Dear Friend,

One of the most common questions we hear from our Mission friends is “How many people do you see in your shelters?” Or “Are the numbers of homeless people increasing?”

For the past few years I’ve been answering questions like this by saying whereas there used to be times of the year when the count would rise and fall, we now see the number of homeless men and families remaining consistently high throughout the year.

In warmer weather we typically would see far fewer homeless men staying in our shelter. Although there are still fewer men in the summer, there are consistently more than in previous years. Family homelessness used to decrease during colder weather. Landlords would not want to evict a family behind in their rent; utility companies would grant more grace to a family unable to pay their bills; and family members or friends would not want to put someone out or interrupt the children’s school schedule. But, when warmer weather arrived, people reasoned no one would freeze if they had to fend for themselves.

We’ve had record numbers of homeless men this winter, and we deal with that by pulling out our overflow mattresses. Yet, when the numbers of homeless families exceed our Family Shelter space, as well as the shelter space throughout the city, there is no easy solution.

We’re so grateful for what God is doing in the lives of those currently homeless, but we are very concerned about the need for more shelter space for families while they wait for or work toward permanent housing. Please pray with us for a solution here in Your City, through Your Mission. We’re blessed by your continued partnership in turning hunger and homelessness to hope.

For His Glory,

Rev. Daniel J. Doty
Executive Director

P.S.

See pages 6 and 7 for a current snapshot of the scope of hunger and homelessness here in Kansas City.
FROM HOMELESSNESS TO HOPE
“Homelessness was the farthest thing from my mind until just a year and a half ago,” says Yaisi, a student in our New Life Program. “We had a home and our future was secure.” But then her husband went away. “It was just me and my two kids. I had two jobs and lost one of them. I was behind on the rent and couldn’t pay the utilities. It was cold and we didn’t have any water.”

They left their house and spent the night in their car with the heater running to stay warm. They parked at a gas station where someone told them about the Mission. Yaisi was reluctant to come. “In my mind, I thought I’d rather be in my car than in a homeless shelter. Even people who are going through hardships don’t imagine they’ll end up in a place like that.” But the Mission was much different than she imagined.

“We felt very welcome here with our first steps through the door,” Yaisi recalls. “They showed us to our room in the Family Shelter and made us comfortable. The kids were excited because they saw other kids here.”

Yaisi is working toward her GED so she can get a good job and support her children on her own. “But most importantly,” she says, “we’re living like a family again. I’m learning how to be a functional parent . . . and how to be a Christian.”

43% of the people the Mission serves are experiencing homelessness for the first time.
A Snapshot of Hunger and Homelessness in Your City and at Your Mission

Recent reports on the plight of hungry and homeless people here in Kansas City show their numbers and needs continue to grow. City Union Mission—through the support of our friends and donors—is honored to be among the network of organizations working to provide solutions to this tragic crisis.

Of Those in Our Mission Shelters:* 
- 43% are first-time homeless.
- 39% have been homeless for more than one year.
- Over two-thirds have at least a high-school education.
- 14% are veterans.
- 86% prefer the spiritual emphasis of a rescue mission.

The Need is Growing!

* 1991 statistics are approximate.
Of Those who Struggle in Kansas City:**

- The number of homeless individuals increased nearly 15% between 2010 and 2011.
- The number of homeless families increased more than 31% in the same period.
- Nearly 44% attribute their homelessness to loss of income.

Among Kansas City Assistance Providers:***

- Requests for emergency food assistance increased by 40% in the past year.
- Food pantries and emergency kitchens had to turn away people due to lack of resources, reduce the quantity of food provided or reduce the number of times a person or family could visit each month.
- 20% of the demand for shelter went unmet.
- In the coming year, city officials expect requests for both food assistance and shelter to increase substantially, but resources to provide food assistance to decrease substantially.
How the Mission is Supported

MINISTRY INCOME

- Contributions: 70%
- In-Kind Gifts: 21%
- Receiving Center: 7%
- Miscellaneous: 1%
- Investment: 1%

MINISTRY EXPENSES

- Program Services: 78%
- Development: 14%
- General Administration: 8%

Total Annual Revenue

Including Bequests

FY 2011: $11,313,260*
*An additional $206,906 in revenue was received for the Building the Walls that Rebuild Lives capital campaign.

FY 2010: $10,859,184*
*An additional $168,274 in revenue was received for the Building the Walls that Rebuild Lives capital campaign.

FY 2009: $8,564,379*
*An additional $1,275,515 in revenue was received for the Building the Walls that Rebuild Lives capital campaign.

Revenue and expense analysis collected in an independent audit by Clifton Gunderson LLP.
City Union Mission is a member in good standing of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (www.ecfa.org). ECFA is an accreditation agency dedicated to helping Christian ministries earn the public’s trust through adherence to seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship.

City Union Mission is a certified excellent member of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions (www.agrm.org). The AGRM exists to proclaim the passion of Jesus toward the hungry, homeless, abused and addicted, and to accelerate quality and effectiveness in member missions.

