Message from the President

turning a page

Wheeler Mission has been around for more than 129 years and for more than a century, countless individuals seeking help, hope, and healing have found it here.

After several years of partnering with other agencies to meet the huge needs presented by the pandemic, we are making sure the focus of our ministry still reflects building relationships with our guests, serving our community, and involving our faithful supporters to stay on the mission of providing Christ-centered programs and services for individuals experiencing homelessness and those in need.

I cannot thank you enough for allowing us to continue the ongoing work of serving others. I praise God for allowing us to stand strong in the face of so much change in our world. Wheeler would not exist without people like you.

As I think about the last 32 years as President & CEO, I am reminded my time here was just a few chapters in the bigger story of Wheeler Mission. I’ve seen countless lives changed by the power of God, the hurting healed, and the hopeless receive hope. Through all of it, God’s faithful hand has upheld this ministry through difficult seasons over the years. We have so many reasons to rejoice for the work that takes place here.

But now we turn another page.

I am pleased to announce that after an extensive national search, Wheeler Mission’s Board of Directors has chosen our current Chief Development Officer, Perry Hines, as the incoming President and CEO. I am excited for all God has in store for Perry and the future of Wheeler Mission. I am confident that the story of Wheeler will continue in good hands.

As we turn another page in the Wheeler story, I am reminded of these words from Numbers 6:24-26
“As many of you know, I’ve been President and CEO of Wheeler Mission for more than 30 years, and I’m officially in a time of transition as we announce the new incoming President and CEO.”

— Rick Alvis

The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

I pray these words will be a comfort and reminder of God’s hand with us as we step into the future of caring for our precious neighbors for many more years to come.

Sincerely,

Rick Alvis
President/CEO

Our Mission
What We Do

Our mission is to provide Christ-centered programs and services for individuals experiencing homelessness and those in need.

Wheeler Mission helps those experiencing hunger, homelessness, and addiction in Indiana. Wheeler is a non-denominational, Christian, social services organization.

We provide critically needed goods and services to individuals in Central and South Central Indiana regardless of race, color, sexual orientation, creed, national origin, or religion.

Our Vision
Why We Do It

Our vision is to see every man, woman, and child we serve equipped to be productive citizens who enjoy lasting success in Christ.

They need help. They need healing. Most of all, they need hope for a new start. Through God’s love and your support and prayers, people are transformed from hurting to hopeful.

Wheeler addresses the deeper root issues causing homelessness and addiction. Freedom then flows from the inside out.
Services + Programs

How We Make a Difference

Our holistic services help those who are struggling with hunger, homelessness, and addiction by providing physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual support.

Homeless Services

We provide temporary emergency shelter to those experiencing homelessness and/or disadvantaged men, women, and women with children. Basic temporal needs like meals, shelter, showers, and clothing are offered, along with case management that helps assess the factors that led to homelessness. Individuals are encouraged to enter our free, long-term programs to help with recovery, securing safe housing, employment, or mental health care.

Residential Programs

The primary purpose of our residential programs is to help men, women, and women with children obtain long-term, lasting change through a relationship with Christ. Our residential programs offer Bible studies and a variety of life-skills classes to meet guests where they are and help them increase their knowledge and abilities. The goal is to help guests secure income and safe, permanent housing.

Addiction Recovery

Addiction is a common experience for those caught in the cycle of homelessness. Our addiction recovery programs help men and women struggling with substance abuse and other life-dominating sins by focusing on a total life change through a relationship with Christ. Guests attend classes, counseling, and Bible studies to learn what it means to take responsibility, address forgiveness issues, and serve others.

Social Enterprises

We provide practical, safe, and supportive work experiences, while simultaneously generating revenue for Wheeler’s programs. Guests are empowered as they develop and practice skills for gainful employment.

- **Restored Creations** provides women with work training and a therapeutic outlet through candle making.
- **Wheeler Mission Pallets & Industry** provides men with work training through hardwood pallet production.
- **Wheeler Mission Store** is open to the public and sells gently-used clothing and household items to support program costs.
Terry

Somewhere along the way, Terry found himself deep in addiction, experiencing homelessness, and lost with no relationships. After a series of events, Terry was taken to Wheeler Mission where he was surrounded by supportive staff, encouraging mentors, and relationships that brought him out of the darkness he was in.

“I am thankful to the mission because they gave me a chance, and they gave me a chance to believe in myself. And by them giving me that chance to believe in myself and believing that I can do it, I did it.”

Alongside our staff, Terry was able to work through his addiction, start a savings account, and learn life skills through our programs. Most importantly, Terry found a relationship with Christ.

