



Helping to end homelessness one person at a time.

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WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Fill out a volunteer application at
www.findlaymission.org!

**Member of the Association of
Gospel Rescue Missions**



A Place of Your Own

Dear Friends,

This has been a very busy year so far. Our shelter beds are full each night. Working with those who are going through the tragedy of homelessness is not easy since there are many complicated issues to deal with for each individual. At times the numbers seem overwhelming to our staff, however progress is being made.

I am pleased to report that the City Mission's vision of ending homelessness one person at a time is making an impact in people's lives. Last year we had a little over 330 homeless individuals, including children, who came to the Mission for help. After reviewing records we discovered that over 150 individuals found jobs and homes. This number is higher than we first noted.

Our Mission staff has expressed to me their joy in seeing this vision taking place. Why are we seeing such great results? It is very simple really. We give each homeless person the time it takes to put their broken lives back together. Becoming homeless means losing everything that is dear, including personal security and the sense of belonging that people have in their own homes. Losing this is very traumatic.

What a joy it is to see the expressions of excitement when our resi-

dents tell us they have a place of their own. **"A place of your own" means so much more after having to live in a shelter full of people.** Unless you have experienced the indignity of sharing a dorm room with strangers, you may not fully understand what homeless people go through.

The work we do is made possible by your caring and faithful financial donations. Our joy of seeing homeless people home again becomes your joy also because you make what we do possible.

We send you this monthly newsletter to let you know that you are making a difference. We want to encourage you to continue to partner with City Mission to help others in need. As we approach the summer months with warmer weather, the needs of the Mission do not diminish. Remember homelessness and hunger is a year-round problem.

This is why I am asking that you please do what you can to help City Mission, Findlay's only homeless shelter for men, women, and children. Any financial donation that you can give to help us through the summer months is needed. We have many good caring people who have partnered with us this year to help those who feel so helpless. Your gifts are the foundation of our ministry. We thank you for your faithful support.

*Daniel Hicks
Executive Director*

Addressing National Issues at Home



The Centers for Disease Control marks April as Alcohol Awareness Month. The CDC also states that “52% of Americans are regular drinkers. In 2007 over 23,000 deaths in the United States were alcohol related and this excludes accidents and homicides.” In America addiction is becoming more and more of a challenge for families, medical facilities, agencies, non-profit organizations, and ministries. Where is the hope?

At the City Mission we regularly receive calls from families who are looking for solutions for their loved ones

who are struggling with addiction. Many people are surprised that we have a program right here in Findlay that seeks to address the issues of addictions or other life challenges through a unique Biblical approach. Last year the New Life Directions Program was able to help 13 individuals beat the statistics and find hope through Jesus Christ (Rom. 12:1-2).

Dewey Harris
Associate Director

Great Scot Community Rewards

Great Scot has notified us that they will be offering their Community Cash program again. If you shop at Great Scot, save your register receipts beginning May 1 and turn them in to City Mission. The Mission will earn 1% cash back on qualifying purchases of all receipts turned in.

Receipts from Great Scot stores in McComb, North Baltimore, Fostoria, and Findlay qualify. We have participated in the Community Cash program in the past and the receipts do add up. This is a very easy way to help the Mission.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16
KJV

Is That What The Homeless Are Like?

Some interesting numbers came out of a report released to Congress in 2009 about homelessness in America:

- (1) Families continue to make up about a third of all the homeless population, and while more than half of those who are not in families are living in places not intended for human habitation, almost three out of every four families are being sheltered. This means that while single individuals may or may not be taking care of their personal needs, the needs of children still are primary, even among the homeless population.
- (2) Three out of every seven homeless are legally disabled. This means that there truly is a legitimate reason why many of the homeless cannot work and support themselves.

(3) And in spite of beliefs to the contrary, only about a third of the homeless population are identified as chronic substance abusers.