City Union Mission is a Kansas City Better Business Bureau Accredited Charity, providing documentation that our ministry meets basic standards in how we govern our organization, in the ways we spend our money, in the truthfulness of our representations, and in our willingness to disclose basic information to the public.

Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org) has recognized City Union Mission as a 3-star charity, signifying it exceeds or meets industry standards and performs as well as or better than most charities in its cause. Charity Navigator examines how responsibly a charity functions day to day and how it is positioned to sustain its programs over time.
Gifts of All Kind
Make an Impact

From pumpkin bread to pillowcases, insightful groups and individuals ensure we can fulfill the needs of our residents and guests.
• For many years, the **Northland Circle of Friends** has sewn items the Mission needs including quilts, laundry bags and book bags for Camp CUMCITO, along with sleeping shirts and welcome bags for our Men’s Center.

• **Grace Christian Academy** grades K-6 held a toilet-paper drive for the Mission and learned how their gifts help us touch the lives of the poor and the homeless.

• Sixth grade students at **Maranatha Academy** collected and donated 856 pounds of food to the Mission, along with winter coats.

• For his birthday, **Martin Radosevic** asked his friends to purchase peanut butter and jelly for the Mission in lieu of gifts.

• This past year, **Grainger** employees collected many much-needed items for the Mission including long underwear for Christmas gifts at our Men’s Center. They also gave a monetary gift of $20,000.

• The **Women of First Baptist of Raytown** collected new shoes at their Christmas Shoe Luncheon in November and 35 pairs were donated to the Mission’s Christmas Store.

• **The Daniel Davila Family** honored Daniel—their husband, father and grandfather who passed away in July—by delivering three carloads of gifts for **Mission: Christmas** on his birthday.

• **Joanie Knudsen** made special pillowcases from colorful fabrics to give to children at our Family Shelter. She and her sister, **Cathy Fairchild**, and their parents, **Phil and Virginia Chiarelli**, also made and donated baby blankets, treasure boxes, crayon and marker holders, and Christmas stockings filled with treats.
Our Volunteers Touch Hearts and Lives

Hundreds of people of all ages and from all walks of life share their time, talents and compassion with the Mission on a regular basis.
• 94.9 KCMO and longtime Kansas City’s favorite DJ, Dick Wilson, broadcast live from our Christmas Store to spread the word about the need for gifts.

• Nate Kimbrough took time from his job to do cleaning in our Administration building and spread mulch around our facilities. Nate works for Cerner, and the company encourages employees to use a week of their paid “time off” to help the community.

• Hundreds of volunteers delivered 18,126 gifts to 626 families in time for Christmas, along with a turkey for their holiday dinner.

• Northland Cathedral served a delicious Christmas dinner of ham and all the trimmings to the men in our emergency shelter.

• Eagle Scout David Spivak and his “crew” worked to repair the outside of our Men’s Center.

• Employees from Compass Group USA volunteered at our warehouse in February, sorting a record 8,632 pounds of food!

• Life Teen Group from Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Lenexa sealed the parking lot at our Administration building and gave the hallway a fresh coat of paint.

• As part of their company “work” day, 15 staff members from Missouri Central Credit Union volunteered their time to clean, sort clothing and provide and serve lunch at our Family Shelter.
In Prayer

Your prayers are vital to this ministry and those we serve. Please include us in your daily devotions.

Ways to Bring Hope to the Hungry and Homeless

City Union Mission accepts no government funding that could jeopardize our Christ-centered programs and services. Our work is funded primarily through the partnership of generous individuals, businesses, churches and foundations who support us in a number of different ways.

You’re invited to partner with us . . .

To learn more about these and other ways to give, visit www.cityunionmission.org or contact Dennis Chapman, Chief Development Officer, at (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476 or Dennis.Chapman@cityunionmission.org. Thank you for standing alongside us as we bring hope to the hungry and homeless of Kansas City.

Through Financial Contributions

Your monetary donations provide life essentials and recovery services for the homeless. Members of our Bed & Bread Club monthly giving program send $15 or more each month to provide a homeless man, woman or child with food and shelter for one day.

With In-kind Gifts

Your donations of food, new and gently used clothing, and other household goods help us meet the basic needs of those we serve or are sold for funds to support our programs and services. We also welcome gifts of stocks and securities and non-cash assets including vehicles, collectibles and inventory.

In Prayer

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Through Estate Planning

By choosing now to include the Mission in your Will or benefiting us with a portion of your estate when you pass, you ensure future generations will receive the assistance they need and hear the love and truth of God’s Word.

By Sharing Time and Talent

Your partnership with the Mission as a volunteer allows us to serve and care for an increasing number of hurting men, women and children.

