



### **Discipleship House Fellowship**

The Discipleship House Fellowship (DHF) is a 9-month commitment to a discipleship journey modeled around community living, Biblical teaching, and service. The DHF is a program of South Street Ministries. Fellows will serve in various areas of the ministry and within the community. The Discipleship House is located in the Summit Lake neighborhood, in Akron, OH.

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- **Mission** – Embodying Christian Discipleship in a neighborhood context through experiential learning and life on life community.
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- **Application Process** – We are currently taking applications and interviewing for our Fall 2025 iteration of the DHF. The 2025-2026 Fellowship begins September 2, 2025 and goes through May 29, 2026.
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- **South Street Ministries** Find us at – <https://southstreetministries.org/dhf/>
  - The Discipleship House Fellowship is a program of South Street Ministries.
  - South Street Ministries has multiple sites:
    - **Administrative Office:** 130 W. South St. Akron, OH 44311
    - **Front Porch:** 798 Grant St, Akron, OH 44311
    - **Front Porch Fellowship:** 1095 Edison Ave. Akron, OH 44301

**For questions about Discipleship House Fellowship, contact David at**

[dshahata@southstreetministries.org](mailto:dshahata@southstreetministries.org).

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- **Our Community (Summit Lake Neighborhood)** – South Street Ministries serves in the Summit Lake community, one of South Street’s primary ministries is youth engagement and development. RICH KIDS, Bike Shop, and Open Gym all work with Summit Lake youth in Summit Lake.
    - **Summit Lake History**
      - The Summit Lake neighborhood was historically Akron’s playground during the rubber boom. Over time disinvestment and decline saw the community shift into statistically the highest crime and poverty neighborhood of Akron in the latter 1990s, when South Street was founded. Over the next few decades, houses were demolished and Summit Lake presently hosts the highest concentration of abandoned and vacant properties in Summit County.
      - There has always been a strong network of neighbors and residents who have fought, served, and advocated for the community’s good. Presently, Summit Lake has seen investment along the Towpath and is investigating further development into the core of the neighborhood. Along with these developments the crime rate is decreasing in the Summit Lake neighborhood.
    - **Discipleship House Fellows will embark on a journey of learning how to seek justice and love our neighbors within the Summit Lake Community.**
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- **Engagement & Service**

- **Ministry – Time Requirements**

- 25 to 30 hours of weekly ministry work and discipleship training.

- You will be placed in areas within South Street Ministries and/or approved partners in Summit Lake based on your passions, strengths & areas of interest.

- Youth Programming
- Reentry and/or Recovery
- Non-Profit // Administrative Work

- **Community Engagement – Time Requirements**

- 10 Hours of monthly community events & non-programmatic relational time
    - We will have times when we are not in a programmatic space, but are intentionally engaging in relationship with our community. Connecting and building relationships within the community, outside of programmatic space, is an essential aspect of the overall experience.
    - 10 Hours is the monthly requirement, however, we welcome, and encourage much of this, as this will embody the life on life interactions we desire you to step towards during the DHF.
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- **Community Living**

- **Covenant Together –**

- House Values, Rhythms, Expectations, & Approaches
  - This will be created by and with the Fellows.

- **DH Visitors**

- We desire the DH to be a place where the community is welcomed in and invited into spaces where life and ministry is happening. Community living takes compromise and understanding, so visitors guidelines will be created and molded alongside the Fellows in the House Covenant.

- **Dating Relationships**

- We will have both males and females participating in the DHF. We expect that there would be no inter Fellow dating while in the program.
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- **Church Connection –**

- As a part of the DHF, Fellows will be asked to be engaged in the Front Porch Fellowship on Sunday Mornings from 11 am to 1 pm.
  - An essential aspect of the Fellowship is that we live, work, minister, and worship in the community that we live in.

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- **Costs**

- All housing costs will be covered
- Food - Weekly Collective Grocery Allowance
- Stipend - Monthly Allocation (up to \$250)

- **Outside Work or School**

- The program is designed to give you the space to step towards part time work outside of the DHF, or to work in conjunction with students in college. We encourage part time work to be scheduled outside of regular DHF meetings and service times. Work schedules should be discussed with the DHF leaders in advance.

- **An Invitation to Support SSM**

- The Discipleship House Fellowship desires to support those participating in the DHF through covering the costs of Housing, providing a Collective House Grocery Allowance, as well as giving Fellows a Monthly Stipend. The DHF desires that this support allows participants to fully give themselves to the experience of the DHF, committing time and effort into the vast array of service and learning that will occur in the Fellowship. This is made possible through the support of South Street Ministries.
- We hope the support provided allows for this journey of discipleship to be accessible to individuals beyond their financial state. With that, the DHF welcomes and asks Fellows to invite those in their networks to support this opportunity by financially giving towards your time in the Discipleship House Fellowship.
- Fellows will receive training and support to engage in this process of fundraising collectively.
- Raising \$200 or more a month greatly supports the efforts of South Street Ministries and the Discipleship House Fellowship being made possible.

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- **Professional, Spiritual & Personal Development**

- **Kingdom Leadership Alliance**

- Fellows will participate in the Kingdom Leadership Alliance - School of Urban Leadership
  - **Bible Study & Applied Theology Sessions**
    - Daily rhythm of collectively studying The Bible.
  - **One on Ones**
    - One on One with a DHF leader
      - Fellows will have a Monthly One on One with a DHF leader.
        - This will be a time to reflect on DHF, share, discuss any concerns or needs, and get to know one another better.
  - **Monthly House Outing**
    - Monthly organized group hangout.
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- **Vacation & Holidays**

- **Holidays**
    - **Thanksgiving**
      - November 26 - November 30 OFF
    - **Christmas & New Year's**
      - December 20th - January 4th OFF
  - **Vacation (Applicants can request additional approval for known scheduling conflicts prior to starting the program)**
    - 7 Days of Vacation – personally allocated.
      - Request vacation days 2 weeks prior to a DHF leader for approval.
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- **Retreat Days**

- Retreat Day is a day of intentional rest, spent removing oneself from their everyday tasks and spending time in prayer, in the word, reflecting, and simply spending time with the Lord.
  - One retreat day should be taken during each quarter.

- Fall, Winter and Spring.
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- **Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, Illegal Drugs & Weapons**

- Alcohol free-space - This is not in place because we believe alcohol itself is sinful, however we do not want it to be a distraction during your year of the DHF. We hope to be a space where we are witnesses at all times and that our community and youth can always be welcomed into our home.
- Substance use not permitted; Tobacco, Marijuana & Vaping.
- Lethal weapons not permitted on the DHF property.