

Make an IMPACT as a Mission Volunteer

Our volunteers are crucial to our ministry, enabling us to care for more men, women and children than our staff possibly could alone. In addition, these kind-hearted individuals and groups provide countless hours of time and talents, allowing a greater portion of our financial resources to be used directly for programs and services. In return, our volunteers have the joy of knowing their efforts are uplifting the lives of their homeless and hurting neighbors.

City Union
Mission volunteers contribute more than 102,000 hours of service every year!

We've recently enhanced our volunteer program to offer Mission friends more convenient outlets through which to share their compassion. Our IMPACT volunteer opportunities are for those who want to help on a one-time or occasional basis. They might assist with providing and serving meals in our facilities or landscaping our grounds. HIGH IMPACT volunteers make a 6 to 12 month commitment to serve weekly or monthly and undertake more specialized and recurring tasks like providing handyman services, performing intake interviews or even leading other volunteers.

If you'd like to make an impact, we invite you to visit the volunteer section of our website, which has been redesigned with more detailed information and automated scheduling and check-in processes. If you have specific questions, please email impact@cityunionmission.org or highimpact@cityunionmission.org.



Store managers from Kansas City area Walgreens prepare delicious barbecue meat and all the fixings and then serve guests at our Men's Center.



2013 BWAM Ride Raises over \$17,000

A resounding roar announced the departure of over 215 motorcycle riders from the parking lot of City Union Mission's Men's Center on Sunday, May 5, for the 24th annual *Bikers with a Mission Run for the Homeless Benefit Ride*, which raised over \$17,000 in cash and pledges.

Ray Schneider was this year's grand-prize winner, securing the most pledges and cash-in-hand that day with \$1,845. He received a custom-made knife created by **Bill Miller of W.M. Knives**.

The Mission is grateful to all our riders, donors, volunteers and event sponsors—**Engle Motors, Inc.; Grandview Top Company; Burns & McDonnell; and W.M. Knives**—who helped make this event a success!

Send Youngsters Back to School in Style

Once again this year City Union Mission's back-to-school outreach will focus on providing proper school clothing for impoverished children. Our goal is to outfit 500 income-qualified students in grades K through 6 with the items required by the Kansas City Missouri School District. We're grateful to **Assurant** for donating new socks and underwear. And we're inviting the community to help provide shirts, skirts and pants. A gift of \$25 will cover the cost of clothing for one child.

If you can help, simply check the box on the reply card and return it with your gift, or make a gift online at www.cityunionmission.org and include "back to school" in the donation comments. Thank you for helping our city's children return to school in style!



Four Reasons to Support City Thrift Stores

1. Thrift store sales support City Union Mission's ministry. Because we receive no government funding, the Mission relies on gifts from friends like you and sales from our thrift stores to help pay for food and shelter for the homeless.

2. Working at the stores helps our residents gain experience. "It prepares a person to get to a job on time and put in a full day's work," says Mission staff. Men and women in our long-term recovery programs leave here with retail experience they need to land a job.

3. The stores allow the community to share with the poor. "Volunteering at the thrift stores or donating items gives people an understanding of why we're here and what we do," our staff explains. Nearly 85 percent of the goods at our Lexington City Thrift—tens of thousands of items each year—are given free of charge to our homeless and impoverished neighbors.

4. You'll find tremendous bargains! Who doesn't love to get a great deal when they're shopping for a new outfit or something fun for their home? Our City Thrift stores are loaded with new and slightly used merchandise and rare finds!



Follow Your Donation's Journey to a New Beginning!

DONORS SCHEDULE PICKUPS, participate in drives or drop off items at donation bins or City Thrift locations.



UN SOLD ITEMS ARE GIVEN AWAY free through our Lexington location and Mission clothing rooms.



GOODS ARE PROCESSED The Mission retains items needed for programs; merchandise is distributed to City Thrift stores and sold to public.

Visit CityThrift.org for store hours, locations and donation-pickup information!

Expires 9/8/2013

25% OFF COUPON

visit CityThrift.org for locations
Coupon cannot be combined with other sales or promotions

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THE MISSION BY DONATING YOUR CLOTHING, SHOES, & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ON YOUR NEXT VISIT TO CITY THRIFT.

CITY THRIFT

YOUR CITY. YOUR MISSION. CITY UNION MISSION.

City Thrift is owned by City Union Mission

Because You Gave

January–May 2013

Daily average of homeless sleeping overnight	457
Daily average of meals served	735
Approx. number of patients seen for medical issues	4,193
Daily average of homeless attending chapel services	273
Approx. number of salvations and rededications	289

Financial Update

FY 2012 Budget (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30)	\$10,000,048.00
Amount Raised as of Month day	\$7,783,935.87

CITY UNION MISSION.
YOUR CITY.
YOUR MISSION.