Through the help he has received, Terry’s life is set in a direction that has changed his life forever.

Ashley

About a week before coming to Wheeler Mission, Ashley was drinking herself to death in a hotel room.

“At this point I felt like I had this moment with God where He spared my life. By the grace of God, I did not die.”

Ashley knew she needed help, so she came to Wheeler Mission where she worked through recovery, built solid friendships, a foundation for herself, and healthy relationships.

“I also work in Restored Creations where I am getting real world experience. I am thankful to the mission because they gave me a newfound love for Jesus Christ and gave me hope that things get better from here. Since coming here, I have been restored in my faith, and I have joy and peace of mind.”
2022 Impact

Measuring Our Effectiveness

Spiritual Decisions
708 MEN AND WOMEN MADE COMMITMENTS TOWARDS SALVATION, DEDICATION, OR BAPTISM

Homeless Services
387,293 MEALS SERVED
250,449 NIGHTS OF SAFE SHELTER PROVIDED
13,816 MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN HELPED

Residential Programs
468 GUESTS COMPLETED A PROGRAM
257 GUESTS MOVED TO STABLE HOUSING
584 GUESTS GAINED EMPLOYMENT AND/OR INCOME

Addiction Recovery
392 MEN & WOMEN COMPLETED THE HEBRON AND HIGHER GROUND PROGRAMS
73% OF HEBRON AND 70% OF HIGHER GROUND ADDICTION RECOVERY GRADUATES REMAINED SOBER THREE YEARS AFTER COMPLETING PROGRAMMING

Social Enterprises
93,421 HOURS OF JOB TRAINING FOR MEN AND WOMEN
23,810 TRANSACTIONS WITH CUSTOMERS AT WHEELER MISSION STORE

Volunteers
25,770 VOLUNTEER HOURS FILLED, SAVING WHEELER MISSION $767,518* IN OPERATIONS AND STAFFING COSTS!

*Based on newly released value of volunteer time by the Independent Sector.
Mark

Mark spent his teenage years grieving the loss of a loved one by self-medicating through alcohol and drugs. As he grew older, it became harder to stay clean and fight addiction on his own. Every time Mark encountered grief or loss in his life, he turned to the bottle, but it never helped.

“When I was addicted to drugs and alcohol, that was everything. That was my best friend. That was there when it was good. That was there when it was bad, and it never lied to me. I knew exactly what I was going to get out of it.”

Mark came to Wheeler Mission because he needed a place to sleep and a place to stay clean.

Through our programs, Mark was able to work towards healing in his life and a path for his future.

“When I came to the mission, I was just wandering. I didn’t have any destination. I didn’t really care either. Since coming to the mission, I feel a lot happier, whole. And I know where my journey’s meant to go now. I know the path that God wants me to follow. He’s been directing me to that path the whole time.”

Sheena

Growing up in a broken home led Sheena to addiction. Addiction led to financial irresponsibility, and this led to her experiencing homelessness. Eventually Sheena found herself at Wheeler Mission where she was cared for by staff, and she could work through her addiction and find stability though financial management classes.

“Having a room to my own is welcoming. They provide food for you. Nobody treats you like you’re less than.”

Sheena was welcomed with open arms and the means to set her life in the right direction.

“I am thankful to the mission because I have a home. My son has stability. He’s learning about Jesus. All these things wouldn’t happen without it.”
Special Events

Our fun and engaging events invite community friends and partners to join us in raising funds and awareness for our neighbors in need.

**INDIANAPOLIS**

**100 Holes for the Homeless** is a unique event where golfers raise funds before playing 100 holes of golf in one day. The 12th annual 100 Holes for the Homeless had 40 total participants complete the challenge at Eagle Creek Golf Club and raised $76,967.

**Strength In Our Streets** is a one-day team fitness competition. In 2022, we had 38 teams (456 individuals) compete in our 9th annual event at Park Tudor School and raised a record $367,718 while raising awareness for our programs.

**BLOOMINGTON**

**100 Holes for the Homeless** was the second annual event at The Golf Club At Eagle Pointe. We had 9 participants raise funds to help those experiencing homelessness while having a fun day playing golf.

**The Pumpkin Dash** was our second 5k fun/run in Bloomington. We had 139 participants register and join us at Switchyard Park, and everyone had a great time raising funds and awareness for our Bloomington programs.

**Drumstick Dash**, a family fun/run on Thanksgiving morning, celebrated its 20th year with 14,675 registered participants and raised $793,361 towards mission expenses. Over the last two decades of this event, the Drumstick Dash has had 242,379 participants moving their feet so others can eat!
Building Updates + Dedications

Our team at Wheeler Mission already serves thousands each year, but so many more need our help. We’ve decided to do more and serve more.

