

INSIDE STORY



A NEWSLETTER OF WHEELER MISSION | FALL 2025

YOU are a blessing!

INSIDE: Ashley shares how your support gives her hope.



“I have a thirst for life.”

Ashley never thought this would be her life: in an abusive relationship and battling addiction. She'd grown up surrounded by drugs and alcohol and began experimenting with substance abuse at a young age. But now that she had a child of her own, she knew it wasn't the lifestyle she wanted for her son.

“I knew the best place for him was to live with my brother. But being away from my son left me depressed. I was lonely and sad.”

Eventually, **she found the strength to put the abuse and drugs behind her—but leaving her relationship meant she would experience homelessness.** She started living in her car. “It was not where I wanted to be in my life. It was not what God planned for me. I knew there were bigger and better things for me.”

On Christmas Eve, Ashley drove to her family home and got to spend Christmas Day with her son. The next day she came to Wheeler Mission to turn her life around.

Ashley joined our Higher Ground Addiction Recovery and Discipleship Program. “It was the best decision I ever made,” she says. Through Christ-centered counseling, classes, and the support of our staff, she recognized her past mistakes and began making plans for her future.

“I DIDN'T WANT TO LIVE ANYMORE.”

“Before, I never wanted to listen or take advice. **Here, I've learned so much about myself, anger management, and setting boundaries,**” she says. “I'm so much more confident in myself.”

In the future, Ashley plans to get a home of her own where she can live with her son. She is also committed to her new relationship with God. “Now I know God is everything. If He is number one, everything else will fall into place.”

Your gifts are bearing fruit in the lives of people like Ashley. Now, her heart is full of hope this fall... thanks to your kindness! “Wheeler Mission gave me my life back. Now I want to live. I have a whole new future, just like God promised.”



Hearts and lives are full, thanks to YOU!



A Message from PERRY HINES

As the seasons change, I'm reminded of Jesus' words to His disciples: **"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."** As one of our most devoted "workers," your support and care for our hungry neighbors experiencing homelessness is a powerful source of hope—for the people who come to us for help, for our staff, and for me personally!

This month, you have a special opportunity to make a difference for our struggling neighbors. September is Hunger Action Month—and we're inviting you to provide 30 meals over 30 days for our guests experiencing hunger. It's a meaningful way you can be a force for change here in Central and South Central Indiana.

In September alone, we're preparing to serve 32,168 meals—and more in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Your support will help provide these life-changing meals that fill bellies with nourishment and fill lives with hope.

Just read how your generous gifts are bearing fruit in Ashley's life, whose story is on Page 3. She is looking forward to a more hope-filled future because of the dedication of "workers" like you!

Thank you for investing in the lives of more people like Ashley during Hunger Action Month and throughout the fall season!

Perry Hines, President & CEO

YOU'RE HELPING THEM ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS

Thanks to friends like you, men, women, and children at Wheeler Mission believe in themselves and have hope. Your prayers and support help residents in our residential program look forward to brighter futures.



"I am more committed to my responsibilities. I have confidence to pursue whatever God puts on my heart." – Ryan

"I feel ready to take on life. Wheeler Mission helps me believe everything is going to be okay." – Mackenzie



Thank you for believing in second chances and making it possible for people to rebuild their lives!

To find out more about how you're helping transform lives, visit WheelerMission.org.

SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT: HUNGER ACTION MONTH

32,168

Meals Needed by Sept. 30!

September is Hunger Action Month! Join our community in this month-long movement to fight hunger... and TAKE ACTION to help even more hungry neighbors we'll welcome this fall.

Sign up to serve a meal

Donate canned goods

Provide groceries

Invite others to join you

For just \$2.36, YOU can provide a nourishing meal to end someone's hunger.

Send your gift today OR online at WheelerMission.org.

Scan to take action now!

MOVE YOUR FEET— SO OTHERS CAN EAT!



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

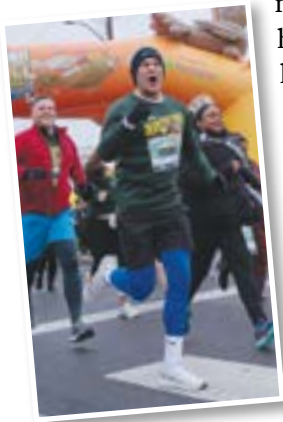
Join other compassionate friends of Wheeler Mission Thanksgiving morning in Broad Ripple for our 23rd Annual Drumstick Dash. This year's event will include:

- A 4.3-mile run/walk, beginning at 9 a.m.
- A 2.6-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 will support our services that save, sustain, and transform the lives of our neighbors experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness.

Thank you for helping share a little extra gratitude this Thanksgiving!



You can give bigger! Find out how...

Two men went fishing, carrying supplies to cook their meal. The first fisherman quickly caught a fish, while the second waited for hours. Finally, he caught a huge fish, but then he threw it back!

Bewildered, his friend asked, "Why did you do that?" He replied, "I didn't bring a pan large enough to cook him!"

Many people are like the second fisherman—so fixated on one outcome they miss another opportunity. For example, it's common to think cash gifts are the best way to support a charity, when retirement assets are actually a better way to give.

Retirement assets allow you to:

- 1. Increase your impact.** Donating from retirement assets to a charity instead of giving cash means you can give from pre-tax assets and save your cash, while your distribution does not count toward taxable income.
- 2. Leave a legacy.** When you include a gift in your estate plan to a charitable organization you're passionate about, it sustains the organization's work and makes a lasting difference in people's lives.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "The Surprising Instance Where Cash Isn't King" by contacting Arvetta Jideonwo at [✉ Arvettajideonwo@WheelerMission.org](mailto:Arvettajideonwo@WheelerMission.org) or [📞 \(317\) 635-3575](tel:317-635-3575).

