

RESCUE LINE

84 West Wheeling Street, Washington, PA 15301 | citymission.org | (724) 222-8530 | Fall 2022

GINA IS GRATEFUL & BLESSED THIS THANKSGIVING *because of your support*

You've given her hope
and new life this holiday!



Celebrating Thanksgiving Every Day of the Year



A Message from DEAN GARTLAND

Here's a wonderful Bible verse for this season of Thanksgiving: *"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."* (Psalm 118:24) During Thanksgiving, we gather to thank the Lord for blessings of family, food and health.

But what if we kept that same, abundant spirit of the holiday in giving thanks every day of the year?

Each day at the Mission, I see people who are thankful for the gift of new life that YOU helped make possible! You wrap them in God's loving embrace. Teach them skills to build brighter futures. Lift up our ministry and residents in prayer. And rejoice over every heart restored and life rebuilt!

Life is challenging right now. With continuing inflation,

costs for necessities like housing, gas and groceries are higher than ever. It's even harder for our struggling neighbors to make ends meet... and for our ministry to meet our community's pressing needs.

Through it all, I remain faithful to God's calling and grateful that I can rely on friends like you. My prayer this Thanksgiving is that you will do the same.

I hope you will take comfort in the love of friends and family, and the joy of knowing hearts are changed thanks to you. God bless you!

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

2022 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

YOU can give our hurting neighbors reason to celebrate!

25,541

Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season

Thanksgiving can be another difficult day for our neighbors struggling to overcome homelessness... poverty... addiction. But you can help change that!

Just \$2.49 provides a hot, nourishing meal. Your gift welcomes someone to our table and leads to a better life through:



Safe, welcoming shelter



Warm clothing, coats & shoes



Classes & job training



God's life-changing love



We need your help to serve thousands of meals this Thanksgiving season! **Please rush your 2022 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at citymission.org.**

Read Gina's story about a life YOU helped change!



“City Mission HAS BEEN A GIFT.”



Gina’s family drank socially, and growing up she loved the excitement she felt being with them where alcohol was served. As an adult she began working in taverns and drinking herself, determined to rekindle that elation. Instead she headed down a path of self-destruction.

In her role behind the bar, she befriended many customers and people from the street and witnessed how alcohol slowly destroyed their lives. “I could see things happening to other people, but I thought it would never happen to me,” she says. “And consequently, it did.”

For more than 30 years, she was caught up in a cycle of addiction, treatment and relapse that cost her jobs, damaged relationships and finally left her homeless. “That was the trigger for me,” she says. Life-weary, scared and broken, she came to City Mission and asked for our help to maintain her sobriety for good.

Even amidst her struggles, Gina had always attended church. So she was grateful for our Christ-centered environment, faith-based classes and Bible studies. “I knew I needed to develop a relationship with God, because without Him failure is right there.”

“ I just became sick and tired of being sick and tired. ”

In our care, she found the guidance and encouragement she needed to end her addiction. And work therapy at our Samaritan Care Food Pantry helped her regain self-esteem and find purpose in helping others. She’s now taking courses to become a phlebotomy technician and build a stable, substance-free life.

In the meantime, she’s looking forward to the holidays at the Mission because they meant so much to her last year. “I’d never been so surprised,” she says. “All the women received nice gifts and they had toys for the children and fabulous food.”

Gina’s heart is overflowing with gratitude this Thanksgiving because YOUR loving generosity gave her the confidence and support to rebuild her life. “*God is good and He has a plan for me, and I need to partake of that plan.*”

Volunteers Needed

Do you have a heart to serve men, women, children and veterans here at the Mission? **We would love for you to join us as a volunteer!**



Contact us today to see how you can help...

Call: **Jason Johnson at (724) 222-8530, ext. 248**

Email: jajohnson@citymission.org
Or visit citymission.org to find out more or sign up now!

"The Mission changed the way I see myself."

Chris' childhood was chaotic and abusive, and he grew up feeling worthless and inadequate. As a result, he dropped out of school, left home and headed down a self-destructive path. At age 34, he spent time in jail and when released, he had nowhere to go. "It was cold outside and snowing," and he was desperate to escape the elements. Across the street was City Mission – and he made his way to our doors.

Grateful for a warm bed and meals, he realized how much we have to offer. "They have programs and classes... and I can get my GED." Work therapy is also teaching him how to structure his time and accept responsibility. And he's opened his heart to the Lord. When he leaves our care, he plans to attend technical school and get a steady job. "The Mission has given me a chance to become more mature and think about my future."



Thank you for giving neighbors like Chris the tools and support to overcome hardship and rebuild their lives! Your continued support will restore more lives and give even more people reason to be grateful this Thanksgiving.



Samaritan Care Serves Community

Our Samaritan Care Food Pantry is a vital source of wholesome nutrition for neighbors in our community struggling to make ends meet, as well as for those who have moved from our care into independent living. Through generous donations of canned goods and staple items, we arrange for them to receive the items they desperately need.

Last year alone, 1,247 bags of groceries were provided to 639 families – and the need continues to grow. To learn how you or your group can support this vital community outreach, visit citymission.org/programs/outreach or call **(724) 222-8530**.

Are you connected yet? Don't miss out!

Want the inside scoop on what's happening at the Mission? It's easy...

Follow us on social media! Every post shows you how your partnership is transforming lives and healing our community.

Sign up for our emails! You'll hear about urgent needs, special events and more.

And when you tell your friends about us, they can join the celebration this Thanksgiving, too!

citymission.org

