



INSIDE *Story*

WHEELER MISSION MINISTRIES *Changing Lives in Central Indiana Since 1893*
Summer 2017

MARQUISHA'S CHALLENGE: BELIEVING IN NEW HOPE

STUCK IN A CYCLE OF ALCOHOLISM AND ABUSE, MARQUISHA NEVER THOUGHT SHE'D BE AN INDEPENDENT WOMAN AND MOTHER EVER AGAIN.

“NOW I KNOW GOD LOVES ME.”



Marquisha has been to the Mission once before. When her son was just three months old, she came here after a domestic violence situation put them both in danger. **“I was torn up emotionally, physically – and depressed.** God may have guided me here, but I wasn’t listening to Him... I was just fighting.”

Even though she experienced love at the Mission, she didn’t think she deserved it. So she returned to what she knew – feeling trapped in a dangerous relationship and worrying for her son’s well-being. Sadly, she often turned to drinking.

With three other children here in Indiana, living with their father, Marquisha wanted nothing more than to be a mother who was present for her kids.

Then the moment of clarity came: “I wanted to see my kids, but their father wouldn’t let me until I

stopped drinking and was stable. **So I called Wheeler Mission and asked to come back.**”

“From the moment I got here, I had no desire to drink,” Marquisha says. That was the first step of many toward a new life.

Since she wanted to build a better foundation for her and her family, Marquisha dove into our recovery program and began

addressing her past. “My caseworker has always been there for me. She loves me unconditionally and encourages me.”

With Christ-centered classes teaching life skills, budgeting and parenting, Marquisha appreciates the chance to rebuild her future as

a mother. “The Mission even has daycare here so my baby can be taken care of while I go out and find work and housing for us,” she says.

Now working two jobs and saving for a home of her own, Marquisha hopes to reconnect with her other children and be the present mother she couldn’t be earlier in their lives.

“I’m so thankful the Mission welcomed me with open arms.

“I KNOW THIS IS WHERE GOD WANTED ME TO BE.”

The Lord has shown me so much love here.”

WITH YOUR HELP, Marquisha and others like her are finding that God’s hope and healing are for everyone, regardless of their past or circumstances. Thank you for your generous support!

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE

How do you challenge yourself?

Maybe you've trained for a marathon or half marathon and pushed yourself to run across that finish line. Maybe even a shorter race – like our Drumstick Dash on Thanksgiving morning – is a real test!

Or maybe you've been challenged by family, friends or a pastor to open your heart to someone who's very different than you... or to live out God's love in new and powerful ways.

Right now, we're in the middle of a challenge from a wonderful friend of the Mission to match their generous \$10,000 gift with an additional \$10,000.

But our greatest challenge is a daily one: inspiring new hope in the lives of people struggling with an addiction or abuse, unemployment or homelessness, hunger or hopelessness.

In this issue's cover story, you'll

hear Marquisha's testimony about how being part of Wheeler Mission has transformed her life – and her family's lives too.

Her story is powerful because of you. You understand the challenges our neighbors in need face, and we're grateful you share the truly life-changing gifts of meals, shelter and care.

We can meet the challenge of caring for our community's hurting because of you and your faithful support. Thank you for giving to bring new hope to countless lives forever.



Rick Alvis,
President/CEO

Drumstick Dash Early Bird Registration is now open!

Register early to guarantee your spot at our 15th annual Drumstick Dash! We had our first sell out event in 2016, so don't wait. Register today to be a part of this amazing event that helps the homeless in our community.

May 1 – September 4

EARLY BIRD RATE: **\$30**

EARLY BIRD

CHILDREN'S RATE (ages 8-12): **\$20**

EARLY BIRD FRIENDS & FAMILY RATE: **\$25**

EARLY BIRD OUTTA TOWN

DASH AROUND RATE (virtual race): **\$30**



GIVE *where you LIVE* LIVE

97-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

You don't have to go far to find people in desperate need of help. They're right here in our community.

This Memorial Day, our 97-day summer campaign to help our community's homeless and hungry begins.



90,000
meals



33,750
nights of shelter



MATCH IT BY MAY 31!



Right now, because of a generous Matching Challenge, every gift you give will have **double the impact** for those in need.

Or as we like to say,

1 + Y = TWO!

By giving, you'll provide hot meals for a hungry child... safe shelter for a homeless woman... counsel for a man battling addiction... care for a family who has suffered abuse... and training to help men and women prepare for employment.

\$50 → \$100

\$100 → \$200

\$150 → \$300

That's how \$10,000 becomes \$20,000 when you give today!



This Matching Challenge ends May 31 – so don't wait. Help turn \$10,000 into \$20,000 and double your impact by responding now.

VISIT US ONLINE to learn more about our outreach, read stories of hope & securely donate anytime!

 WheelerMission.org



Gift of Appreciated Assets

If you are considering a charitable gift, you may want to look at your stock portfolio. A gift of appreciated stock or a mutual fund is a valuable way to make a contribution to an organization and receive tax benefits based on the value of the asset(s). There are other marketable assets, such as land and homes, that can be utilized as potential gifts with the possibility of valuable tax benefits.

It can also pay you income for life. If you cannot make a gift of stock, you can help by establishing a life-income gift. Often the income from your gift is more than what the stock provides through dividends.

A gift of appreciated stock requires minimal effort and provides great rewards. Please contact our Chief Development Officer, Steve Kerr, at **(317) 635-3573** to plan a gift of stock.