



“I’ve gotten closer to God.”

As a single mother of four children and a working parent, Anitra found herself struggling with all her responsibilities. **“I was juggling rent, utilities, paying for food – and I could barely afford daycare.”**

She was on the waiting list for daycare through the Children’s Bureau, but as she says, “It can take a year or two. That’s a long time.”

When she unexpectedly lost her job, Anitra knew her family wouldn’t make it much longer without a helping hand.

Anitra was referred to our Center for Women & Children, where she joined our Family

Development Program, a residential program focused on life-skills and spiritual development.

In addition to providing a stable place to live, program classes like Conflict Resolution and Saving & Budgeting teach women like Anitra how to better manage money and find lasting employment.

“The staff here makes you feel warm and encourages you.”

The Center’s staff helped her find a free daycare program for working families. Now, Anitra can look for work knowing that her children are in a safe and loving environment. “It’s a load off my shoulders,” she says.

Her life has improved in other ways, too. “I was hanging out with the wrong crowd, trusting the wrong people,” she says. “Coming here, I’ve built friendships. I read



the Bible and pray a lot.”

“I’ve gotten closer to God. And that’s the key to success.”

Anitra and her children are grateful that our Center was able to help her rebuild her family’s lives. Now, the family has moved out and they are living in their own apartment.

“God sent me to the Mission for a reason,” Anitra says, smiling. “He wanted me to stop trying to do things on my own and thinking I could handle anything. **At the Mission, I realized that there’s help out there – and people who care.**”

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Hope starts here!

At the Mission, we share these powerful words with those who are hungry and homeless, hurting and broken.

One of the most dangerous parts of being homeless is losing your hope.

We get the chance to share the hope of Easter each day – that no matter how hopeless people may feel, they can be reborn through a relationship with Jesus Christ!

It's amazing the impact those words have on men and women who come here. Many of them need to hear that a new life is possible.

But we don't just tell them – we show them through food and clothing, shelter and kind smiles. That's where their hope for a changed life starts.

I want to thank you for sharing your hope with others. What a privilege it is that your prayers and support give lives back...and help people discover a new life through a risen Savior, at Easter and all year long.

Rick Alvis, President/CEO

Your Prayers Make a Difference!

On any given night in Indianapolis, nearly 1,600 people are homeless and hungry.

Even as spring approaches and our Winter Contingency Program ends on March 31, temperatures can still dip to near freezing at night. And when they do, people come to Wheeler Mission looking for a safe, warm shelter off the streets.

Both our Shelter for Men and our Center for Women & Children are over capacity every night of the year – but we hate to turn anyone in need away!

Please pray with us as we seek God's leading on how to accommodate the swelling numbers of men, women and children who come to us each night.

Thank you, and God bless!



Did you know...

...from November 1 through March 31 every year, Wheeler Mission coordinates the **Indianapolis Winter Contingency Program**.

When other sites are filled, mats and cots are hauled out at our Shelter for Men and our Center for Women & Children to make sure **no one is left out in the cold**.



Help her find her way home.

Meals. Shelter. Clothing. These are all the physical things homeless and near-homeless people need to survive.

But what about faith? Love. Encouragement. HOPE!

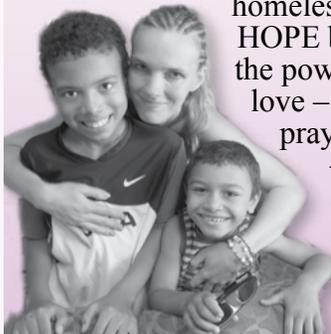
The Mission is where hunger and homelessness end and HOPE begins. It's where the power of God's love – fueled by your prayers and support – truly makes a difference in the lives of neighbors who

can no longer survive on their own.

Your gift this Easter will transform lives!

Providing meals, shelter and care helps people begin to rebuild their lives. Those who enter our Hebron and Higher Ground addiction recovery programs make even greater strides as their hope is renewed and God's love becomes real for them.

Please send a gift today to provide the help the men, women and children who depend on the Mission need to find their way home. You can also make a gift safely online at **WheelerMission.org**. Thank you!



“I did everything by the book...”

Wayne was married for 27 years and had a career as a respiratory therapist. He lived his life, as he says, “by the book.”

When his marriage began to disintegrate, Wayne became severely depressed. He even suffered panic attacks as he tried to make sense of his life, which was spiraling out of his control.

By the end of his divorce, he found himself standing, shivering, on the streets of Indianapolis in December.

“I had nothing but the clothes on my back. No friends and no place to go,” Wayne says. “That’s quite a shocker for a guy who had a good income, a family and a home.”

