

RESCUE LINE

84 West Wheeling Street, Washington, PA 15301 | citymission.org | (724) 222-8530 | Fall 2023

A Heart of Thanksgiving

Dana wants to share how your support changed her life!



Anticipating This New Season with Thanksgiving



A Message from DEAN GARTLAND

It's hard to believe we're here again: over halfway through another year. Here at City Mission, preparations for our busy fall season are already underway.

Outside, the weather is starting to cool. But inside our doors, it's still warm and inviting as **we get ready for the many men, women, children and veterans who will come to us during the months leading up to Thanksgiving.** It's one of my favorite times of the year, and it's possible thanks to the generosity of friends like you.

As I think about this time of the year, I'm reminded of the words of Ecclesiastes 3:1: *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."*

Each time someone comes to the Mission for help, their season changes. They leave a time of pain and struggle that

they may not have anticipated and certainly didn't desire – and they **choose** a season of support and recovery. **I truly believe this is God's hand at work through your partnership in this life-giving ministry.**

Now, as we prepare to serve an estimated 26,362 meals in the coming months, I ask you to pray for every struggling man and woman who finds a seat at our tables. Pray that if the time is right for a new season in their life, God will make it known and see it through.

Thank you. I'm thankful for you now, and always.

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



**YOU'RE MAKING GOALS
AND DREAMS POSSIBLE...**



"My dream is to finish school and become a counselor. I'll be able to help people because the Mission gave me the opportunity to succeed."

"We went from being homeless to getting housing and nursing care for my disabled daughter. The Mission turned our lives around."



Hopes and dreams are born at City Mission! Thanks to the support of friends like you, the men and women in our recovery program believe that a brighter future is possible.

To find out more about how you're helping transform lives and fulfill dreams, visit **citymission.org**.

Thank you for believing that everyone deserves the opportunity to build a better, more fulfilling life!

Join Our

2023 **Thanksgiving** CAMPAIGN

26,362

Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season

This Thanksgiving, countless residents will gather at our tables. Many are alone... longing to overcome homelessness and poverty... wishing they could reunite with their families for the Thanksgiving season.

For just \$2.49, YOU can provide a meal to nourish their bodies and lift their spirits. Your gift surrounds hurting people with loving care that leads to a better life through:

Safe, welcoming shelter

Warm clothing, coats & shoes

Classes & job training

God's life-changing love

Please help our neighbors in need this Thanksgiving season! Send your 2023 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at **citymission.org**.

Meet Dana – who is thankful for your support!

**“I was lost
and broken,
but now
I’m filled
with hope.”**



All her life, Dana struggled to find love and acceptance. “I suffered from weight problems and the other kids were vicious to me. I never had any friends,” she says. “I didn’t fit in anywhere.”

When she grew up, she went in search of love to fill the void inside, but wound up in one abusive relationship after another, destroying what was left of her self-esteem.

Eventually, she tried to numb her pain with drugs and wound up losing everything – her job, her home and her sense of self. “I withered down to 100-something pounds and got so lonely and empty that I didn’t feel like I had a soul anymore.”

Then, one day, as she thought about the years she’d lost to addiction and abuse, Dana found the courage to fight for a different life. That’s when she sought help at the Mission, where we provided for her physical needs and made sure she felt safe and loved.

When she’d had a chance to settle in, Dana began to grow spiritually through chapel services and Bible studies. Meanwhile, counseling, fellowship and

“ They welcomed me with open arms. **”**

biblically-based life skills classes helped her break destructive behavior patterns and build self-esteem. “Now, when I look in the mirror, I love who I see,” she says. “And, for the first time in my life, I have true friendships with people I can trust.”

Today, Dana has her own place and is on our Resident Support staff, sharing the love and encouragement that she found here at the Mission. “They taught me to give back and never give up.”

Dana is filled with thanksgiving for God’s redeeming love in her life – and your incredible generosity and support! “I was spiritually lost and broken, but the Mission saved my life and got me on the right path. Now I’m filled with hope.”



NEW

HOW WILL YOU GET INVOLVED THIS FALL?

Thrift With a Purpose

When you make a donation or shop at one of our **City Mission Thrift Stores**, you'll be blessings others' lives in so many ways:

- All Thrift Store proceeds go to support our life-changing programs and services.
- Many people come to the Mission with next to nothing. Your clothing donations can help build a new resident's wardrobe.
- Mission residents gain valuable job skills and earn resume-building certifications while sorting your donations in our warehouse.
- Residents applying for work often use donated dress clothing for job interviews and career fairs.
- Our struggling neighbors have access to affordable essentials.

Shop or make a donation at one of our eight Thrift Store locations across four counties – Washington, Westmoreland, Fayette and Greene. And, for additional savings, come to our monthly 50% Off Sales or shop at our quarterly Warehouse Sale at 1000 Sheffield St, Washington.

For store locations, hours and sale dates, visit citymission.org/stores.



Donate!

Your gift to City Mission provides us with the resources we need to restore hope to the homeless. Thank you for your generosity!

To learn more, visit: citymission.org/ways-to-help/donate



Volunteer!

Volunteering offers opportunities for you to use your God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure to help those who are most in need. Thank you for your compassion!

Visit: citymission.org/ways-to-help/volunteer



Visit us!

Please come and take a tour of our campus. We'd love to show you the life-saving work made possible by your compassion and generosity.

Visit: citymission.org or call (724) 222-8530

