



INSIDE *Story*

WHEELER MISSION MINISTRIES *Help. Hope. Healing.*

Holiday 2016



Francine was a prodigal child, living a life of drug and alcohol addiction, far from her Lord... until she found her way home at Wheeler Mission.

A Message from Rick

Don't you love the tradition of celebrating special holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas? I'm grateful for your tradition of supporting the work of Wheeler Mission.

Luella McWhirter, one of our founders, started what became a tradition of keeping her family involved. Recently, one of the McWhirter family members created a gift from his estate. Because we were so encouraged by this gift, we decided to implement The McWhirter Society for anyone who includes us in their estate plan in some way. Today that includes over 50 families.

McWhirter Society gifts of various kinds are like artesian wells; they never run dry. That's because our policies prohibit us from spending the principal. Only the income can be used each year.

Creating an estate gift allows your children and grandchildren to have an added reason to appreciate their heritage. The ongoing impact of your estate gift reminds them of who they are. It lifts their sights and inspires a benevolent spirit. Your estate gift will do more than build an honorable legacy, it will enable others and endure for years after you're gone.

Jim Gillespie can outline further benefits and show you how easy it is to create your own estate gift. Reach him at JimGillespie@wmm.org.



Rick Alvis,
President / CEO

14TH ANNUAL DRUMSTICK DASH

Join
us



Thanksgiving
Day!

There's still time to join your friends and neighbors who will be walking, running and dashing through Indianapolis on Thanksgiving morning starting at 9 a.m. at Broad Ripple.

For more information, go to DrumstickDash.org.

Then get ready to "move your feet so others can eat!"



That's our goal this holiday season.

Each meal you sponsor today is so much more than a plate of food.

It's a chance for you to help change a life.

To end hunger. To end homelessness.

Make your gift online at WheelerMission.org.

Or use the enclosed reply card and envelope.

Thank you for sharing your blessings and your bounty!

*"I was a
problem
child."*



Francine grew up in a happy home with her mother and stepfather, but she wasn't at peace. "I wanted my mother to be with my biological father. He was a heroin user but, as a kid, I didn't understand," she says. "I was a problem child."

When Francine was 18, she started drinking and, a few years later, began using cocaine. **"Eventually, I couldn't keep a job, because of the drugs and alcohol,"** she says.

She was about to be evicted from her apartment when her 17-year-old nephew was killed in a car accident. "I had a Christian foundation from going to church with my Grandma. **I knew the only way I'd see my nephew**

again was in heaven and that meant I had to straighten up," she says. "God got my attention."

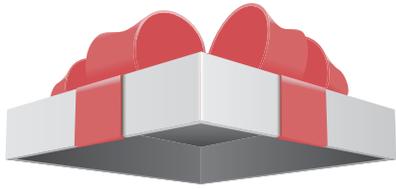
Francine called 211 and was referred to Wheeler Mission, where she completed our Higher Ground Addiction Recovery Program. Then she came to work here, but after 10 years on our staff, she relapsed and resigned.

Years later, she returned to the Mission and re-entered the program with different intentions. **"This time, I battled the bitterness that I had about my dad,"** she says. She grew stronger in her walk with the Lord. "I was lukewarm before," she says.

"Now, I give my whole heart and soul to God."

Francine graduated and saved enough money to get her own place through her work as a home health aide. "Working with elderly people is my passion," she says.

Francine credits the Lord and the Mission with her new life. "I thank God that He loved me enough not to let me die in my sins and **I'm so thankful to Wheeler Mission for giving me another chance.**"



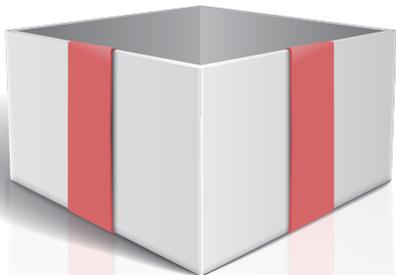
The perfect gift? Look no further!

For homeless people in our community, Christmas is a season of lonely days and cold nights. Your Christmas Gift means food, shelter and the basic services that provide hope for happier days and nights ahead.

It's easy:

1. Choose a gift.
2. Add it to your reply card.

Or visit our Christmas Gift Catalog online at **WheelerMission.org/GiftCatalog**.



Meals - \$25

A hot, nourishing meal at the Mission may be their only meal of the day.



Warm clothing - \$35

People often come to the Mission in old, tattered and dirty clothing. The Mission provides clothing - including undershirts, shorts and socks - so men and women can feel warm, dry and renewed on their journey.



Healing in our recovery programs - \$100

True change requires more than food and shelter. Our addiction recovery programs give people the classes, training and encouragement to transform their lives - and the chance to encounter God's love too.

Safe shelter - \$50

During the winter months, homeless people suffer from hypothermia, frostbite and worse when temperatures dip below freezing. Give a man, woman or child safe, warm shelter and the chance to finally rest.

These Christmas gifts are representative of the needs of people served by Wheeler Mission. Donations may be used to support the area of ministry where the need is greatest.