



# INSIDE *Story*

WHEELER MISSION MINISTRIES *Help. Hope. Healing.*

Fall 2016

*"I just wanted  
my pain to end."*

**John faced the pain of losing his job, his home and his family.**

That's when he came up with a very serious plan for taking his own life.

*From hurting to hope | Read more on page 3 >>*

## A Message from Rick Alvis



### When food and shelter are not enough...

If all we do with your most generous gifts is feed and shelter hungry, homeless people in Central and South Central Indiana, **we're not doing our job!**

Meals and a bed will not keep people from being homeless. They also need education and job training, such as our Training Center at Camp Hunt – and God's love to transform their hearts.

**"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."**

Food and shelter alone will not end addiction. People trapped in the prison of alcohol and drug use need counseling and support.

And every single one of the men, women and children who comes to the Mission needs God's love.

As our busiest time of the year approaches, **I need your help** to make

absolutely sure people's physical and spiritual needs are met.

**Donate** food, or send a gift to purchase it. **Volunteer**, especially before the holidays. And **please pray** - for those who so desperately need our help, and God's, to live more stable lives.

Rick Alvis, President/CEO

Your help turns golf balls into blessings for others



**THANK YOU** to the 35 golfers who spent 30 days fundraising and spent nearly 9 hours golfing at The Hawthorns Golf and Country Club.

At our 6th annual "100 Holes for the Homeless," our golfers raised over \$72,000 for food and care during summer (a time when the donations we receive at the Mission slow WAY down).

Jack Barber, former PGA Professional, led the way, raising more than \$25,000!

We're blown away by your time, generosity and support for people in need. Thank you again!

For more information on the event, visit **100HolesfortheHomeless.com**.



During the third annual Strength In Our Streets affiliate competition, 30 teams and 360 participants competed and raised funds benefitting Wheeler Mission and Outreach. This was a record-breaking year with participants raising over \$80,000.

*Competition Winners:*

**CrossFit Dash**

*Top Fundraiser:*

**Aubrey Bence with \$9,375**

*Tom Fundraising Team:*

**CrossFit Indy South with \$13,295**

Find out more by visiting **StrengthInOurStreets.com**.

## What's On The Menu?

### Nourishing Food & God's Love!

You can provide **both** with your 2016 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign gift! Please use the enclosed envelope, or give online at **WheelerMission.org**.

# "God saved my life through Wheeler."

John's pain seemed like it would never end.

Early on, John knew he wanted to become an RN – he worked hard to get into nursing school and began a career focused on others.

Then, he lost everything.

He was caught taking opiates. His nursing license was revoked. The step-son that he cared for was sent away. His marriage began to fall apart. "I didn't only lose my wife, but most of my savings too."

**With each loss, John's pain built until it was all he felt, all the time.**

That's when John slipped into a serious depression – and came up with a plan for taking his own life.

"I was serious about that plan," he says sadly. "I wanted to die. I just wanted my pain to end."

He tried – and by God's grace, failed. Recovering, shaky and alone, he reached out to the Department of Social Services. And they gave him a recommendation that would change

his life. They suggested he contact Wheeler Mission.

**"The moment I walked into Wheeler, I felt relieved."**

In our Addiction Recovery Program, men like John are not only cared for physically with hot meals and safe shelter...but also spiritually, through classes, extensive counseling, and studying God's Word.

Studying the Word brought the healing that John needed. And as he reconnected with his faith that he'd lost years before, the frayed ends of his heart began to mend.

"Since I've been in the program, I've had no depression. God really changed my life."

In the past, John suffered from anxiety. Today, with God on his side, he feels peace for the first time – and joy about what the Lord has in store for his life.



"I've had beautiful homes, beautiful cars...now, I don't, but I'm happier than I've ever been," John says, smiling. **"There's always hope. I'm not alone...God saved my life through Wheeler Mission."**

Today, John is a graduate of not only our addiction recovery program but our work program, STEPS, where he received short-term housing while overcoming barriers to his employment.

"You only get so many chances in life," he says. "I'm glad I took one on Wheeler!"



Our guests may never meet you, but they give thanks for your care and support each and every day!



**68,000**  
MEALS



**30,000**  
NIGHTS OF SHELTER





## 2016 DRUMSTICK DASH

Thanksgiving morning

**20,000 STRONG!** Did you know that thousands of people each year pack the streets of Broad Ripple each year to raise funds for food, shelter and emergency care? You've helped make our Drumstick Dash the second largest running event in the state of Indiana.



**ARE YOU READY TO RUN?** Our 14th annual run/walk starts at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 24. Join in a run/walk with LOTS of others running/walking for the same reason: to move your feet so others can eat!



**Calling all kind-hearted volunteers!** Since we're planning on nearly 20,000 runners this year, your help as a volunteer would be a huge blessing! Interested? Get in touch with our volunteer team:

☎ (317) 686-6239

✉ [Volunteer@wmm.org](mailto:Volunteer@wmm.org)

Ready to register? Sign up now!

📄 [DrumstickDash.org](http://DrumstickDash.org).

**Want to know more? Interested in being a sponsor?** Get in touch with us!

☎ (317) 635-3575

✉ [DrumstickDash@wmm.org](mailto:DrumstickDash@wmm.org)