# HISHANDS

REACHING HEARTS | CHANGING LIVES



## The Gift of Time



**IMPACT REPORT 2024** 

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY MISSION // CLEVELAND, OHIO

### The Gift of Time



Linda Uveges

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

God is not unjust;
He will not forget
your work and
the love you
have shown Him
as you have
helped His people
and continue to
help them.

HEBREWS 6:10

Dear Friend,

Time is an infinite resource, yet we never seem to have enough of it. Between work, family, and friends, most of us feel too many demands on our time. What if we had more time? What would we do with it? Wouldn't that be a wonderful gift?

You give that precious gift of time to residents of The City Mission — and they use it gratefully, wisely, and intentionally.

Men at Crossroads and women and children at Laura's Home have time to heal from the trauma that led them here. They have time and resources to repair relationships, rebuild their lives, and break the cycle of poverty. And they have time to walk with Jesus Christ, who gives them the strength to walk back into our community, confident and productive.

This Impact Report gives you just a glimpse into the immense good you do by supporting The City Mission. By this time next year, more women and children will have moved into Rothstein Village, a vital step along the way to independent housing. And many more men like Matthew will find their way toward stability and self-sufficiency.

Thank you for providing our residents with the compassionate care and the time they need to transform their lives. I look forward to sharing their stories and successes with you throughout this new year!

In Christ,

Linda Wuges

"They actually built Transitional Housing. This is so exciting!"

—BRIDGET



### **Transitional F**

### "Thank you, God! This is wl

he road to a stable, self-sufficient life can be a long one for women experiencing homelessness—especially mothers. For many, it may lead beyond the time they spend at Laura's Home. The lack of safe, affordable housing in our community is a crisis. But now these women have an alternative.

Rothstein Village Transitional Housing for Families, Cleveland's first transitional housing for women and children, offers an extended period of shelter along with wraparound support services to get them to a place of self-sufficiency and stability.

During their stay in Rothstein Village, mothers are able to work, save money, continue their education, and prepare to move into independent housing. At the same time, their children can remain in their school and continue to receive services from Pathways.

Rothstein Village can accommodate 16 families, each staying for 18 to 24 months. When we brought the first four mothers and their children to see their soon-to-be homes, they could barely contain their joy!

The children rushed around, choosing which bedroom would be their very own. The moms, however, were most excited about having a washer and dryer ... and a kitchen to prepare their family's favorite meals.

"I am already planning out where I will put all of my spices and what I will cook for my children for our first meal together," shares Bridget. Another mother told us her children have already requested her homemade macaroni and cheese for their first meal.

But there is more in store for these families than home-cooked meals and clean clothes. As they break the cycle of poverty and homelessness, they set out on the road to lasting generational stability.

### **lousing**

### nat I asked for."

Bridget had lost her job and then her home.
She tells us, "Transitional Housing is important because I want to keep my kids in the same school. I want to learn about saving more.
My biggest goal is to own a home. I don't want Section 8. I pray for what I'm seeking and it seems to be falling

into place." Moving into Rothstein Village was a big step forward. She has always dreamed of owning her own home to leave to her children.

Veronica had been on her "last legs" before coming to Laura's Home. She had no job, no home, and no one to help her and her children. She was the first resident to put in an application for Rothstein Village. Now, happily posing with her family, Veronica says, "It's been a long journey, and I am so excited for my children."

Lynette and her son fled their abusive household with only the clothes on their backs. Now she tells us that moving into Rothstein Village is "the next step into stability and wholeness. It gives me the opportunity to practice homeownership without the stresses of the current economy."

"There is growth and healing here if you're open to it and willing to do the work."

**—LYNETTE** 



"We have a place to call home.
We can look toward the future."

—VERONICA



### Crossroads

### "I want to get better and succeed in society."

any stories lead to homelessness. It's humbling because you don't know where to go. You feel lost, constant anxiety where to lay your head, never settled," says Matthew. And not all of those stories are about addiction. Some are simply about one unfortunate circumstance that causes a life to spiral out of control. In Matthew's case, a kidney stone left him unable to work, and he lost his job. Depressed and anxious, he was afraid to leave his apartment to find another job. After four months homebound, Matthew faced eviction — a nightmare situation for someone suffering from agoraphobia.

Fortunately, Matthew heard about Crossroads.
Being in an unfamiliar environment with strangers was still very difficult for him. "I was nervous as all getout! I had a couple of panic

stayed to myself."

attacks," he recalls. "I just

Matthew shares how much the Christ-centered programming helped, and he began to open up. "Being here made me face all my fears," he says. "I'm getting past my social and general anxiety. I found that I'm not alone. These are just normal people here with earthly issues."

Matthew also deepened his walk with God at Crossroads. "I attend chapel services each day. God has made me see the bright and positive over the dark and negative. I stop and smell the roses more and live in the moment."

Living in the moment has not stopped Matthew from looking toward the future. Formerly enrolled in culinary school, Matthew served in the kitchen at Crossroads and looks forward to a bright future after graduation. He knows he has a long way to go before he will feel comfortable out in the community, but he is hopeful and even participated in The City Mission's Christmas choir! And he has deep compassion for his fellow Crossroads residents.

"Homelessness is just basic survival,"
Matthew says. "These are human
beings and not someone to toss
aside or look down upon. They
need help. They are just like you
and me but are broken and went
down the wrong road."

Matthew reminds you,
"The City Mission runs on
acts of generosity and God.
The support you provide
can help hundreds!"

### **Your Impact**

1,167 INDIVIDUALS SERVED







77,214 TOTAL NIGHTS OF SHELTER



44,307 Women & Children



32,907

132,580



78,480 Women & Children



54,100

### **Financial Report**



\$12,100,873

**× 16,636 VOLUNTEER HOURS VALUED AT** \$529,037



11.3%

4.2%

PRIVATE SUPPORT FOUNDATIONS

**OTHER** 

#### **HOW YOUR GIFTS ARE USED**



#### A complete audited statement is available upon request.

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### **CITY MISSION**

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#### www.thecitymission.org

Providing help and hope to all people through the transforming power of God's love











