



Matthew House, Inc. of Chicago  
3722-28 south Indiana Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60653  
(773) 536-6628

**MATTHEW HOUSE INC. OF CHICAGO**

*I was a stranger and you took me in...  
Matthew 25:31-41*

**We're on the web  
www.matthewhousechicago.org**



*Serving homeless individuals from all over the City of Chicago*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WAYMON STARKS

**VICE PRESIDENT/TREASURER**

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ELVIN J. CAREY (Deceased)

CECIL D. MARTIN

DERRICK DAVID STINSON

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

REV. DR. SANJA R. STINSON

### HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Hats, Gloves and Scarves for

Men and Women

Socks and Boots

Clothes for Men and Women

Children's' Toys (All Ages)

Food (For Holiday Meals)

Blankets (For persons in Housing Units)

Dishes (For persons in Housing Units)

Other Household Items

General Office Supplies

Fall/Winter 2010-11



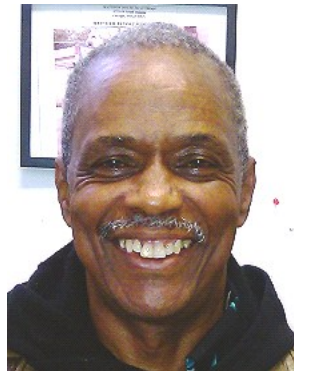
MATTHEW HOUSE INC. OF CHICAGO

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

## Leander Fullilove – 10,000 Feet and Rising

Leander Fullilove III was born in Jackson, Mississippi in an area akin to the inner city communities of Chicago. In hopes to improve their living conditions, Leander's parents Leander Jr. and Lillie Mae moved their family to Louisiana for a short time and then made their way to Chicago. Their initial induction to Chicago was as expected...opportunity, better living conditions, and a safer place to raise a family. The elder Leander found employment at the steel mill and Lillie Mae began working at hotels. The Fullilove children performed well in school. After graduating from Tilden High School in 1968, Leander went on to Loop Junior College (now Harold Washington College), studying computer science and business management. School was going well and life was on track until the relationship he was in blossomed to a family comprising of a wife and two children. In order to support his family, Leander abandoned his educational aspirations to work odd jobs until he found employ at CNA Insurance Company as a clerk. His dedication afforded him several promotions, finally landing him as the Supervisor for In-House Printing. His time at CNA would span 14 years. Lay-offs forced Leander to go back to finding odd jobs until his persistence and dedication found him a position at O'Hare Airport, where he worked for 11 years as a security screener...until again, he was laid off. This fell swept boom brought about personal and financial issues that precipitated Leander's loss of stable housing. In the dead of the winter of 2001...Leander found himself homeless. He frequented the Door of Hope, an overnight shelter on Chicago's South Side, and heard about a hidden jewel in the community...

Matthew House. He became a participant in Matthew House's Supportive Service Program and began regularly volunteering around the agency. He received assistance with basic needs, housing, and treatment. His dedication and personality lead Rev. Sanja R. Stinson, Executive Director of Matthew House, to recommend Leander to the ARCH Program to assist him with housing. In 2004, Leander obtained housing through ARCH, getting him out of the shelters and into a stable living environment. While he was still part of Matthew House, New Life Covenant visited the agency to recruit workers for their sound system set-up and children ministry. Leander jumped at the opportunity. From there, he heard of an opening at the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) as a Set-Up Technician. After several recommendations from Matthew House and The ARCH Program, CHA hired Leander on March 17, 2007. He has been working diligently at CHA ever since. While at CHA, Mr. Fullilove moved from part-time to full-time employee in 18 months and was dubbed Employee of the Month. Leander is still a part of the ARCH program (normally a 5 year program), but due to his work ethic and model actions, he is in his sixth year. Due to his efforts to pull himself from the vice-like grip of "street life," volunteerism with Matthew House, faithfulness to ministry, family, friends and those in need, Mr. Fullilove was voted in as Member, Board of Directors for the Matthew House.

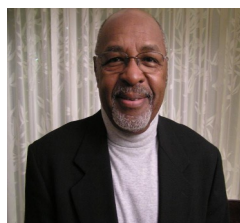


Leander's life is one to be admired for his accomplishments in the face of all that threatened to break him. In his own words, "I'm really nothing special. I fell down for a while...but I got up. Basically, I did what had to be done." Modest words for a great man. Leander can be likened to a space shuttle...it takes a lot to get it ready, and even has quirks that need to be fixed before a successful take-off. But once he has lift-off, he is definitely on his way to the stars...10,000 feet and rising.

Happy Holidays!!!  
From the Matthew House Family



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - WAYMON STARKS



As we approach the end of this calendar year 2010, I want to say thanks to all of you on behalf of our entire Matthew House Family. I sincerely

hope that you and your family have a blessed and safe holiday season, and a healthy and prosperous next year. Many of us can give testimony and truthfully say that the past year has been a very difficult one economically for many Americans overall. It has been even more trying financially for a large segment of the Chicago community that we serve day in and day out at Mat-

thew House. Those of us in the non-profit community have been especially hit hard financially, because we depend greatly on public funding to help us meet the ever growing demands to help those who have no other place to go. Throughout the history of Matthew House, one core principle has always driven us and that is "never turn anyone away who needs help".