In order to truly help the homeless, it is important to look past the classic stereotypes, like the alcoholic on the street who will not work. This need is as true in Findlay as it is in much larger cities. Not every problem that makes a person homeless is of their own making. Jesus calls us to love people where they are and present them with a message of love, mercy, and grace, in the hopes of helping them find a better way to live. Your partnership with us makes it possible to help end homelessness one person at a time, with the love and grace of Jesus.

Jim Davison
Men's Director

The Working Poor



In 2000, the U.S. Bureau of Census reported 12.9 million female heads of household, up from 11.7 million in 1991. Of these households headed by women, 36% (4.2 million) were poor. Many of these are "working poor"- people who do have jobs, who work hard, who try desperately to stay afloat as the only provider for their family. What things might affect the working poor? It could be health problems, obsolete skills, poor education, unreliable transportation, no transportation at all, or a combination of these things.

Take the story of 36 year old Carol, working to support herself and her 12 year old son as a hotel housekeeper. Carol was earning a salary barely over

the minimum wage and just getting by with nothing to spare. Now imagine a week in the hospital and several weeks to recover. You see where this is going. She lost her apartment and had to stay with a friend who was working but barely getting by herself. After a time the situation became so strained that Carol was forced to find another alternative.

She realized that the Mission was her only option. **She was homeless but not by choice.** People like Carol want to earn their own way and be in their own homes. So when they decide to make a fresh start, the Mission is there to help them reach their goal.


*Karen Crawford
Women's Director*

Dine to Donate!


Applebee's of Findlay, OH has decided to partner with the City Mission in an effort to raise awareness of the growing need of the homeless in our community. On the last Tuesday of every month, Applebee's will donate 15% of a customer's bill when our coupon is presented. (See coupons below)

Applebee's is also hosting a canned food drive for the City Mission. Bring in a canned food item to Applebee's any day and receive a free dessert shooter.

We are grateful for the generous spirit that abounds in our community and that Applebee's has made it evident through their efforts.




DINE TO DONATE
Dine at Applebee's and 15% of your bill will be donated to
The City Mission of Findlay
Present this flyer to your Server on
Date: Last Tuesday of Every Month
Only valid at the following:





2531 Tiffin Ave. - Findlay, OH 419-425-9955
Bring in a canned food item any day to donate to The City Mission of Findlay & receive a free dessert shooter on day of donation only.
Offer valid at the Findlay, OH location only.

These coupons can be cut out and used at Applebee's on the last Tuesday of every month.

More coupons can be picked up at the City Mission. Join us in our effort to help the homeless in Hancock County and the surrounding areas.



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RETURN
 SERVICE
 REQUESTED

We are on the web!
www.findlaymission.org

*The pictures of people that are used in this monthly publication, unless specifically noted, are not of local homeless people.

The City Mission of Findlay is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations to the Mission are tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Checks may be made payable to City Mission of Findlay.

Our Mission Statement:

The City Mission exists to share the passion of Jesus Christ with the needy and homeless by providing compassionate care through meeting their physical and spiritual needs.

Help Us With Our Needs List!

<i>Canned meats</i>	<i>Napkins</i>
<i>Coffee</i>	<i>Bathroom tissue</i>
<i>Fruit punch</i>	<i>Shaving razors</i>
<i>Ramen noodles</i>	<i>Gallon size trash bags</i>
<i>Macaroni & Cheese</i>	<i>Clorox Wipes</i>
<i>HE laundry detergent</i>	<i>39 gallon trash bags</i>
<i>6 rollaway beds—twin bed size</i>	



MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

Donations to City Mission for March 2011 have been made in honor or in memory of:

Randall Scott Brewster Allie Riter
Molly Farmer Robert Rosenberger
Elizabeth Naus

When you make a memorial donation, please give us the name and address of the individual or family to whom the acknowledgement should be sent.



Did You Know?

The “working poor” (those working at or just above minimum wage) are always only one crisis away from being homeless. Even working 8 hour shifts 365 days a year, minimum wage earners must borrow or use savings to pay basic living expenses.