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More Than a SOUP KITCHEN



FROM DAN'S DESK

From Dan's Desk

The truth can't be ignored. The needs of the homeless are just as great in the summer as in the winter, and this year they may be even more urgent. Right now we're doing all we can to prepare for a decrease in overall emergency family bed space in our city that's expected in the months ahead. As a result of the lingering cold weather this spring, our men's shelter remained at or near capacity when our numbers otherwise would have declined. Even now we continue to house hundreds of men nightly. And more homeless and struggling families mean more children seeking a summer reprieve at our Camp CUMCITO. We've added 120 spots at camp where we'll welcome more than 600 children this year. Please continue to stand alongside us in our ministry as we continue to be so much more than a soup kitchen to our city's homeless men, women and children. Your financial gifts and faithful prayers are our most powerful resources.



For His glory,

Daniel J. Boty
Rev. Daniel J. Boty,
Executive Director

GETTING TO THE ROOT OF HOMELESSNESS

We often say hope begins with a meal, but a bowl of soup alone won't change a life. The needs of the homeless extend far beyond the basics of food and shelter. The reasons people become displaced are varied, complex and unique to each individual. Yet there are common factors that contribute to the situations we encounter here at the Mission, and we're addressing these needs and others through our emergency shelters and long-term recovery programs.

Many of those we see battle **addiction**, primarily to alcohol, drugs or a tragic combination. But some men and women have lost control of their lives to gambling, pornography, eating disorders and even unresolved grief.

Our Christian Life Program for men and New Life Program for families help them understand and overcome destructive behaviors, establish a relapse prevention plan and rebuild their futures. Others suffer **mental illness** that limits their ability to function in society. Many people with bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia and depression may never have been diagnosed, yet the effect on their lives can be devastating. Our staff is trained to understand their behaviors and embrace them with patience and compassion. Confronting a disabled person's disruptive behaviors demands much more attention to accomplish success. We work in partnership with **Truman Medical Center Behavioral Health** to meet their medical needs and develop a plan that includes Christ-centered counseling and developing skills that replace unhealthy patterns to help them rebuild their lives with dignity.

Poverty is most often at the root of homelessness and it takes a variety of forms—lack of education, lack of employment, lack of a support system . . . the



GARY AND ERIKA

Gary and Erika

After years of addiction . . . after losing their four children . . . Gary and Erika were homeless. They lived in their truck in the woods, scrapping metal to get by. Erika describes the day they hit rock bottom: "It was cold. We were tired and hungry. We made a plan to drive off a cliff in the truck." Instead, Gary walked into a nearby church and asked for help. He was referred to City Union Mission.

"It was all about God that day," Gary says. "He was with us." The couple joined our New Life Program and are learning the skills and values that provide the foundation for a stable life. "Communications, money management, relapse prevention—those are a big help," Erika says. "Both of us are getting our GEDs," Gary shares. "But most important is strengthening our relationship with God. This is a great place to do that."



GEORGE

George

George can't put a finger on the exact reason for his homelessness. Substance abuse. Grief over the death of his father. Prison time with no support or resources to help him return to society. "I wasn't going anywhere but down—backwards instead of forwards. Something told me it was time for a change." He came to the Mission and began a journey of transformation and faith in our Christian Life Program.

"Before coming here I just felt lost. But this program is helping me understand myself, work on my problems and put my trust in the Lord. I'm letting Him take care of everything and guide me through this," George says. As a work-therapy assignment, he's working in one of our City Thrift stores where he enjoys talking with people from all walks of life and learning retail skills he can use to find a job. "I thank the Lord for what He's done for me here—I really do."

HOMELESS



kansascityimages.net

list goes on. What many of these homeless and hurting souls also lack are the biblical values that come from a relationship with Christ and a church family, which allow them to maintain their independence and quality of life. Through our long-term recovery programs, we provide them with the skills to put these principles into practice through training in communications, money management, decision-making and parenting. We also offer adult education and work-therapy opportunities to build responsibility and accountability. Most important—through Bible studies, worship and devotions—we encourage them to strengthen their walk with the Lord and their local church, which provides a permanent and lasting foundation for a stable and meaningful life.

KATHLEEN

Kathleen*

"I grew up in church, but it was just to go to church. No one ever told me I needed a personal relationship with God," Kathleen says. Instead she built a relationship with a man who spurred her addiction, fueled her depression and shared her homelessness. The couple came to the Mission several times, never staying for long. Finally Kathleen came on her own and joined our New Life Program. "At first I didn't think I needed any of those classes—like communications and money management—but I found out I needed a lot of help. My goal is to be a different person when I leave here, healthier and with a stable job and a home."

She's also overcoming the depression and lack of self-esteem that resulted from her destructive relationship. "I don't have to settle for less. I don't need anyone if it's not God's will," she says.

*Name and photo changed to protect privacy.

The Difference YOU MAKE

Friends like you provide the foundation of support for our ministry. Your dedication allows us to provide not only food for the body, but also food for the mind and spirit that empower homeless people to turn their lives around. Please continue to partner with us . . .

1. Through financial contributions including individual gifts, event sponsorships and estate planning
2. By praying for our staff, volunteers and the people we serve
3. With in-kind donations of food, clothing and unused inventory that offset our budget
4. As you share your time and talents through our many volunteer opportunities (see other side)
5. By spreading the word about our work within the community through your social media contacts

To learn more about the many ways you can make a difference to the Mission and those we serve, contact Dennis Chapman, Chief Development Officer, at (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476 or

Dennis.Chapman@cityunionmission.org.