



A Life Out of Control... "I Had to Learn to Trust God"

There's a reason the Mission has rules.

For example, men and women in our recovery programs, Hebron and Higher Ground, are asked to leave any money they have in the program office for safekeeping.

Because if you're an addict and you're allowed to leave the program and go outside, even for an hour, the temptation to buy drugs is often too strong.

So, even though Pam had been clean for 30 days, when she had to go out for a doctor's appointment with \$90 in her pocket, the temptation to use was just overpowering, and she relapsed.

Pam knew how bad living on the streets could be. Sleeping in a

car. Not being able to bathe. Not having clean clothes.

So the following Monday, she called the Center for Women & Children and "begged them to let me back in the program."

"I had a tendency to think I could handle everything myself," Pam recalls. "But that never worked. So I tried to let God have a residence in my heart and I began to trust Him. He's done everything He said He'd do...and more!"

After she graduated from the second phase of the Higher Ground Addiction Recovery Program, Pam had three choices: Servant Leadership Training, Job Placement or Career Development. Pam chose the career track and trained as a chef. When she graduated, Wheeler hired her as an assistant cook!

Today, Pam shares her success story with the ladies at the Center, hoping it "helps someone so they don't have to go down my road. I was tired and scared...tired of losing what little I did have, and scared that my first and only grandchild might see me high. I never wanted him to do that!"

Not long ago, Pam was blessed

with her own apartment. Now, she's the one who makes the rules...and obeys them!

"I've just learned to have a servant's heart and glorify God in whatever I do. I know that whatever happens, He's got it under control."



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A Personal Word From the President/CEO



"The Greatest Gift..."

That first Christmas, the greatest gift of all was given, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son..." Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

While Christ was still a babe, the wise men opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Down through the centuries, people have continued to show their generosity and love through the giving of gifts.

I want to thank you for being one of those generous people who help those who are hurting, hungry and homeless. By giving gifts to provide food, shelter and care for men and women, boys and girls you have never met, you have demonstrated your love and kindness again and again.

May you and your loved ones be truly blessed as we celebrate His birth.

Rick Alvis
President/CEO

Reserved for you:

2012 Mission Calendar

Without the gifts, volunteer time and prayers of friends like you, this ministry to our community's neediest people would not exist.



As a token of our gratitude for all you do, please accept this beautiful 2012 calendar as our way of saying "Thank you!"

To receive your **FREE 2012 calendar**, please check the special box on your reply card and mail it today.

Holiday Needs

Thanksgiving is almost here and Christmas will be here before we know it! Please make a donation from the list on the right to help us prepare some of the thousands of holiday meals we will serve in the next few weeks.

Donations can be dropped off at the Wheeler Mission Men's Residential Center at 245 N. Delaware St., 8 a.m.-7 p.m., 7 days a week. Please call Milton at (317) 635-3575 or visit www.WheelerMission.org for more information.

- ✓ 60 turkeys
- ✓ 15 #10 cans or 4 large cases (200 lbs) cans of sweet potatoes or yams
- ✓ 100 boxes of Stove Top stuffing
- ✓ 10 gallons of turkey gravy
- ✓ 25 lb bag of brown sugar
- ✓ 20 lbs butter
- ✓ 35 gallons of apple cider
- ✓ 10 boneless hams
- ✓ 50 lb bag of white onions
- ✓ 12 #10 cans of cranberry sauce
- ✓ 40 cans of cream of mushroom soup
- ✓ 40 lbs of fried onions

"The Very Best Christmas..."

What is the very best gift you can give someone who is hungry or homeless?

Here at the Mission, there are as many ways to help as there are people in need.

Volunteer. Serve a meal. Lend a hand at a special event. Organize a drive to collect food and clothing. E-mail volunteer@wmm.org for more information.

Donate. Our shelters are in need of blankets, sheets and pillows. Our Men's Residential Center could really use dis-

posable razors, deodorant, bar soap, new or gently used bath towels and men's pajamas. Call (317) 635-3575 or drop donations off at 245 N. Delaware St.

Give a gift. Use the enclosed envelope to send a gift to provide meals and more. Donate by check, credit card or online at www.WheelerMission.org.

Pray. Pray for this ministry and the men, women and children who come here during their time of greatest need.

Thank you for helping make this the very best Christmas!

“...The Next Step Was Death”

There were a lot of things Torrey didn't know.

Like how to be a son when he was growing up. Or how to be a husband when he married. Or how to be a good father to his two daughters.

