



INSIDE Story

WHEELER MISSION MINISTRIES *Help. Hope. Healing.*

HOLIDAY 2015

On her knees, crying... Lauren almost gave up

By the time she was 16, Lauren's life was spiraling out of control.

She'd experienced emotional and physical abuse from family members. When she was a teenager, she turned to prescription drugs, then heroin to numb the pain she felt.

"My drug use led me to doing things I never thought I would do."

Lauren got in trouble with the law – more than once. Then, she was hospitalized in the ICU when her pancreas shut down.

Lauren continued on page 3 >>>



A Message From Rick Alvis



If there ever was a property Wheeler Mission wanted to own, it was 510 N. Lasalle Street.

Not only is it next door to our Center for Women & Children - but for years, it's been a troubled property. The building was in disrepair. Local law enforcement visited often.

Along with many of you, we prayed that the Lord would open a way for the Mission to purchase this property. For years now, we've needed to expand our Center for Women & Children. The number of women and children who need shelter for a night, a week or long-term stay has steadily increased...while our space inside the Center has not.

Through friends like you, and God's continuing hand of provision, we recently purchased this property!

The need really is urgent in our community. We are currently turning away an average of 800 requests a month from women who need a safe place to stay - and even more during cold winter months.

Women who need help to recover from addiction are more common than ever, but have few options for long-term care. And these women are also younger than ever: primarily in their 20s or early 30s.

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Move your feet so others can eat!®

DRUMSTICK DASH 2015



LAST CHANCE TO SIGN-UP



Register now at DrumstickDash.org. Run or walk the streets of Broad Ripple with thousands from our community on **Thurs., Nov. 26 at 9 a.m.**



Good Run, Great Cause. Taking part in our 13th annual Dash is a great way to give back this holiday season. Every entry fee goes toward meals, shelter and so much more for homeless, hungry men, women and children! To volunteer, donate or run, visit DrumstickDash.org.

Who will you help this holiday?



"When I got out of jail, I knew I needed a dramatic change in my life. I prayed that God would take the wheel."

- Chris, seeking a recovery program after release from prison



"When I left a bad living situation, I was living paycheck to paycheck on my own...I prayed to God for stability."

- Amber, seeking help to rebuild her life

Your gifts provide homeless and hurting men and women with the help they need to get off the streets: meals, clothing, shelter and hope. Some of them will stay at our emergency shelters while getting back on their feet. Many of them will join our addiction recovery programs and find the support to transform their lives.

This holiday season, please give the gift that can change lives forever. People just like Chris and Amber are counting on you. Use the enclosed envelope or donate online now at WheelerMission.org. Thank you!

Lauren continued >>>

It wasn't until she was sent to jail that she saw herself clearly.

"I literally just dropped to my knees, crying...I was going to take my life," Lauren remembers. "Then I thought of my daughter – she's such a good kid and she deserved a mom who was alive... I knew I had to change."

Lauren completed a local detox program, but had nowhere to go after. "I had no insurance...no money to pay for a program." Then she found out about our free 12-month addiction recovery program for women.

"I was bawling with gratitude."

"It's only by God's grace that I found Wheeler."



When Lauren joined our women's addiction recovery program, she was welcomed into a supportive environment where she began recovering from the pain of her youth. "They treated me like a normal person, which is not how I felt at the time," she says. "I felt like so much less."

"The Mission helps you discover who you really are in Christ."

Through classes and counseling, Lauren's been able to develop a God-centered foundation. "The process here is biblical addiction recovery, so it's changing your whole life, inside and out."

After a few months, Lauren's daughter joined her to live at our Center for Women & Children; it's a new beginning for them both. "She's seen a lot of amazing things happen here...it's been a beautiful experience."

"I'm loved...and it's my turn to do that for others."

Lauren once dreamed of opening her own hair salon – but now feels drawn in a different direction. "I feel God calling me to serve others and give back the joy Wheeler has given to me."

Today, Lauren has new hope through God's love. "I never thought my life could be like this. I'm a different person now," she says. "I'm seeing the transformation because of God in my life."

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Thursday is for giving thanks. Friday is for bargain shopping.

But Tuesday is for giving a gift that can change a life!

This is our busiest time of year...we expect to provide over 1,000 meals a day! Donating to the Mission on Giving Tuesday will go to work immediately

Share a special gift on Giving Tuesday, December 1!

to feed and care for hungry, homeless people this holiday season.

Visit our website at **WheelerMission.org** on Giving Tuesday to celebrate this incredible day of sharing with our community's less fortunate. Thank you!

WINTER CONTINGENCY In from the cold...



On any given night, more than 1,600 men, women & children are homeless in Indianapolis. Some will try to survive the cold outside - leaving them vulnerable to hypothermia, pneumonia...or worse.



Our **Winter Contingency Program** (November-March) makes room for everyone inside the Mission, even if that means putting mats on the floor!



While staying here, homeless men & women hear that God loves them and begin to hope again - many end up joining one of our long-term recovery programs.



Your donations make this help possible. Donate today - and bring vulnerable people in from the cold!

To find out more, or to donate, visit **WheelerMission.org**. Thank you!

Rick's message continued >>>

Today, that old building is gone. The property is empty and ready for the expansion of our Center for Women & Children.

What a blessing - and your continuing support of our ministry makes it possible!

Now when I see 510 N. Lasalle, I don't see its troubled past...I see only the new hope of a bright future for women and children.

Rick Alvis
President/CEO

Connect with us online!



Facebook.com/WheelerMission



Twitter.com/WheelerMission



Youtube.com/wmm1893

Urgently Needed *in our pantry*

Please help fill our pantry this holiday season! By purchasing one or more of these items, you're helping to fill more than 32,000 plates with food...and countless hearts with new hope.

- 75 turkeys
- 60 boneless hams
- 25 #10 cans of sweet potatoes or yams, or 4 large cases (200 lbs)
- Potatoes - fresh or boxed scalloped
- 50 10-lb. bags of white sugar
- 35 lb. bags of brown sugar
- 60 lb. bags of white onions
- 25 spray nozzle cans of whipped cream
- 90 1-dz. egg cartons
- 45 1-gallon containers of apple cider
- 50 1-gallon containers of milk
- 25 #10 cans of green beans
- 50 pecan or fruit pies
- Coffee (as much as possible)
- Powdered drink mixes (as much as possible)
- 1,000-count disposable dinnerware: plates, cups, bowls, cutlery

Drop off at 245 N. Delaware, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
For a complete list, or to donate now, please visit WheelerMission.org.

Yes, Rick! Use my gift to provide healing & help this holiday:

- \$15.75 to feed and care for 7 people
- \$27.00 to feed and care for 12 people
- \$51.75 to feed and care for 23 people
- \$_____ to help as much as possible

Check enclosed Bill my credit card



CREDIT CARD #

CIV/SEC #

EXP. DATE

PHONE #

Donate online at www.WheelerMission.org or call (317) 635-3575.

Wheeler Mission
P.O. Box 3085
Indianapolis, IN 46206-3085



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____