complete 64 Washington St. This building has been offline since Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Before the hurricane, plans were in place to turn the building into our designated Family Shelter. After the hurricane funds were utilized to make the building structurally sound and ready for completion. Finally, thanks to our city commissioners and administration our goal is within reach.

The project will go out to bid soon and construction will begin as soon as possible.

When complete, the building will allow us to double the number of

families we can shelter from 4 to 8 and add several respite beds for unsheltered individuals recovering from surgery. The room presently occupied by families will be repurposed for others and result in a substantial increase of available shelter beds for those trying to escape homelessness.

Without your generous support that helped make this building stable this project would not have been possible. YOU are the heart of everything we do and every life that is touched. This funding will not complete the entire project. But it will be well on its way thanks to this grant.

Visit our website at stfrancisshelter.org

St. Francis Housing Crisis Center

70 Washington Street,
St. Augustine, FL 32084

904-829-8937



Visit us
and Like
us on
Facebook



Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center and Administrative Offices

1375 Arapaho Ave.
St. Augustine, FL 32084

904-824-8987

St. Johns County's only comprehensive housing crisis and homeless youth center. Providing housing-focused solutions for homeless men, women, children and youth in St. Johns County.

CHIP IN for the kids at Port in the Storm at Casino Royale

Celebrating the 4th anniversary of Port in the Storm

At the beautiful **Art in Motion** in downtown St. Augustine

Sponsorships and tickets available NOW! Visit our website - www.stfrancisshelter.org/events or the direct event registration link at [HTTPS://bidpal.net/casinoroyale23](https://bidpal.net/casinoroyale23)

Space is limited. So, register today!!



Wish List

The weather is warmer, the spring showers are upon us. We are wishing for.....

- Rain ponchos
- Sunscreen
- Baseball Caps
- Bug Spray
- New men's & women's underwear all sizes
- Pop top meats & vegetables
- Canned vegetables & fruit



- Sandwich makings & sandwich bags
- Bottled water
- Socks
- \$10 gift cards to Target, Walmart and grocery stores

Questions? Contact Sarah Del Cid, Development/Volunteer Coordinator at Sarah.DelCid@stfrancisshelter.org Sarah.org