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INSIDE STORY



A NEWSLETTER OF WHEELER MISSION | FALL 2024

Giving thanks for **YOU**

INSIDE: LaVona shares
how your support
changed her life!





A Message from PERRY HINES

Sometimes I wonder, what would become of the struggling neighbors Wheeler Mission cares for if it wasn't for your compassion and generosity?

I think of people like LaVona, whose story you can read on Page 3—her testimony is a powerful reminder of how God works through the gifts and prayers of friends like you to transform lives, now and for eternity!

We thank God for how YOU are providing help, hope, and healing to people who are hurting in our community.

From the essentials of food, warm clothing, and safe shelter, to long-term healing and stability through our programs—with you beside us and Christ as our

foundation—our ministry can provide all this and even more life-changing services this fall.

As we prepare to serve an estimated 96,504 meals to our neighbors experiencing hunger, we pray you'll continue to share your time, talent, and gifts with our ministry, knowing God will use your blessings to restore hope in many lives.

Thank you for giving us—and countless guests at Wheeler Mission—a reason to give thanks this fall!

Perry Hines
President & CEO

MOVE YOUR FEET— SO OTHERS CAN EAT!



We're taking to the streets once again, running to bring healing and hope to those in need here in Indianapolis. And the need has never been greater!

Join other compassionate friends of Wheeler Mission Thanksgiving morning in Broad Ripple for our 22nd Annual Drumstick Dash. This year's event will include:

- A 4.5-mile run/walk, beginning at 9 a.m.
- A 2.5-mile run/walk, beginning at 9 a.m.
- An #OuttaTownDashAround Virtual Race you can do anytime

To register, become a sponsor, donate, or volunteer, go to [drumstickdash.org](https://www.drumstickdash.org).

All proceeds from the event will support our services that save, sustain, and transform the lives of the hurting and struggling in our community.

Join us and give someone in need a wonderful reason to be grateful this Thanksgiving!

Join Our

2024 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

96,504

Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season

This Thanksgiving, countless guests will gather at our tables. Many are alone—longing to overcome homelessness and poverty—wishing they could reunite with their families.

For just \$2.51, YOU can provide a meal and care to nourish their bodies and lift their spirits. Your gift welcomes someone who is hurting to our table and surrounds them with life-changing care:

 Safe, welcoming shelter	 Warm clothing, coats, and shoes	 Classes and job training	 God's unconditional love
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Please help our neighbors in need this holiday season! Send your 2024 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at [WheelerMission.org](https://www.WheelerMission.org).



Scan to see how you can help this fall!

“Wheeler Mission gave me a safe place to stay and **set me up to succeed.**”

LaVona’s father was the foundation of her life. When he was around, she felt safe and secure, like nothing could harm her. But when she was 8 years old, he passed away and her foundation crumbled. “I became anxious and was always thinking about worst-case scenarios,” she says.

She moved in with relatives, but they did nothing to help calm her fear, and LaVona grew up without the confidence she needed to venture into the world. “I doubted myself and my resourcefulness. **All I thought about was danger and how to keep myself safe.**”

Then, after years of feeling stuck, she found the courage to leave her hometown and head to Indiana to start a new life. She was staying with relatives while she got on her feet, but before she could get settled, they lost their home. “Suddenly, I was homeless,” she says.

It was the kind of worst-case scenario she’d dreaded all her life, but instead of falling apart, she saw it as an opportunity to learn a new way to live. That’s when she came to our Center for Women & Children, where she found shelter, meals, and the guidance she needed to turn her life around.

With the help of her Case Manager, LaVona assessed her needs and designed personal goals. She went to work in our kitchen, where she developed vocational skills and experience. And through Bible studies, devotions, and fellowship, she found safety and security in her Heavenly Father. “Wheeler Mission gave me a good foundation.”

For the first time in her life, LaVona is ready to face the world head on. Her father would be proud. “Wheeler Mission made me a better woman. I was weak, but now I’m strong and confident.”

This fall, LaVona gives thanks for YOU and your incredible generosity. Your prayers and support have helped change her life. “Wheeler Mission gave me a safe place to stay and set me up to succeed.”



“Now, I’m spiritually strong.”



5 Questions for Making Your Will

According to Caring.com's 2024 Wills and Estate Planning Survey, only 32% of Americans have a will in place.

Creating a will is one of the most important things you can do to bless your loved ones. It's a meaningful way to communicate what's most important to you and cultivate a legacy of generosity in your family.

Your first step? Pray. "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans" (Proverbs 16:3). Next, answer the following questions to guide your planning:

- **How do you want to be remembered?** Pick three attributes and build from there.
- **What are the most important lessons you've learned?** Your wisdom will inspire future generations.
- **What values do you want to pass on?** Document the principles that guide your decisions.
- **What stories do you want to share?** Share your personal faith, as well as family history.
- **What people and organizations embody the values you've now identified?** Use this list to find your executor, guardian of your children, and beneficiaries of your estate, including ministries that matter to you like Wheeler Mission.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "5 Questions to Ask Before Making Your Will" by contacting Steve Germani at 📞 (574) 358-1270 or ✉️ SteveGermani@WheelerMission.org— or bless your family today with an up-to-date will at wheelermission.christianwill.org.

Urgent Needs List

Donate these essential items this fall!

Cold medicine	Sheets
Tylenol	Blankets
Sweatshirts	Toothpaste
Sweatpants	Deodorant
Pajamas	Laundry detergent
Underwear	Spiral notebooks
Bath towels	Diapers

Drop off your donations at one of our Donation Barns, 24 hours a day. For Barn locations, go to wheelermission.org/dropoff.

Or find our most-needed items on our Amazon wish lists and have them shipped directly to us. To see our Men's and Women's wish lists, visit wheelermission.org/wishlists.

Thank you!