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Suffer Together

I have been asked many times over the years why I am involved in inter-city missions. Many have asked me how I deal with seeing so much human suffering in the homeless. My response generally is because it is my passion. This word expresses best my feelings about helping homeless people who are desperately reaching out for someone to care. The definition of passion means a powerful or compelling emotion. This passion is connected with a compassion for others in need. There was a time in my life and in my family when we needed some compassion. I know what homelessness feels like. I understand the pain and suffering that homeless people go through. That is why our vision here at City Mission is to end homelessness one person at a time.

Most people would agree with me that we all need to have compassion for others. In fact, the world would be a better place if we had a little more compassion for our fellow human. Jesus was moved with compassion in Mt. 14:14 for those who followed Him into the desert and had not eaten for days. Compassion from the Latin means "co-suffering, painful sympathy, or empathy". It is passion mixed with a compound of love and sorrow for others. Compassion means to suffer together.

I have seen compassion demonstrated many times this past year by many of you who give to this ministry or who volunteer. Many good people in Findlay and the surrounding commu-

nities show their compassion for others in need daily at City Mission. You may have heard it said that homeless people don't need a hand-out; they need a hand -up. I say that at times we all just need a helping hand full of compassion. I do not believe you can have too much of it.

Most of the people we help are from Findlay or Hancock County. In fact our records show that it is about 75%. It is good to know that compassionate people like you are willing to suffer together with your neighbors through your sacrificial giving and volunteerism.

Jesus set a good example for us to follow. We want to meet physical needs in order to bring those with spiritual needs to Him. It is through Christ that many people find everlasting help as they turn to Him as their Savior and Lord. As a rescue mission this is what we want to do, follow the example of Jesus.

The sad fact is that the need for helping the homeless is growing and we as a Mission must grow to meet this need. Please pray for the board and staff as we begin the first steps toward a capital campaign to build a larger facility.

Because this community is willing to suffer together by helping others in need, I know that the Mission will continue to offer a compassionate helping hand.

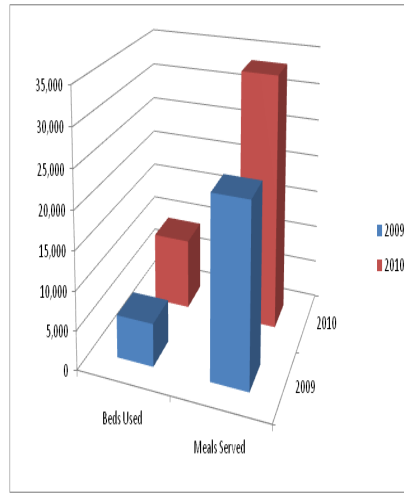
In Christian Service,
Daniel Hicks
Executive Director

Wow! What a year 2010 was!

If you are a numbers person, you are going to praise God for the numbers you are about to see. 2010 was a record-setting year in so many ways, we just want to give all the glory to God for being able to serve so many so much!

Food service and beds used were two areas in particular where the Mission reached new record numbers. The number of beds occupied in 2010 was up 69% over last year's record number, as we had an amazing 9,301 beds used over the year. The number of meals also went through the ceiling, as our total number of 33,393 for the year eclipsed last year's number by over 10,000 meals! Also, in our first full year of giving away food boxes to help out our families and friends, we gave away 542 food boxes to help fight hunger in Hancock County.

Donations of all kinds, particularly in-kind items are way up. In December of 2010 we virtually doubled the numbers of such donations over December of a year ago,



seeing over 600 separate in-kind donations in one month alone.

On and on it goes, more people coming, more gifts coming in, more volunteers to help, it is just all the more reason why we give glory to God for His work in caring for the poor. The Mission continues to share its vision to end homelessness one person at a time. With your help, throughout the year of 2010, we have seen over 90 people who are no longer homeless. Praise be to God!

