

RESCUE LINE

84 West Wheeling Street, Washington, PA 15301 | citymission.org | 724.222.8530 | SUMMER 2019

“To care for him who shall have borne the battle.”

Abraham Lincoln, Second Inaugural Address
1865



CITY  **MISSION**
HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS

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How your support helps your neighbors through the hard times.

Over 22% of our neighbors in Washington are living in poverty. They are mothers with children, struggling to pay the rent and put food on the table. They are men who have lost family and friends and feel themselves losing hope.

With poverty comes hunger, sickness, discouragement and loneliness.

Your support to City Mission provides shelter and recovery for men, women, children and veterans.

Lives change in this loving, Christian environment where Jesus is the answer.

Love Thy Neighbor

The Samaritan Care Center is a place where our neighbors in need can come and get food items and clothing vouchers to help them get by, but it's also so much more than that. Here's what happened there this week as told by our Samaritan Care Coordinator, Paul Smith:

"A young lady named Cathy came and asked if she could stay here today since she needed somewhere to wait for a friend to come and give her a ride. She told me her story and how she is nearly homeless herself. I was able to give her some advice about who to talk to for housing once she starts working. We were able to give 8 pairs of socks to several warming center folks today. One man, Jim, who wants to sleep outside no matter what we offer, asked for a better coat and I was able to find him a donated one from upstairs. He was so grateful. We had another visit from a woman who I call our 'Samaritan Center Angel.' About once a month she brings us some of her own food to help the poor. She walks in pulling her own little cart with some of her food for us. When I say, 'there's my Angel' she gets the biggest grin, and a hug is always in order."





MEET SHERRY

Sherry lives in the Washington community, within walking distance of City Mission, and though she has never been a resident, she comes almost daily to eat meals, attend chapel services, visit with friends, or pray with residents and staff at the Samaritan Care Center, City Mission's community outreach.

Everybody at City Mission knows Sherry. Staff, residents and community walk-ins see her regularly on campus, greeting everyone with a smile. For years, Sherry has been part of the fabric of the City Mission tapestry. She helps to build the sense of love and community that makes everyone here feel like family.

"I love coming to the Mission. I love the people," she said. "It's like a second home to me."

In June of 2015, City Mission suffered a devastating fire. Sherry was concerned for the

people who rely on the Mission to get by. "It was scary," she said. "And I thought, 'Where are those guys going to go?' I don't know what I would have done if my place burnt down and I had nowhere to go."

Sherry was determined to show love to her neighbors in any way she could. She donated several bags of canned food and some clothing of her own. Then, she went around the community and collected more clothes and food items and donated those to City Mission as well. "I prayed about it," she said. "If I was in their situation, I'd want someone to help me out."

Through the Samaritan Care Center, City Mission is able to provide love, support, fellowship and prayer to Sherry and many of her neighbors in the Washington community.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." ~ Mark 12:30-31

The Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House honors Dr. Michael Crabtree, generous donor and friend.

“My wife and I have made a commitment to helping people remove the barriers that keep them from leading fulfilling lives. That is our passion in life, and that passion is realized in the work of City Mission,” said Dr. Michael Crabtree, a major donor to City Mission and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Last year, Dr. Crabtree’s generous donation helped make the Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House become a reality, and because of that, City Mission is now able to help homeless veterans in a way we never were before. “I’m happy to be able to give to the Mission because I know the money is being used to do important and meaningful work.”

Dr. Crabtree has been a professor of psychology at Washington and Jefferson College for 44 years and a practicing psychologist in Washington County for over three decades. He and his wife, Mary Paige Pillow, have been active financial supporters of the Mission for over 25 years, and he has been a board member for the last three.



Dr. Crabtree holds a special place in his heart for City Mission’s Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House, which is about to celebrate its first anniversary this July. For much of his career, he has been dedicated to helping veterans.