Wayne had a deep faith in the Lord, which he leaned on during this tough time. When the Lord laid it on his heart that he couldn’t do it on his own, he decided to find people who could help him.

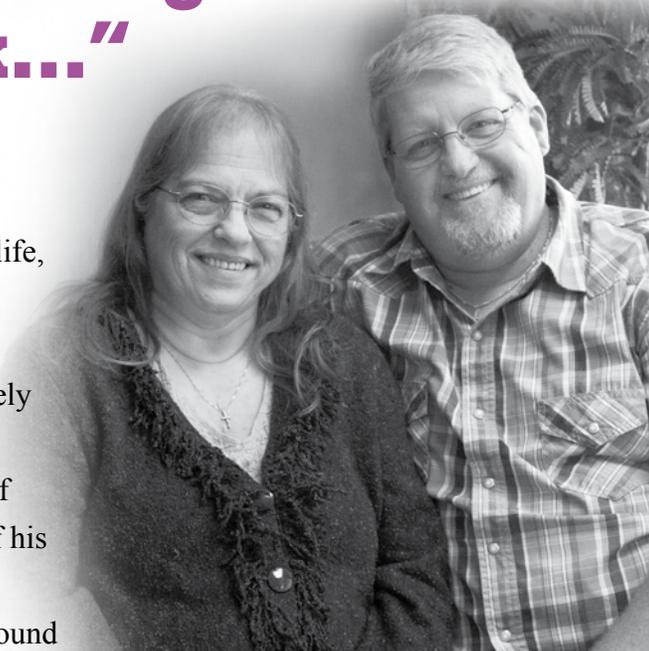
Wayne ended up at the doors of Wheeler Mission. He joined our STEPS (Steps Toward Economic and Personal Stability) Program, designed for men who need short-term housing while working through their barriers to employment and self-sufficiency.

After attending the Culinary Arts Program at Second Helpings, he found employment as a chef with the Levy Restaurants at Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

As he worked, Wayne saved money and took classes at Ivy Tech. “When I left Wheeler, I had money in the bank, I had a job and I was completing another college degree. **Wheeler gave me a safe haven to work from and regain my economic strength to move on.**”

Since he’s been on his own, Wayne has married a wonderful woman and now comes back to the Mission as a volunteer, encouraging and serving the men in programs at Wheeler’s Men’s Residential Center.

About a year ago, Wayne felt the Lord calling him to the ministry. Now, he’s completing a degree at Indiana Wesleyan University in Biblical Studies and discussing ordination with his home church. “None of that would be possible without Wheeler Mission,” he says. **“When you have a safe place to go and support, it makes all the difference in the world.”**



Register Today!

100 holes of golf. Do you have what it takes?

Join us on June 9th at Broadmoor Golf Course and find out!

Sign up for our annual 100 Holes for the Homeless golf tournament – it’s a chance to help raise \$30,000 for the Mission!

All proceeds help during our summer months when donations are scarce, but many people still count on the Mission for a helping hand!

For more information, or to register, call (317) 635-3575 or visit WheelerMission.org, then click on “News & Events.”



Holidays Full of Hope

What a season of blessings! Over the holidays, we felt your incredible support as we worked long hours to make this a happy and hopeful holiday season for hurting people in our community.

To everyone who donated their time, their money and their talents – thank you! Our work wouldn’t be possible without your generosity.

For more photos from our holiday celebrations at the Mission, visit our website at WheelerMission.org and click on “News & Events.”

A Drumstick Dash THANK YOU!

More than 30 generous companies sponsored our 11th annual Drumstick Dash and helped provide the foundation to make this special event a success.

A huge “thank you!” to all our sponsors – we couldn’t do it without you!

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2013 Drumstick Dash



Nearly 20,000 attended 2013's Drumstick Dash. Our 11th annual Drumstick Dash was a huge success! The streets of Broad Ripple were packed with people who ran, walked and dashed after Jerry Gobbler on Thanksgiving morning.

Mark your calendar!

Save the date:
Thursday, November 27,
2014 – join 18,000 of your
closest friends for the
2014 Drumstick Dash!



Run for it! The kids had a great time racing Jerry Gobbler in our Lil' Gobbler's Run. Each child who participated received a medal and a bag of candy.

What a great day! To see more photos from this year's Dash, visit WheelerMission.org and click on “News & Events.”

Full Carts, Full Hearts!



70 shopping carts full of food – what an amazing blessing! Thanks to the Marsh Food Drive last November, hundreds of men, women and children received food to fill their Thanksgiving tables. To everyone who donated food items, gave gifts of cash or lent a helping hand, thank you for your impact on countless lives during the holiday season!