Jim Davison



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Donations to City Mission from October 2010 through November 2010 have been made in honor or in memory of:

Linda Simpson Barclay
 Randall Scott Brewster
 Marilyn Cunningham
 Russell Essinger
 Betty George
 Evelyn Graham
 Ruth Gulliford
 Dwight & Rose Hawkins
 Peg Hill
 Sue Hill
 Ann Leathers
 Dave & Sherrie Melton
 Geneva Sue Moye

Gene Nessler
 Andrew Pevlar
 Margaret Rutter
 Barney Sterling
 Greg Susko
 Pat Trenarend
 Willis Woodruff



The Need Continues

According to a 2010 census, Hancock County claims 86 homeless individuals. This comes as no surprise to City Mission, as we have seen a remarkable increase in lodging and meals needed by families and individuals in our community. In 2010, we housed 333 men, women, & children. As the graph in the article above indicates, we have seen an increase of 69% in beds being slept in, and an increase of 44% of meals served. What this survey fails to recognize, is the growing need of those in our community who do have homes but struggle to make ends meet. As we see this trend continue to grow, we strive to meet this need by providing community meals seven days a week and food baskets to families who need a helping hand. With the bus that was donated in 2010, we are now able to provide transportation to Chopin Hall for those who need clothing, shoes, and winter-wear.

We would be unable to continue helping those in our community, without your support. Thank you for giving of your time, goods, and finances to help those less fortunate.

Joy Barger
 Administrative Assistant

Volunteering

If you are a faithful follower of City Mission newsletter, you will know that volunteers are written about a great deal. You might remember an article about our need for mega-volunteers. A mega-volunteer is someone who can dedicate approximately 6-12 hours a week and is willing to help wherever needed. A few possible spots for a mega-volunteer might be the office receptionist, running errands, accepting donations, preparing food boxes, or making repairs. I am happy to say that we have been blessed with a couple of mega-volunteers for the office. Thank you, ladies.

With the sheer increase in the numbers of those we are serving, volunteers are a pivotal part of the success of "ending home-



lessness one person at a time". It would be a great benefit to us to have someone who could regularly organize, inventory and stock the shelves of our food pantry. So if you love to organize, I have just the opportunity for you!

We thank **all** of you who take time out of your busy schedules, helping us serve those in need, whether you are a mega-volunteer or not! We look forward to building new relationships as we search for a few good men and women to be the core of our continuing efforts to grow and serve.

Karen Crawford

2010, A Year of Giving



Seeking Answers

Jim Gardner is a man that was in search of answers. Maybe it would be better put that God was in search of Jim Gardner. Jim found himself sitting in his car at a gas station pleading with God to do something in his life. Not knowing where else to turn he began to read the Bible. A life of drinking, seeking, and running wasn't meeting the deep longing in his soul.

God answered Jim's prayer when he read a verse that compelled him to get out of his car. When he walked into the gas station he met a man who happened to be a chaplain. This man encouraged him and referred Jim to a local agency which in turn referred him to the City Mission. Not knowing



for sure what he was going to do Jim showed up at the mission looking for God to give him more direction.

The New Life Directions Program became a literal answer to Jim's prayer. At the Mission Jim began to understand that he can know God in a personal way through His Son, Jesus. Recently, Jim stated, "I am not perfect, but I don't want to sin anymore." Jim has a desire to do all he can for the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31)

Dewey Harris

Pictured Left: Dr. John Seng, Board President, presenting a graduation certificate to Jim Gardner for completing Phase 1 of the Mission's three phase New Life Directions Program.

CITY MISSION OF FINDLAY

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Fax: 567-525-4972

Email: office@findlaymission.org
Volunteer inquiries: findlaymissionvol@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
www.findlaymission.org

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!

MISSION VALUES:

CHRIST-LIKE: CITY MISSION REFLECTS CHRIST'S LOVE WITH INTEGRITY IN ALL OF OUR ACTIONS, ETHICS, AND DECISIONS IN HELPING THOSE WHO COME TO US FOR HELP

COMPASSIONATE: WE MINISTER TO THE PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF ALL THOSE WHO COME TO THE MISSION WITH EMPATHY, KINDNESS, AND PATIENCE.

COMMITTED: WE PLEDGE TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF ALL PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF COLOR, CREED, OR CULTURE.

Disposable gloves for food prep

Canned meats

Fruit punch

Coffee

39 gallon trash bags

Napkins

Toilet paper

Window cleaner

Did You Know?

In December of 2010 we distributed 542 food boxes* This would be enough to provide one person with more than seven years supply of food.

*Some of those Drop-Ins who receive food boxes are families of 6 or more persons.