

RESCUE LINE

84 West Wheeling Street, Washington, PA 15301 | citymission.org | (724) 222-8530 | Fall 2021

**GRATEFUL
THROUGH IT ALL:**
**Travis is especially
thankful for YOU!**
Your compassion &
support change lives.



GIVING THANKS FOR ALL GOD'S BLESSINGS

It might surprise you that in another year filled with hardships and uncertainty, the overwhelming messages I hear are ones of gratitude and hope.

Despite the challenges we still face as a community – or perhaps because of them – we remain connected to each other in a spirit of love and generosity. **Your care and compassion have never been more evident here at City Mission than right now, as we prepare for the Thanksgiving season.**

You have stepped up to help our hurting neighbors as God has called us to do. Provided nourishing meals. Safe shelter. Life-restoring guidance. More than that, you've prayed for our ministry and residents. Encouraged others to join our mission to transform lives. Your love has made it possible for hearts to be restored and lives rebuilt. Now that's something to celebrate!

As we count our blessings this Thanksgiving you and other faithful friends are at the top of my list. As you enjoy the holiday season with your loved ones, both near and far away, I pray God will fill your heart with joy, peace and the comfort of knowing that lives have been changed thanks to your kindness.

I am grateful for you... today and every day. God bless!



Dean R. Gartland, M.S.
President/CEO

2021 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

It's been another challenging year for so many of our neighbors...

25,541

Meals Needed by Thanksgiving

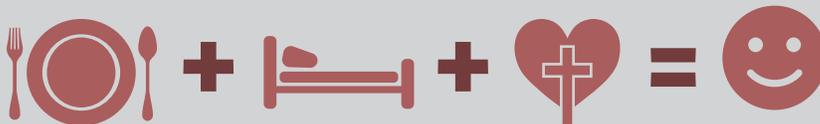
Many of our neighbors are still struggling to get back on their feet after another tough year... trying not to lose hope. Today, YOU can help them!

A meal for just \$2.26 can open the door to...

- Safe, welcoming shelter
- Warm clothing, coats & shoes
- Classes & job training
- A chance to experience God's life-changing love



YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE AN IMPACT!



Please – help us be ready for the busy Thanksgiving season!

Rush your 2021 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today.

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

📄 Give online anytime at citymission.org.

Shop at our Thrift Stores!

The City Mission Thrift Stores change lives here in Southwestern Pennsylvania!

- Residents in our recovery program learn on-the-job training and employment skills.
- Your local neighbors can shop for the items they need at affordable prices.
- All proceeds from items sold at our Thrift Stores go directly to support the Mission's programs and services.

For locations of our seven stores, hours and donation drop-off information, visit citymission.org/stores.

“I NEEDED GOD IN MY LIFE.”



As Travis looked around at the streets that had been his home for more than a decade, he knew the time had come to make some major changes. He was tired of addiction controlling his life and destroying everything he loved.

“It was just fun in the beginning, when I first started using drugs, but then one thing led to another. For about 12 years, I was never clean longer than three days.”

Travis was able to hold down a job, but his personal life suffered. All his relationships failed, and it strained his connection with his family.

“I was on the streets for pretty much 11 years – doing all kinds of bad stuff that I shouldn’t be doing. Every penny went to drugs.”

While he was in rehab, Travis learned about City Mission when he met one of our staff members who speaks there every Sunday night. That relationship led Travis to seek help staying clean and rebuilding his life.

“I came here to try and do the right thing,” he says.

“I needed God in my life, and that drew me here.”

At City Mission, Travis experienced a real relationship with God for the first time in his life. The daily routine of classes, counseling and Bible study are helping him stay sober and rebuild his life in a healthy way.

“I had stopped looking for God for a long time. But now we do devotions every morning and I pray every single night... just a little friendly reminder to stay on the right path.”

His parents have been supportive of his recovery journey, and they are proud of the changes they see in him. He’s working hard so that, when the time is right, he can go back out into the world and find a job and place of his own.

As Travis celebrates this Thanksgiving, he feels incredibly thankful for your compassion and support – and how it’s given him a fresh start in life. “Everyone here is so supportive and amazing. I see a future now, when before it was just darkness.”

“
I believed in God, but I
definitely didn’t give my
life to Him. Now He’s
at the forefront of my
recovery... and my life.



Take a picture of this QR code using your smartphone to see how lives have been changed thanks to your kindness!

A Fresh Start for Miguel

Miguel grew up in San Juan, Puerto Rico. “We didn’t have a lot of money,” he said, “and there was a lot of drugs and violence.” When Miguel turned 12, his family moved into a neighborhood in North Philadelphia with even more drugs and violence.

Miguel started hanging out with the wrong people and became addicted to drugs. He dropped out of high school and ended up living on the streets. Eventually, he learned English by reading the Bible, but it has been a lifelong process.

Miguel came to City Mission for a fresh start and is working on his GED. Today, his future is looking bright. “I don’t want to just survive... I want to live. I want to open the doors to a job that I love.”



Circle of Bread & Hope

Make a greater impact with a monthly gift!

Have you considered becoming a monthly donor to support the work of City Mission all year long? When you sign up to make a recurring gift:

- You can choose from flexible and automated payment options
- You’ll receive access to exclusive events, content and communications
- You’ll provide consistent, reliable income to support our programs
- You’ll help decrease administrative costs and increase ability to plan long-term

To learn more about our Circle of Bread & Hope, call **(724) 222-8530** or visit **www.citymission.org/circle-of-bread-and-hope**. Thank you!