A GOD-SIZED CHALLENGE

Shawn's challenges led him to a moment of new hope.

BECAUSE OF YOU, CHALLENGES BECOME CHANGED LIVES THROUGH GOD'S LOVE.
Growing up with an alcoholic father, Shawn followed his familiar path. “Drinking was like second nature to me,” he says, “and it consumed 10 years of my life.”

When Shawn’s father passed away, his own addictions only escalated. His mother came to him in tears. “She begged me not to end up like my father,” he remembers.

Shawn lived with his mother, caring for her when she became seriously ill. When she passed away, he moved in with his brother... until one night he was asked to move out. “I left at three o’clock in the morning with two bags full of clothes,” Shawn says. “I fell asleep on Keystone Avenue and someone called the police, thinking I was dead.”

When the officers approached him, Shawn asked them to take him to a shelter: “I’m convinced God was speaking through me, because I wasn’t even thinking of that before,” he says.

When he first arrived at Wheeler Mission, Shawn says, “I wanted nothing to do with God.” But one night, sitting in chapel, he heard a voice say, “listen.”

“What the pastor said pierced my heart,” he explains. “I couldn’t stop drinking on my own will, but when I surrendered to the Lord, He helped me.”

Shawn joined our Foundations program, grateful for time to focus on rebuilding his relationship with the Lord while also building life skills. “God has blessed me with brothers in Christ here who pour into us and help us rebuild our lives,” he says. “We were all broken at one point, but the Lord is putting us back together.”

Now in our Equip Program, Shawn is active in his church as a deacon, preparing for a future career in ministry and taking steps to reconnect with his family.

Because of your generous support, men like Shawn are facing their challenges and being transformed by God’s love here at the Mission. “Wheeler Mission proves that homeless isn’t hopeless. The Mission is a place of refuge where you can get your life back on track.”
RISING to the Challenge

When we first opened our doors 125 years ago in 1893, the gifts of generous friends made it possible to serve 108 guests the first year in Indianapolis who were homeless and hungry.

Today, your gifts make it possible to serve nearly 1,000 meals daily, in addition to providing shelter, clothing, counseling, job training, and more services and programs than our founders ever imagined.

Yet more local people find themselves in need – and that’s the challenge we face each day. Feeding them. Sheltering them. Caring for their immediate and long-term needs. Sharing God’s love with them.

Every month, we turn away hundreds of requests for shelter and services from women and children. Even for those we do shelter, our space is limited and we’re often forced to sleep women and children on our gymnasium floor – everyone from an 80-year-old homeless woman to a mother with a newborn. As we celebrate 125 years of service to the community, we’re also facing this huge challenge of helping more women and children, the fastest-growing homeless population in our community.

That’s why I’m thankful for people like you, who rise to the challenge of helping!

Throughout our 125th year of service, we’ll share more with you about how your generosity makes the Mission a beacon of hope for our guests – and our plans to expand our outreach to women and children.

Thank you for rising to the challenge of helping so many others. Your faithful support lights the way to brighter futures for all who come to us for help – today, tomorrow and beyond.

Rick Alvis
President/CEO
This summer, we’re facing a real challenge. Donations to provide food, shelter and life-changing programs at Wheeler Mission tend to decrease over the summer months... but the number of hurting people seeking our help certainly doesn’t.

Will you help us rise to the challenge, making sure our struggling neighbors in Central and South Central Indiana receive the care they need?

You can be a vital part of the solution to the challenges our community’s hurting and hungry face.

Please don’t wait to help.
OUR SUMMER CHALLENGE ENDS MAY 31

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.
✉ Give securely online at WheelerMission.org.

Thank you for helping to meet this tremendous challenge!

Summer 2018

93,750 meals
56,250 nights of shelter

I’LL RISE TO THE CHALLENGE
Rick, here’s my gift to provide meals, care & hope this summer for people in need.

☐ $20.25 to feed and care for 9 people
☐ $51.75 to feed and care for 23 people
☐ $76.50 to feed and care for 34 people
☐ $90.00 to feed and care for 40 people
☐ $______ to help as much as possible
☐ PLUS an extra gift of $125 for women & children to celebrate Wheeler’s 125 years of service.

☐ CHECK ENCLOSED ☐ BILL MY CREDIT CARD
☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

CREDIT CARD #
EXP. DATE
PHONE #
EMAIL

Donate now! ☎ (317) 635-3575
✉ WheelerMission.org

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