We continue to need your help and support now more than ever. Although we all may have less than we had in prior years, there are some who have nothing. Look inside your hearts and please contribute what you can to those who have nothing. No amount that you can give is too small. Your generosity will mean a lot to the "needy that we serve".

Happy Holidays to you and your family!

Waymon Starks,  
President, Matthew House

## EXECUTIVE CORNER - REV. DR. SANJA R. STINSON, Mdiv, DM



Dear Friends and Supporters:  
This has indeed been a difficult but awesome year during the history of Matthew House. We are both thankful and grateful to our funders, volunteers, and supporters

for your continued support throughout the years. Our vision would not be possible without your support. Some wonderful ventures are happening at Matthew House: After 19 years of providing various program services, we are now providing thirty eight units of permanent scattered site housing with supportive services, housing opportunities,

technical training and education opportunities for veterans.

This year Matthew House partnered with the City of Chicago, Department of Health, in collaboration with the U.S. Center for Disease control, to offer HIV/AIDS confidential testing and counseling to over 500 individuals. Matthew House received funding from the Federal Stimulus Grant which allowed us to hire and rehire six staff members. However, homelessness has increase for many reasons, and lost of jobs is one of the major factors. During 2010, Matthew House experienced a 40% increase in request for services. We continue to face many challenges due to funding cuts and ask that you continue to support our mission.

There are several exciting ways you can support Matthew House: (1) Write a check and mail it to our address; (2) Shop for Matthew House by viewing our website and click on the link "SHOP AND HELP THE HOMELESS". You can shop at any store of your choice and a portion of the proceeds will help Matthew House continue its vision; (3) Donate on line through our website; (4) If you are a Federal, City or State Employee, you can choose to donate to Matthew House through your employer, the Combined Federal Campaigns or Combined Charities. Just look for the name Matthew House of Chicago.

## SHOP and HELP the HOMELESS

Shop online from the comfort of your home or office and a portion of the purchase will benefit the mission of Matthew House

Simply log onto the link below or our website, enter the name of your favorite stores and SHOP SHOP SHOP!

[www.zamzoo.com/940161](http://www.zamzoo.com/940161)



## Anna Maria Thomas – Overcoming the Odds

During my transition from prison, I was introduced to Pastor Sanja Stinson who made a great impact on my life. I was homeless, in need of shelter, food and clothing. Pastor Stinson shared with me the many programs that were available to assist me and that I should utilize them to the best of my ability. It was through Matthew House where I was encouraged, uplifted, and found my way. It was a dream come true and I was placed in housing where I resided for two years. The programs at Matthew House which I participated in helped me to become independent in my living arrangements. I learned how to increase my income with the job skills they had to offer, and I even learned how to save and manage my money. For a person who had never done

drugs or alcohol, I attended the drug abuse classes just to obtain the knowledge to share with others. I also attended the spiritual classes which were excellent and helped me to cope with the everyday struggles and challenges we face in life. All the help I received from Matthew House went a long way with me, and I no longer reside in a shelter, but have my very own apartment. I am no longer hungry or without clothes, but have an income that will help sustain me. It was all because of Pastor Stinson believing that if I gave Matthew House and the program a chance, that it would make a difference in my life. It did, and I am grateful to the Matthew House staff for their outstanding commitment in what they believe would be a success to those who are poor,

homeless and in prison. I give my deepest appreciation and thanks to Pastor Stinson and the Matthew House staff who stood by me.

Thank You!



## DID YOU KNOW.....

- The National Coalition for the Homeless estimates that on any given night, 200,000 veterans are homeless and 400,000 veterans will experience homelessness during the course of a year.
- The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs states the nation's homeless veterans are predominantly male, with roughly five percent being female.
- Roughly 56 percent of all homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic, despite only accounting for 12.8 percent and 15.4 percent of the U.S. population respectively.
- Approximately 1.5 million other veterans are considered at risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support networks, and dismal living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing.
- 16 percent of the homeless populations in Chicago are veterans according to a 2007 City of Chicago Point-In-Time Analysis Report.
- Between January 2009-2010, Matthew House served 32,902 meals to homeless adults, including veterans and children.
- Matthew House will be supporting 10 veterans with their health care vocational training during 2010-2011.

### Attention Federal Employees

Did you know that you can give to Matthew House through your workplace? The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is a federal workplace giving program that allows you to make contributions to charities of your choice through payroll deductions.

Between September 1st and December 15th, you can sign up to give to Matthew House through a payment plan of your choice. Even the smallest donation can make a difference in breaking the cycle of homelessness for individuals in Chicago, and payroll deduction is the easiest way to do it! Speak to your company's CFC Cam-

## ASSISTING OUR COUNTRY'S VETERANS

Matthew House is committed to assisting homeless veterans transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing and prevent at-risk veterans from becoming homeless. We provide homeless veterans with outreach, basic skills, case management, vocational training, and assistance with obtaining Veterans Administration and other benefits. To assist



with these endeavors, the State of Illinois, Department of Veterans Affairs, awarded Matthew House a grant in

June, 2010 to assist our veteran participants with vocational training. Many thanks to the IL Department of Veterans Affairs!

