



INSIDE Story

WHEELER MISSION MINISTRIES *Help. Hope. Healing.*
THANKSGIVING 2014

"I am not who I *used to be*"

A Personal Word from the President/CEO

Prayers of Thankfulness

"We always give thanks to God for you" is a common refrain in Paul's letters to the early church. As the Thanksgiving season begins, I find myself sharing his prayer. I'm so thankful for you. Your support - through your prayers, your giving, your volunteering and visits - has helped to change thousands of lives in our community this year.

Your prayers are powerful, and make a difference so please keep it up!

Because of you, the Mission is here for anyone, anytime they're ready to change. Through your prayers, so many are leaving behind pain and addiction, and finding new hope. Each time a person steps into the Mission, another prayer of thankfulness begins.

Thank you for lifting up those in need in your prayers. Through you, God is filling hungry men, women and children with good things at Wheeler Mission.

Rick Alvis
President/CEO

Wanda came from an alcoholic home and began drinking in her teens — abuse that escalated through the years, finally leaving her homeless.

"I moved from house to house, couch to couch...I slept in alleys," she says. "I didn't know what I was looking for in life."

Finally, Wanda's sister-in-law helped her find Wheeler Mission's Center for Women & Children. "I came here, praying they would let me in," she says. "They gave me a bed and my own blankets, which I hadn't had in years."

Wanda was placed in our Connect to Care program, where she has received medical, dental and vision care.

"My weight has gone down immensely. That was all water from my heart. I didn't know I had heart problems. I also got glasses, and I'm getting my teeth fixed," she says. "Every morning, I feel like saying, 'Thank you, God, for waking me up.'"

Meanwhile, Wanda has received counseling for painful emotional issues. "I would pass a mirror and wouldn't look because I hated what I saw," she says. **"Now when I look in the mirror, I don't hate myself."**

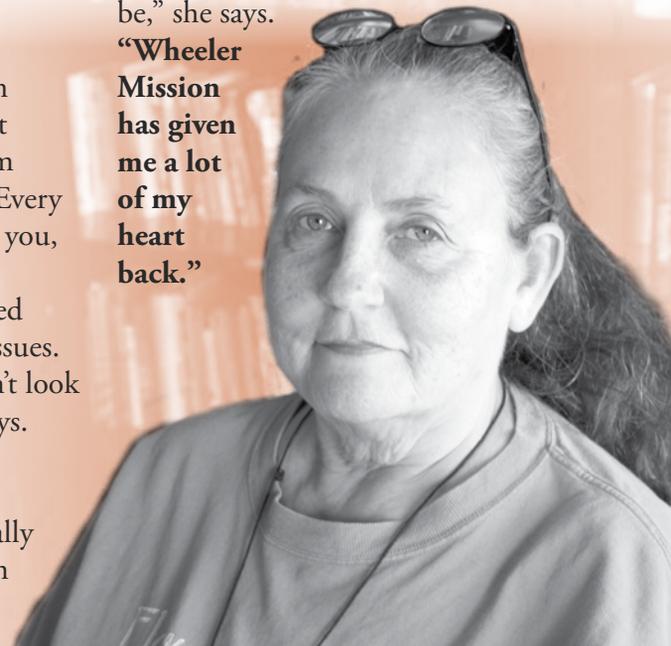
Wanda has also grown spiritually during her time here. "The Mission

gave me a Bible and I read it all the time," she says. "I go to church every Sunday and enjoy it. It makes you want to go out and give the Word to other people."

Wanda hopes to find work cooking for those in need. In the meantime, she cooks in the Mission's kitchen. "I'm doing the kind of work I want to do when I get out in the world again," she says. "I give them my heart, a smile and my food."

Wanda's heart was broken when she came to Center for Women & Children, but the love of our staff and others in the program has helped heal and transform her. "I am not who I used to be," she says.

"Wheeler Mission has given me a lot of my heart back."



A Legacy of Generosity

Consider these reasons for including Wheeler Mission in your will.

1. It's a matter of values. Your will is your "testament" – a statement that you believe in the Mission.

2. It's a matter of timing. Giving through your will enables you to give a more substantial gift than you ever could during your lifetime.

3. It's a matter of faith. Giving to the Mission through your will is a faithful way to provide for ongoing ministry long after you're gone.

If you'd like more information, call Steve Kerr at (317) 635-3575 or visit WheelerMission.org and click on "Ways to Help/Planned Giving."

Q: Do you know the average stay for one person at our Center for Women & Children?



A: Three months!

That's 270 meals, 90 nights of shelter, and over 22,000 hours of counseling, job readiness training, health care and Bible study.



Thursday, Nov. 27 at 9 a.m., *move your feet so others can eat!*

Our 12th annual Drumstick Dash – recently named the 2nd largest running event in the state of Indiana – is almost here! Join 18,000 of your neighbors for this fun-filled run/walk through the streets of Broad Ripple by registering at DrumstickDash.org while there's still time!

Want to join the festivities, but not up for a run? You can help out... **we're still in need of volunteers** to ensure this year's Dash runs smoothly! For more information, or to volunteer, visit DrumstickDash.org.



Thanksgiving = Almost Here!

You can help by purchasing one or more of these items and donating them to the Mission this Thanksgiving!

- 75 turkeys
- 20 boneless hams
- 25 #10 cans of sweet potatoes or yams, or 4 large cases (200 lbs)
- 125 commercial-sized boxes of Stove Top stuffing
- 20 gallons of turkey gravy
- 35 lb. bag of brown sugar
- 25 spray nozzle cans of whipped cream
- 30 lbs of butter
- 45 gallons of apple cider
- 60 lb. bag of white onions
- 22 #10 cans of cranberry sauce
- 50 pumpkin pies
- 25 #10 cans of green beans

Drop off donations at our Men's Residential Center, 245 N. Delaware St., 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., seven days a week.

Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner at Thanksgiving – Still Just \$2.25!

Some of us still remember when a soda was 5¢. Or a time when you could get a burger for a quarter. These days, a plain cup of coffee can set you back \$2 or more!

But here at Wheeler Mission, you can still provide a hot, nourishing meal for just \$2.25.

We'll be serving a lot of those great meals this Thanksgiving season, including hundreds of festive holiday meals during the week of Thanksgiving!

Your \$2.25 gift can provide a meal that's a turning point in the life of a person who's lost all hope. A meal that,

along with counseling and the chance to share God's love, can help someone finally end their homelessness and addiction.

If you think that's amazing, imagine what a gift of \$25 or \$50 or even \$100 can do!

Please share your blessings by making a special gift today to feed and begin to change the lives of as many people as possible. Use the enclosed envelope or make a secure donation at WheelerMission.org. THANK YOU!