By Participating in or Sponsoring Mission Events

Events such as our annual Women Who’ve Changed the Heart of the City luncheon (see pages 16-17), our Biker’s With a Mission Run for the Homeless Benefit Ride and our City Union Mission Golf Classic provide fun and inspirational opportunities to support the Mission.
For the fifth consecutive year, City Union Mission will honor women whose leadership and humanitarianism have changed the heart of our city. We’re honored this event has become symbolic of the Mission’s shared commitment to strengthening the fabric of our community. Established in 2008 to raise funds for the Mission’s Camp CUMCITO for underprivileged boys and girls, the now much-anticipated event attracts hundreds of attendees and raises hundreds of thousands of dollars. This year—in response to the growing need on the streets of Kansas City—the scope of the luncheon’s support has been expanded to include our programs and services to uplift homeless women and families.

For details including individual tickets, table sponsorship information and to register to attend, visit www.womenwhochange.org. We’re so grateful for your partnership and support!

Fifth Annual Women Who’ve Changed the Heart of the City Luncheon

A benefit for the Mission’s services to homeless and underprivileged women and families

For the past four years, Women Who’ve Changed the Heart of the City has been named one of the Top 5 luncheon events in Kansas City by The Independent. The ranking is based on net dollars raised.
New for 2012
Hearts United Honorees

This year’s event also honors women in businesses who are making their organizations better places to work, their communities better places to live and are serving the people of our city in an inspired way. The Hearts United nominees have been selected by sponsors at the Circle of Love level or above and the winners will be recognized at the luncheon.

Our Past Honorees
Mary Shaw Branton
Rose Bryant
Beulah Bulkley
(posthumously)
Sister Corita Bussanmus
Irene Caudillo
Joanne Collins
Nancy Dillingham
Anita Gorman
Adele Hall
Shirley Helzberg
Mamie Hughes
Mary Lou Jaramillo
Julia Irene Kauffman
Muriel Kauffman
(posthumously)
Pat Lloyd Land
(posthumously)
Carol Marinovich
Jeannette Nichols
Sister Berta Sailer
Barbara Spilker
Susan Stanton

Our 2012 Luncheon Honorees

Jane Chu
Ms. Chu played a crucial role in the creation of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and currently serves as president and CEO. She believes in the institution’s vision of enriching the lives of communities throughout the region, country and world by offering extraordinary and diverse performing arts experiences and making those experiences accessible to all.

Laura R. Hockaday
In her 38-year tenure at the Kansas City Star, Ms. Hockaday used her pen as an essential tool to bring diversity and culture to its pages. It was her mission to expand the scope of the “society page” to the “people’s page,” celebrating the good work being done by African-Americans and Hispanics in all communities, regardless of economic class.

Dr. Sharon Lee
As founder and executive director of Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care Services, Dr. Lee is living out her passion of providing health care and other supportive services for the poor and vulnerable. She and her staff welcome patients regardless of their ability to pay, providing services including obstetrics, pediatrics, adult medicine, dental, mental health and minor emergency care.

Paul McMillian of VanDeusenPhotography.com
Looking Ahead at 2012

As the needs of our community change, so do we. We’re expanding and enhancing our programs and resources to better serve the needy of Kansas City, creating more opportunities to bring hope to the hungry and homeless.

Thrift Store Remodel—Our renovation begins with our name. Our Wornall and Lexington locations will now be called City Thrift. (Our 63rd street store has been closed.) And our efforts continue with a range of enhancements to make shopping more inviting and convenient for our customers!

Updates include new paint, carpet, lighting and fixtures. Signage such as “Bargain Blvd.” and “Second Hand Street” have been added to create a fun, themed environment. Our inventory has expanded by more than threefold and sorted into “new arrivals” and “clearance” sections for easy selection. Drive-through donation facilities and donation pick-up services are also in the plans.

Our hope is to make our City Thrift stores a “shopping destination” and the community’s choice when it comes to selecting where to donate their gently used clothing, furniture and household goods. In turn, the stores provide an even stronger foundation of financial support for our programs and services.
**Homeless Blog**—This forum is dedicated to those the Mission serves, giving them a voice to express to others a glimpse into their world, their trials and their triumphs as they cope with what it means to be homeless and work to build new lives. Read their moving testimonies like this one at [www.heartofthehomeless.blogspot.com](http://www.heartofthehomeless.blogspot.com).

At City Union Mission, I found a staff of great people who were more than willing to help me. I stopped drinking the day I arrived three months ago and haven’t had a drink or even wanted a drink since. The Mission staff helped me find my way back to God and the Church. I am receiving spiritual and educational help. I have a great place to live with good people around me. Life now has a direction and a purpose. I like waking up in the morning again.

—Ken, a participant (with wife Lea Ann) in our New Life Program
Every year we celebrate the victories of men and women who have completed our long-term recovery programs. All were once homeless, hungry and battling addiction or other challenges that led to broken lives. Your love and generosity empower them to build futures filled with hope.

“I came to the Mission because I had no place to stay. I wanted to be where I could feel safe. It’s a blessing that God has given me another chance to learn who He is.”
— Grace

“I know I have a lot of work to do, but God has shown me it’s NEVER too late. This is a short life compared to the life that awaits me in heaven.”
— Lee

“I was broken to a point where I had to accept help from others and from God. Your donations gave me hope, and I’m working to be a better person to the people around me and to my daughter.”
— Larry