

# IMPACT REPORT 2025



*Bright Beginnings Start Here*

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY MISSION // CLEVELAND, OHIO

# Where Compassion Begins



**Linda Uveges**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**God is our refuge  
and strength, an  
ever-present help  
in trouble.**

**PSALM 46:1**

Dear Friend,

At The City Mission, we often say that care does not begin when someone arrives on our campus. It begins the moment a mother, father, or individual finds the courage to reach out. This is the heart of our continuum of care. And it is your generosity that makes this uninterrupted thread of compassion possible.

When a woman calls Laura's Home, she reaches a person who listens, prays with her, and begins connecting with her long before she steps through our doors. That early relationship matters. For many mothers and children facing hardships, that first conversation is the moment hope breaks through.

Your giving ensures this continuum remains strong, as each family arrives, as healing begins, as goals take shape, and as new futures are built with dignity. Every step is intentional. Every step is Christ-centered. And every step is strengthened because you have chosen to stand with men, women, and children seeking stability and renewed purpose.

This same continuum extends to the men in our Crossroads program. By the time a man graduates, he leaves with income, housing, and the foundation needed to build a life rooted in faith and resiliency. That transformation does not happen in a single program session. It is shaped through months of compassionate guidance you help make possible.

Thank you for ensuring no one walks this journey alone. Your partnership creates a pathway from crisis to stability, from uncertainty to hope, and from survival to success.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Uveges". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L".

Linda Uveges  
Chief Executive Officer

# Rooted in Faith, Growing in Hope

**“The love I have received at Laura’s Home has helped me move forward.”**

Long before Ebony stepped through the doors of Laura’s Home, she was already carrying deep responsibility with courage and faith. As a mother of seven, she began each day anchored in prayer, determined to lead her children forward despite uncertainty.

When Ebony first reached out to Laura’s Home, she learned that space for a family her size was rare. Then the call came back ... there was room. Ebony saw God’s hand immediately. “Coming here was the plan of God,” she said. “It’s a breath of fresh air. Just being here and it feels like family.”

**I never thought this would be a part of my story, but I’m grateful and I’m in great expectation of what God is doing here at Laura’s Home.**



The first day at Laura’s Home was filled with anxiety and emotion but during intake, peace settled in. “The comfort of the staff and residents, it was like a hug,” Ebony says. Here, her perseverance was met with safety, love, and the space to begin again.

Care for her children came quickly and with intention, bringing a sense of relief that settled deep in Ebony’s heart. With stability in place, her body and spirit finally had room to recover. “I’ve had the best rest I’ve had in a long time,” she shares. “I know we are safe and secure in this building.”

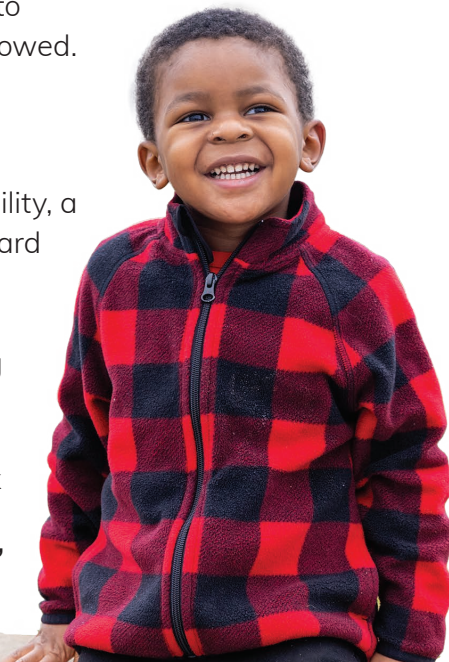
Healing began with consistency. Ebony wakes early to pray and journal each morning. Her children noticed the change as well. “They’re seeing a different side of me and what Christ looks like outside of Sunday,” she says. Faith now fills their room through worship, devotionals, and prayer, sometimes led by her children themselves.

Support at Laura’s Home lifts Ebony’s daily burdens so restoration can take root. Personalized case management, hot meals tailored to her family’s needs and even help securing birth certificates all removed weight from her shoulders to begin a new life. “A healed mom is a better mom,” Ebony says happily.

One Saturday morning, after asking God for a way to worship, Ebony went to breakfast. When a staff member learned she was a singer, an invitation followed. Ebony now serves on the praise team. “That was a deep moment for me to connect to God through singing,” she shares.

Today, Ebony looks ahead with clarity and hope. She dreams of lasting stability, a home of her own, and a future shaped by purpose. She hopes to move forward as a counselor, a business owner, and a devoted mother, equipped by the growth taking place now. “This journey has changed everything for me and my children,” she reflects. “I have unshakeable faith now and we are looking forward to see what God has planned for us!”

