“Hope Happens Here!”

Gail’s life is changed forever and she wants to thank YOU!

On Page 3, read how your support touches lives with new hope.

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For more information: (816) 474-9380 cityunionmission.org
A Message from TERRY MEGLI

Dear Friend,

These past few months have been unsettling for everyone – and most especially for our neighbors in need. Hunger… homelessness… poverty. These hardships can seem even more daunting in the current environment. In times like these, caring for hundreds of hurting individuals presents a challenge that’s greater than ever.

Summer is always hard, but this year we’re being stretched to the limit. Expenses for June, July and August combined are expected to run as high as $2,000,000. That includes providing meals, expenses for crisis-related assistance such as cleansing showers, personal hygiene items, access to medical care, and sanitizing products. And there’s no decline in the need for Christ-centered recovery and practical guidance that empowers our guests to change their lives.

As I watch hope happen throughout the Mission’s programs and services – kids attending Camp CUMCITO and men and women learning skills they need to find employment – my heart fills with gratitude for your partnership and support.

During this critical time, I pray you’ll continue to remember our homeless and struggling neighbors. They need your encouragement, prayers and compassion now more than ever.

Please give where you live to ensure we can care for every individual who turns to City Union Mission for hope and a new beginning, now and in the months ahead. Your partnership brings comfort to so many, especially in times like these.

In his new role as CEO, Terry Megli is dedicated to making City Union Mission a place where hope happens for even more of our area’s hurting men, women and children. Currently he and other Mission leaders are working with the board on two major initiatives.

“An expansion of our Family Center would allow us to serve the growing population of displaced families and single parents with children,” Terry shares, adding that the current facility is operating at capacity, creating challenges for those working hard to rebuild their lives. A feasibility study is underway to assist with the decision making process.

The Mission has also received the former Ruth Mercer Elementary school building and property near Camp CUMCITO in Warsaw, Missouri. “We are planning how to best utilize this space to serve the needs and goals of the Mission,” Terry says.

Stay tuned for more details on how you can support these two exciting projects and reach more of our hurting neighbors with hope and new beginnings.

Thank you,
Terry Megli
Chief Executive Officer
Throughout her 21-year struggle with substance abuse, Gail remained committed to her nursing career and dedicated to her children. So when her daughter, who lived with her, had a baby, she welcomed her new grandson with open arms.

Sadly, Gail’s daughter soon left, taking Gail’s car and leaving the infant. With no transportation to work, Gail lost her job. When she could no longer pay her rent, her landlord asked her to leave. “The whole situation was a mess,” she recalls, fearing she and the child would be forced to the streets. “I was lost and I didn’t know what to do.”

Gail called her son who volunteers at City Union Mission. He encouraged her to come with her grandson to our shelter for women and families and allow our Christ-centered New Life Program to help rebuild her life. “He told me he really wanted me to turn to God,” she says.

Gail immediately embraced our faith-based classes. “They made me so hopeful,” she shares. “It was the first time in 40 years that I felt any kind of peace inside me.” Through the guidance of our compassionate staff, she’s overcoming the childhood trauma that led to her addiction and learning how to walk with the Lord.

“They help us figure out what’s broken and let God heal us,” she explains. “They let Him change our hearts and teach us the tools we need to be functioning adults.”

When she leaves our care, she looks forward to rebuilding her career as a geriatric nurse. “That’s my calling because taking care of people is who I am. With the spirituality I now have, I believe I can offer them even more.”

Because you gave from your heart to help, Gail has hope! “I never in my life thought I would end up in a shelter with my grandson by my side. But now that I’m in the program, I know it is the best thing that ever happened to me.”

I feel like every one of the instructors here are handpicked by God.

Bless Kids With Back-to-School Clothes

We hope to assist more than 400 students from income-qualified homes with back-to-school clothing this fall. Boys and girls in grades K through 6 will receive items required by the Kansas City Missouri School District. A gift of $35 will cover the cost of clothing for one child.

If you can partner with us, please mark your gift on the included reply card. Or give online at cityunionmission.org and write “back to school” in the donation comments. Thank you for helping our city’s children return to school with confidence and self-esteem!
As the summer camping season kicks off, City Union Mission is seeking funds to replace two water wells at our Camp CUMCITO near Warsaw, Missouri. The cost to replace the two wells is estimated at $110,000.

"With the current wells beyond repair, new ones must be drilled to provide the 8,000 gallons needed daily to provide fresh drinking water, showers and restroom facilities, and kitchen activities for the scores of boys and girls who will join us throughout the summer," explains CEO Terry Megli. Each year, the residential camp offers wholesome fun in a faith-based environment for children and teens from our area’s most impoverished families. Without the new wells, the Mission may have to reduce the number of campers who can attend.

If you can help, please indicate your special gift on the enclosed reply card and send it in the envelope provided. Excited young campers will truly appreciate your thoughtfulness!

Cord Cochran, Director of our men’s Opportunity Farm near Warsaw, Missouri, has been dedicated to sharing God’s life-changing love with hurting individuals throughout our ministry. He served as Family Shelter Administrator from 2006 through 2008 and returned in 2013 as a Case Manager in our Men’s Center. In 2014 he became Director of our men’s ministry and moved into his current position in 2019.

“It’s such an honor to watch God change lives on a daily basis and to be part of it,” Cord says. “I’m so grateful for these opportunities to serve Him, the Mission and our Kansas City community.”

Thank you for Making Bikers With a Mission a Success!

Over the last three decades, hundreds of area motorcycle riders and enthusiasts have participated in City Union Mission’s annual Bikers With a Mission Benefit Ride, raising funds for our ministry’s outreach to assist the area’s homeless and working poor.

The Mission relies on proceeds to assist guests, residents and struggling neighbors with medications, eyeglasses, bus tokens, utility assistance, baby formula and other unbudgeted expenses. Since its inception, the ride has secured a total of $752,000.

We’re grateful for all the dedicated riders and friends who, over the years, have made this event a success!

Funds Needed to Replace Wells at Camp CUMCITO

One of the earliest Charitable Gift Annuities happened in 1831 between Yale University and a painter named John Trumbull. At the time, Trumbull was living widowed and poor, surrounded by nearly 100 paintings. He decided to donate them to Yale in exchange for a “competent annuity for the remainder” of his life. And the CGA earned its stripes in American history.

A CGA is a contract between a nonprofit and an individual who transfers their assets in return for an immediate tax deduction and an income stream for life. CGA’s also:

- Provide the possibility of donating many types of assets
- Reduce capital gains tax liability
- Allow you to support City Union Mission

One of the most remarkable things about John Trumbull isn’t that he earned the title of “The Painter of the Revolution,” it’s that he did it with the use of only one eye.

Art critics believe this lifelong effect from a childhood injury is ultimately what influenced his detailed painting style. Today, millions of people continue to walk in Trumbull’s shoes, creatively impacting lives through smart charitable giving.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of “Start a Revolution in Giving” by contacting Dennis Chapman at (816) 329-1476 or dennis.chapman@cityunionmission.org – or bless your family today with a God-honoring will at christianwill.org/cityunionmission.