Torrey's drug use started out with marijuana and drinking. It ended with crack cocaine, a horribly addicting drug that his body really took a liking to.



Looking back, he says he was mostly, “just doing what I wanted to do” regardless of his responsibilities to others...or to the Lord.

Taken to church by his grandmother when he was younger, Torrey always felt God had a “pull” on his life, but would never turn to the Lord until he got into trouble.

And there was lots of trouble...stealing from his kids, pawning his wedding ring...his life was out of control. “I knew I was tearing my life apart, but I didn't want to stop.”

It was Torrey's wife who found our Hebron Addiction Recovery Program. But it was Torrey who needed to make the choice. He chose to leave his wife and daughters and continue using drugs.

It took a nine-day cocaine binge before Torrey first came to Wheeler

Mission. Discouraged, hopeless and terrified, he sought help at Wheeler Mission. He found himself in the chapel, on his knees, crying out to God for help.

For the first time in years, Torrey felt safe and secure. “I was at peace. I didn't know what was going to happen, but I knew God was in control.”

Throughout his time in the Hebron Program, Torrey continued to grow with God. “He was restoring my family...my kids were coming up every weekend to spend time with me.”

When he graduated from Hebron, Torrey entered our Servant Leadership Training Program and was eventually offered a job here at the Mission. But he still had a legal problem...restitution he owed in North Carolina.

Fearful of what awaited him, Torrey put off the legal confrontation. When he finally turned himself in, he ended up doing six months in a Christian camp. But when he was released, his heart was hardened.

Rather than returning to his family in Indianapolis, Torrey took off for Florida and got right back into the same old downward spiral with crack cocaine and his rebellious ways.

When he reached bottom, Torrey realized that his next step was death. Ashamed and fearing rejection, he asked to be taken back into the Hebron Program. We said, “Of course.”

“This is where I got into a relationship with God. I'm very grateful to be back here and able to go back through the program again.”

Addiction recovery is a difficult process and it's not uncommon for someone to go through a program more than once in their journey to recovery. Thank you for making it possible for us to offer second chances to people in need!

Visit Us Online!



Get to know us better, learn about volunteer opportunities, read about the latest news and events and donate securely at www.WheelerMission.org.

It's Not Too Late to Join the Dash!

We are still accepting applications for runners and walkers for the 9th annual Drumstick Dash!



It's a fun-filled run/walk through Broad Ripple Village on Thanksgiving morning, November 24 at 9 a.m. Come be part of the fun and help make a difference in the lives of needy, homeless people.

It's a great way to begin your Thanksgiving holiday.

For more information, to volunteer or register, visit www.WheelerMission.org or call (317) 635-3575. Sign up today!

Winter Contingency Items Needed

Did you know that from the beginning of November through the end of March, Wheeler Mission is responsible for ensuring every man, woman and child is safely housed and out of the elements? That means when all of the beds at the Mission are full, we put mats on the floor to accommodate the overflow.



As our numbers increase, so does the need for extra supplies. Here are some of the items we need most:

Did you know...

...16% of all homeless people in Indianapolis are **children?**

Wheeler Mission's Center for Women & Children feeds, clothes, shelters and cares for children and their mothers who find a safe haven at the Center.

(Statistics provided by the Coalition for Homeless Intervention and Prevention's 2011 Homeless Count Report for Indianapolis).

Join us



Shelter for Men and Men's Residential Center

Socks
Hats
Gloves
Shampoo
Individual-sized soap
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Deodorant
Lotion
Disposable razors
Pajamas (M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
Underwear (thermal, boxers, briefs, t-shirts, tank tops - M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
Bath towels

Center for Women & Children

Socks (for women and children)
Hats
Gloves
Scarves
Vaseline
Lotion
Foot powder
Individual Kleenex packs
Large safety pins
Cough drops
Shampoo
Conditioner
Deodorant
Toothpaste
Bath towels

Food Items

Coffee
Juice boxes
Lunch meat
Hamburger patties
Chicken
Creamer
Sugar packets
Sugar substitute packets
Pop tarts
Snack-size bags of potato chips
Sliced cheese
Mayo packets
Mustard packets
Ketchup packets
Napkins
Plastic spoons
12 oz. cups
Sandwich baggies
Paper lunch sacks

Drop off donations at the Men's Residential Center at 245 N. Delaware St., 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., 7 days a week. Please call Milton at (317) 635-3575 or visit WheelerMission.org for more information.