**To those who give, Ebony’s words come straight from the heart: “Thank you for believing we can make it. The blessing of waking up and having everything we need, we couldn’t do it without you. I just say thank you.”**



## Where Courage Meets Care at Laura’s Home

**“We declared trust in what the Lord was doing.”**

For many mothers, the call to Laura’s Home comes after a long season of carrying more than one heart can hold. Reaching out requires courage. And on the other end of that call is Katie Skizenta, the intake specialist at Laura’s Home. From the first conversation, Katie begins walking alongside each family, offering steady support, clarity, and hope for what comes next.



“The need I’m seeing daily is astronomical,” Katie shares. “Mothers are desperate for someone to care for both their children and their future.”

Katie’s words reflect a growing need for safety, stability, and long-term healing. For more than two decades, Laura’s Home has served women and children in Cleveland with trauma-informed, Christ-centered care.

Katie remembers clearly when Ebony first arrived. “It was a joy to meet her,” Katie recalls. One afternoon, the two sat together in the fourth-floor lounge, praying through concerns while the children laughed and climbed nearby. “Through the giggles, we declared trust in what the Lord was doing,” Katie says. In that space, between prayer and planning, Katie supported Ebony by helping connect her to the resources needed to move forward with confidence.

“I truly believe this is the best thing for my children and I,” Ebony says. Today, Katie sees Ebony in the halls with a bright smile, a mother moving forward in faith, hope, and renewed strength.

# Second Chances, Lasting Change

**“I am grateful for every step.”**

Chris's journey at The City Mission reflects courage, faith, and remarkable transformation. Today, he stands proudly as a graduate of Crossroads, where he allowed God to rebuild his life with renewed purpose, stability, and strength.

**“The City Mission gave me the opportunity to help change my life,” Chris shares. “I needed God. I needed deliverance. The help I received spiritually here gave me extra strength to move forward.”**

Through structured programming and supportive services, Chris embraced the tools he needed to heal and grow. Intensive Outpatient Programs helped him regain focus and clarity, while classes at Tri-C opened new doors of learning and reflection. “Tri-C helped me read and put my thoughts back together,” he explains. “It gave me a way to reshape my mind and my life.”

Chris also found a welcoming church community that became a cornerstone of his progress. “I fell in love with the church because there was so much embracing and love,” he says. “I need God because I know He can change me. The church is now my home.”



Alongside spiritual support, residents and staff walked with Chris step by step. “The staff opened up their doors and worked with me,” he recalls. “I couldn't have come this far without them.”

Graduation day was a moment of pure joy. “I was ecstatic that day. They said to trust the process, so I did. I did it and to a good outcome,” Chris says, remembering the pride he felt as he completed his programs and prepared for independence, standing tall as he put on his cap and received his graduate certificate. That pride is shared by everyone at The City Mission who witnessed and celebrated his achievements and growth.

Chris's story is a testament to the power of faith, structured support, and a community committed to lasting transformation. Because of the guidance and resources you help provide, he is now confidently pursuing a new life rooted in Christ.

**“I want to thank The City Mission for the help and support,” he concludes. “This has been a long journey, and I am grateful for every step.”**

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learn more ways  
Crossroads comes  
alongside men to help  
them break free  
from poverty.**



# Your Impact

**1,169** INDIVIDUALS SERVED



**529**  
Men



**309**  
Women



**331**  
Children

**76,950** TOTAL NIGHTS OF SHELTER



**46,424**  
Women & Children



**30,526**  
Men

**132,617** TOTAL MEALS



**77,851**  
Women & Children



**54,766**  
Men

**102** RESIDENTS FOUND STABLE EMPLOYMENT/INCOME

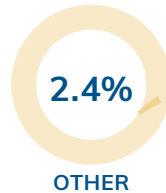
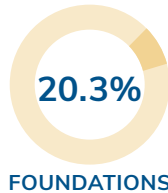
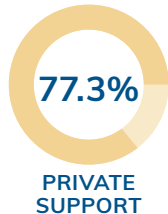
**123** RESIDENTS ACQUIRED STABLE HOUSING

**2,030** Referrals for Wraparound Services

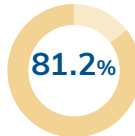
## Financial Report



OUR ANNUAL INCOME 2024-25  
**\$15,789,316**



### HOW YOUR GIFTS ARE USED

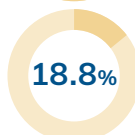


PROGRAMS



34.5% Crossroads

5.3% New Horizons



A complete audited statement is available upon request.

**2,904** Volunteers



**14,860**

VOLUNTEER HOURS

VALUED AT  
**\$472,549**

The City Mission expresses its deep gratitude to the Ferry Family Foundation for its long-time support and recent \$2M gift to support Laura's Home through the Ferry Family Fund. These funds will be transformational in the lives of the women and children at Laura's Home and will honor the legacy of Pat Ferry through the impact it has on our residents for years to come.

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**THE CITY MISSION**

REACHING HEARTS | CHANGING LIVES

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



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