FISHERS

The Wheeler Mission Store opened in a new location in September aligned with the closure of the store on Madison Ave. in Indianapolis due to structural issues. In its first few months, the new store has proved to be in a good location for sales, donation collections, and Wheeler’s reach in Central Indiana.

The new store is in the building formerly occupied by Staples on 96th Street. It uses a system of donation sorting and tagging that allows the store to track and rotate donations to constantly keep the items for sale fresh and clean.

INDIANAPOLIS

Center for Women & Children dedication

The Children’s Wing at the Center for Women & Children was dedicated in October 2022. Newly named, “The Randy Brewer Children’s Wing”, it will serve the children of the Wheeler community for decades to come in memory of one of our dedicated partners.

BLOOMINGTON

Center for Men expansion in early December 2022, the remodeling of the recently acquired building was completed, and the staff quickly began to serve the community in the expanded Emergency Shelter space.
Board of Directors

Officers

Richard A. Alvis
President/CEO; Wheeler Mission Ministries

Jim Fountain, Chair
President/Partner; Meridian Penn

Scott Kiesel, Treasurer
Financial Advisor; Ronald Blue Trust

Michael Rasor, Vice Chair
Retired CPA
L.M. Henderson & Company LLP

David Wilhite, Secretary
Chief Business Officer; Genezen Labs, Inc.

Members

Brent Benge
President / CEO; KennMar

Virginia (Ginny) Cain
Former City County Councilor
Former Regional Director for U.S. Senator Dan Coats

John Corbin
Former Indiana Region President; Huntington Bank

Gerald L. Cowan
Semi-Retired Lawyer;
Law Offices of Gerald L. Cowan

Ryan Davis
Sr. Vice President / Director;
Fifth Third Private Bank

Gini Elmore
Board Member; The Bowery Mission, NYC

Dr. Clifford Fiscus
Retired Physician/Ophthalmologist

Lori E. Haniford
Tax Partner; Ernst & Young

Morgan Lucas
President; Lucas Oil Products

Dayton Molendorp
Retired CEO/Chairman of the Board; OneAmerica

Larry Smith
President/CEO;
Fathers and Families Center

S. Edward Torres
Managing Partner;
Vioplore Ventures

Tabitha Villarrubia
Partner/President;
Villarrubia & Rosenberger, P.C.

Sandy Ward
Retired Relationship Manager;
JP Morgan Asset Management

Emeritus Members

Charles Kerkhove, DDS
Pediatric Dentist; Retired

Gini Elmore
Board Member; The Bowery Mission, NYC

Dr. Clifford Fiscus
Retired Physician/Ophthalmologist

Lori E. Haniford
Tax Partner; Ernst & Young

Morgan Lucas
President; Lucas Oil Products

Dayton Molendorp
Retired CEO/Chairman of the Board; OneAmerica

Larry Smith
President/CEO;
Fathers and Families Center

Perry R. Meek
Attorney

Martha T. Starkey
Attorney/Equity Partner;
Harrison & Moberly, LLP

Andrew R. Wiesman
Retired Purchasing Consultant;
Eli Lilly and Company

Robert B. Wingerter
Managing Director; RBW Advisors
Purchasing Consultant, Retired

President’s Advisory Council

Dave Calabro
Sports Director; WTHR Channel 13

Don Fisher
President/CEO; American Environmental Corp.

Bill and Gloria Gaither
Gaither Studios

Randy Ollis
Meteorologist; WISHTV Channel 8

Art Shoener
Former President & COO;
Kansas City Southern

David Youngblood
Senior Sales Executive;
Schneider Corporation/ Square D
2021-22 Fiscal Year Audited Financials

Wheeler’s fiscal year runs from June 1 to May 31, and Wheeler’s finances are audited annually by the accounting firm of Blue & Co., LLC. As a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, Wheeler’s financial practices must fall within the strict guidelines of the ECFA. We are also accredited by the Better Business Bureau. Financial Statements are available on our website.

INCOME TOTAL

- Contributions
- Government Grants - Employee Retention Credits
- Program Services & Other
- Other Fees & Government Grants
- Gift-in-Kind
- Special Events
- Wills & Estates

NOTE: Income excludes investment gains and losses

EXPENSES TOTAL

- Program Expenses
- Management & General
- Fundraising & Development

NOTE: Expenses include investment gains and losses
Homeless Shelters • Residential Programs • Addiction Recovery
For Men and Women

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