“There are so many men and women in the military who have made the ultimate sacrifice,” said Dr. Crabtree. “And there are so many more who have equally given their lives in the sense that they are forever changed and are struggling to reclaim their purpose. City Mission has made a real

commitment to helping make these men and women whole again, to help them have an economically, psychologically and spiritually meaningful life.”

He added, “They are truly focused on a Christian mission. That is always the touchstone. The business never gets in the way of that mission. When you pull back the curtain at City Mission, you don’t see anything other than exactly what you would hope to see.”



The Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House honors LCpl Ryan Kovacicek, a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice.

On Sunday, July 10, 2005, in Hit, Iraq, Lance Corporal Ryan Joseph Kovacicek was killed in combat. He was 22 years old when he gave his life for our country.

Life cannot be measured by months, years, or even decade, but by the principles we stand for ... especially the principles we give our lives to uphold. Ryan’s service and sacrifice reflect great credit upon himself, his family and the United States Marine Corps.

Kevin — a Vet — is Our New Shift Supervisor

Dr. Michael Crabtree met Kevin only recently, but he's made a huge difference in Kevin's life for nearly a year.

Kevin, a veteran of the US Navy and the Navy Reserve, was among the very first residents who moved into the Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House when it opened last July.

“When you come in through the doors of the Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House, you can tell right away it's a special place. It's a privilege to be in this facility ... We all look out for each other.”

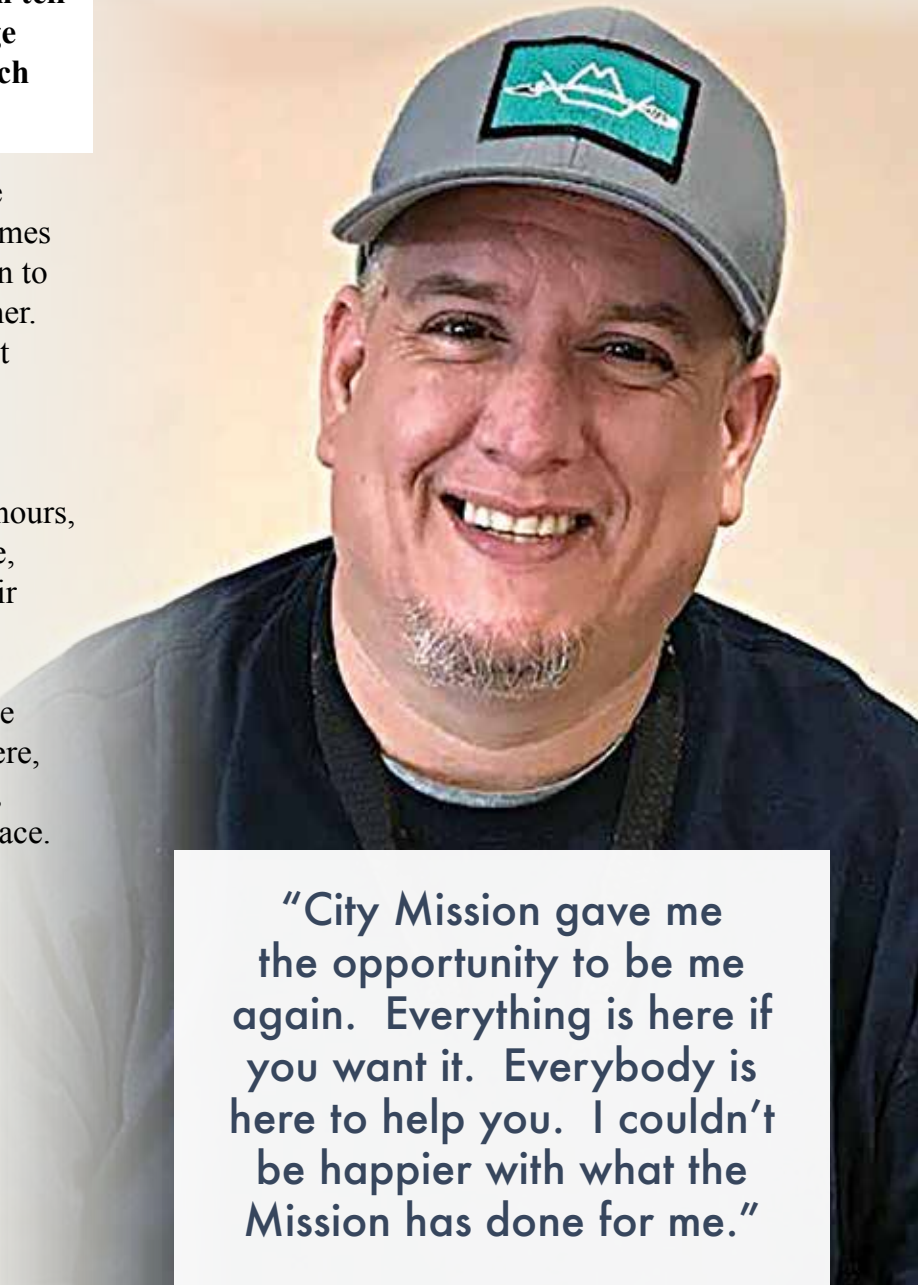
“Everyone here understands and recognizes the specific problems, struggles and trauma that comes along with military service. We do what we can to protect each other, and we do everything together. So you really learn to be open again and to trust people.”

