Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

PSALM 119:105
Dear Friend,

So many of our hurting neighbors are living in the shadows. Some are “hiding in plain sight” on the streets of Cleveland where it’s so easy to pass right by them. Others are walking and working among us and we have no idea what kind of pain or struggles they’re going through. But there are also those who have overcome great struggles and have amazing and inspiring stories of transformation to tell—they just need a platform from which to shine.

Your support for The City Mission brings brokenhearted people from darkness into the light of Christ, reveals their path to success and self-sufficiency, and gives them a voice to share their testimonies and express their gratitude to God and to you.

This Annual Report will shine a light on a few of the many people you’ve blessed with your generosity in the past year. You’ll also see how your gifts have been used to provide care and compassion to literally hundreds of men, women, and children in our community.

As we start a new year of ministry together, I thank you for your partnership and pray that God’s mercy and grace will continue to be brought to light through your kindness.

Sincerely,

Rev Richard Hickle

---

No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar…
Instead, they put it on a stand,
so that those who come in can see the light.
LUKE 8:16
“I had an older brother that I hero worshipped,” remembers Donald. Sadly, his brother was not the type of hero young boys should look up to. When Donald followed in his brother’s footsteps, they led him to prison. “I got 25 years in the system. I learned to live like an animal. When I came out this last time, I was having trouble adjusting back into society.”

Knowing that he needed to make some lasting changes to his life if he wanted to stay out of prison, Donald sought help at The City Mission.

Donald admits that the road back wasn’t always smooth. He thought about giving up but tells us, “God kept me here. He said, ‘Let these people help you.’ I saw what they had to offer and did what they told me to do. After a couple of months, I started seeing the fruits of it. I’m glad I stayed.”

Once he let his guard down, Donald discovered that he had true friends at The City Mission. “They didn’t turn their backs on me, and that’s all I knew when I was growing up. They made me feel that they cared about me,” he says.

“Coming here gave me a chance to take a look at myself,” Donald tells us. “The Crossroads program gave me answers to the questions I had. I started learning how to live like a human being again.”

In fact, Donald is now living as a very creative human being! A talented self-taught sculptor, Donald plans to go to art school and hone his craft. In the meantime, he says, “I’m turning my life around.” He has a job, a car, and a place of his own. More than that, he has hope. “I can actually see a future for myself now.”

“Before The City Mission, I was confused and angry. Because of The City Mission, I’m hopeful.”

…the people living in darkness have seen a great light.
MATTHEW 4:16
Kari had lost her faith long before she lost her home. When her money ran out and she and her five children had nowhere to go, she prayed for the first time in 12 years: “I kind of think You’re there, Lord. Can You please help us?”

Laura’s Home was the answer to Kari’s prayer. After a lifetime of feeling used by family members, she says of the staff at Laura’s Home, “These people care about me. They have compassion.”

Knowing that she and her children were safe, Kari was finally able to focus on the issues that had held her back, including her distance from God. “In my own self-pity, I didn’t realize that God had always been there for me.”

Since coming to Laura’s Home, Kari has attended church regularly and shares her faith with her children. “God is real. Now that I know that, it’s so much easier to tell them, ‘It’s going to be okay.’ They love church. They haven’t been this happy in months!”

Looking ahead, Kari is weighing a number of options and allowing the Lord to lead her forward. “I don’t want to leave until God tells me to, because He knows best. I can’t get Exodus 14:14 out of my head, because it says to be still and He will fight for you.”

In the meantime, Kari is building her self-esteem and learning to see herself as God sees her. “I didn’t know who I was before I came to Laura’s Home,” she relates. “Now I know I was meant to help others. I know I’m going to be a better person at the end of this. I’m going to be stronger… and without Laura’s Home, I wouldn’t be.”

“Before The City Mission, I was empty. Because of The City Mission, I’m complete.”

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.
PSALM 36:9
Starkela grew up in poverty with eight siblings, and eventually ended up in foster care. “I always knew that I had to figure out a different path. I had to get out of this cycle,” she says. However, after giving birth to her third child, Starkela realized that was easier said than done.

“There was a lot of personal drama,” Starkela remembers. She went to live with her father, but his studio apartment in a senior center wasn’t suitable for two adults and three children. After two months, she began calling Laura’s Home.

When Starkela learned that Laura’s Home had a place for her family, she was ecstatic. “It was the best thing in my life! Everyone was so nice.”

Starkela says Laura’s Home has helped her focus on her kids, her health, and her relationship with God. “I wanted structure, a foundation. The classes make you think and help you grow. Every single day when I wake up, I know that there’s progress,” she says.

“I want my kids to know that they have a mother who will do anything to make sure that they’re safe and well-kept. I just want them to be happy. I don’t want them to have a childhood like I had.”

Starkela is breaking the cycle of poverty, with plans to finish her education and find a job. But best of all, Starkela has been selected for the New Horizons Housing Collaborative, which will empower her to become a homeowner in the span of just a few years! Overwhelmed with joy for this new adventure, Starkela shares what we pray all our clients will come to understand: “I just know now that God has a purpose for me.”

“Before The City Mission, I was [broken]. Because of The City Mission, I’m fixed.”

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light...

EPHESIANS 5:8
When Clementine Compton came to volunteer at Laura’s Home after spending 38 years as an educator, she assumed she would be teaching. However, God—and Jaime Buxton, our Volunteer & Internship Services Supervisor—had other plans.

“I came down at the orientation and said, ‘I’m going to be with the children.’ Jaime said, ‘I want you at the front desk.’ That’s history. That’s how I started,” Clementine remembers.