Recently, Kevin became the House's Shift Supervisor — managing the shelter during off hours, mentoring residents and helping to create a safe, loving environment for the men to work on their recovery.

“As Shift Supervisor, I really feel like things are coming full circle for me. When I first came here, I didn't know anything about communal living, but the supervisors at the time made it a safe place. ‘You don't have to worry,’ they would tell me. ‘We'll give you the opportunity to beat this.’”

Kevin is also working on becoming a Certified Recovery Specialist, so he can better help and support the men. “I want to give back. It's important for me to do that.”

Kevin is finally back on track. He is helping people, gaining responsibility and becoming the kind of person others can look up to. “I try to lead by example,” he said. “If people see you doing the right thing, you don't need words.”



“City Mission gave me the opportunity to be me again. Everything is here if you want it. Everybody is here to help you. I couldn't be happier with what the Mission has done for me.”





BECOME PART OF THE LEGACY WITH A TIMELESS ENGRAVED BRICK

Participate in the Wall of Honor Brick Campaign by commemorating a veteran in your family or another loved one who courageously protected our country.

This campaign is a tribute to veterans who served our country to uphold our freedoms and keep our nation safe.

The bricks will be placed on the Veterans Wall of Honor around the flag pole in front of the Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House.

Contact Judi Kovacicek
(724) 222-8530

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Thrift with a Purpose! Unique Finds at Every Location

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Canonsburg, PA 15317

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Monongahela, PA 15063

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North Strabane, PA 15317

ROSTRAVER

1729 Rostraver Road • Suite B
Rostraver Shopping Center
Belle Vernon, PA 15012

WASHINGTON

382 West Chestnut Street
Suite 110 • Washington, PA 15301

WAYNESBURG

100 Greene Plaza
Waynesburg, PA 15370

OUR BRAND NEW LOCATION

TRI-COUNTY PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER

820 Tri-County Road
Belle Vernon, PA 15404

We sincerely thank you for honoring and remembering your loved ones with a gift to help those in need at City Mission.

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Presents:



5K RACE & 1 MILE FUN WALK

Saturday, August 3, 2019

Peterswood Park — 8:00 am start

Pre-Registration: www.racewire.com

Same-Day Registration: 7:00 am - 7:45 am

at the VFW Post 764

460 Valleybrook Road, McMurray, PA 15317

\$25 Registration includes your event T-Shirt

For Sponsorship information contact: Emily Hillebrand

@ (412) 657-4845 or ehillebrand@tprsold.com

**All proceeds benefit the City Mission's
Crabtree Kovacicek Veterans House**

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