Clementine soon found that she was exactly where God needed her. “Each day is a learning experience. I get to speak with the women who come to Laura’s Home and hear some of the things that they’re going through. Most of all, I get to encourage them.”

An encounter with a client from California was especially memorable. “She wanted so badly to come home to Cleveland. She called every day and she would say, ‘Ms. Clem, I’m going to see you.’ I said to her, ‘I believe that. Let’s agree on that together and pray about it.’ She must have done that for months.

“When she finally came, I recognized her voice and I called out her name and she called out mine. That was one happy experience for me. I will always remember that because she kept the faith and that’s what I tell all of them to do.”

If you’d like to volunteer at Laura’s Home or in any other area at The City Mission, Clementine has a message for you: “Once you get started, you’ll see it is the most spectacular organization. It is so genuine. You can just feel the presence of God in this environment.”

Begin your own service journey at thecitymission.org/volunteer.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

MATTHEW 5:16
MISSION STATISTICS

CROSSROADS
- 43,739 nights of safe shelter provided for men in crisis
- 1,092 men supported in their recovery from crisis
- 40 men found employment and 36 found housing

LAURA’S HOME
- 87,126 meals served to women and children
- 50 women and families found housing
- 25 women and families found employment
- 106 families participated in Pathways and Childcare

INMATE OUTREACH SERVICES
- 99 visits made to Ohio prisons and Cuyahoga County Jail
- 60 chapel services, Bible studies and reentry meetings with over 5,200 participants
- 568 encouraging one-on-one visits by staff chaplains
- Over 31,000 monthly mailings and letters of correspondence sent

VOLUNTEERS
- 4,269 volunteers gave 26,003 hours of their time, which is valued at $555,425.63 to the men, women and children at The City Mission

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

OUR ANNUAL INCOME 2017-18
$7,793,075

SOURCES OF REVENUE
- 76% PRIVATE SUPPORT
- 12% OTHER
- 9% FOUNDATIONS
- 3% ESTATES

HOW YOUR GIFTS ARE USED
- 89% PROGRAM SERVICES
- 8% DEVELOPMENT
- 3% GENERAL/ADMINISTRATION

LAURA’S HOME
- 55,146 nights of safe & secure shelter provided for 247 women and 272 children

CROSSROADS
- 90,045 hot, filling meals served to hungry men

INMATE OUTREACH SERVICES
- 90,045 hot, filling meals served to hungry men
- 43,739 nights of safe shelter provided for men in crisis
- 1,092 men supported in their recovery from crisis
- 40 men found employment and 36 found housing

VOLUNTEERS
- 4,269 volunteers gave 26,003 hours of their time, which is valued at $555,425.63 to the men, women and children at The City Mission

A complete audited statement is available upon request.
MISSION STATEMENT
Providing help and hope to all people through the transforming power of God’s love.

CORE VALUES
• DIRECTED BY THE BIBLE
• ENERGIZED BY COLLABORATION
• INSPIRED BY RESPONSIBILITY
• BOUND BY INTEGRITY
• DEDICATED TO TRANSFORMATION
• STRENGTHENED BY COMMITMENT

OUR BOARD

TRUSTEES
BRIAN F. BROADBENT, CHAIR
THEODORE A WAGNER, TREASURER
EMMETT ROBINSON, SECRETARY
MARK F. ALDER
KATE BANG
WILLIAM BEATTIE
PHILLIP BELL
SANDY CHOCHLA

CHRISTINE ELLIOTT
ART HALL
GEOFF HIMES
DEFORIA LANE, PHD
KAREN SHAW NELSON
ROBERT H. ROWLAND
ROBIN THOMAS
KEITH VANDERBURG
WAYNE K. WALKER
JOHN ZALLER

EMERITUS MEMBERS
WALTER L. BAKER
REV. HARRY BANFIELD, DIRECTOR EMERITUS
WILLIAM P. BARRETT, JR.
JOSEPH CAMPANELLA

5310 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44103
216.431.3510
www.thecitymission.org
Brought to Light

YOUR 2018 ANNUAL REPORT IS ENCLOSED!
P.O. BOX 603816
CLEVELAND, OH 44103-0816
MY GIFT TO BRING LIGHT TO ANOTHER YEAR!

Yes, I will partner with The City Mission to bring Help, Heart, and Home to hurting people in Cleveland. I've enclosed my gift of:

[]$Ask1   []$Ask2   []$Ask3   []$Ask4

Mr. & Mrs. John Q. Sample
123 Any Street
Cleveland, OH 12345

[SCANLINE PLACED PER INSTRUCTIONS]
For Your Convenience!

Many friends have requested that we provide them with the ability to make contributions via credit card. If you would like to do so online, go to www.thecitymission.org. To assist you in your credit card giving, please provide the following confidential information:

Credit Card # __________________________________________________________ Expiration date ____________

Name on card __________________________________________________________

Gift Amount $ ____________________________ The card I am using today is: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Signature __________________________________________________________ Verification Code ____________

Email address ____________________________________________ Phone number ______________________

What you can expect from The City Mission — The City Mission strives to maintain the highest standards regarding our financial integrity, openness and accountability, and relies solely on contributions from the private sector. Please feel free to inquire about us with either the Better Business Bureau or Dun and Bradstreet. If a particular project is overfunded, your gift will be used where most needed to help men, women and children in need here in Cleveland. Thanks for caring and sharing! Please make checks payable to The City Mission. You will receive a receipt for your tax-deductible gift. Please make any corrections to your name and address.