



**WHEELER MISSION**

help. hope. healing.

# 2025 Annual Report

# Message from the President & CEO

As I reflect on 2025, I am deeply grateful for the faithfulness of those who make Wheeler Mission's work of help, hope, and healing possible. This past year we opened a new door moving from a season of transition into one of dreaming, defining, and doing as we sought to listen carefully to God's leading and respond with courage and clarity.

Dreaming required us to ask bold questions about how we serve our guests and where we are being called next. Through thoughtful discernment and faith, new possibilities emerged, including Cornerstone Living, a supportive housing initiative designed to walk alongside individuals on their journey toward stability, dignity, and lasting healing.

Those dreams were strengthened through the discipline of defining. We clarified our organizational culture and values, evaluated programs with intentionality, and identified opportunities for deeper connection and long-term impact. In Bloomington, we launched our first capital campaign, laying a foundation for sustainability and expanded ministry in the community.

From there, we moved into doing, building upon Wheeler Mission's longstanding commitment to emergency services and residential programming while engaging more intentionally in conversations around homelessness. Through listening, learning, and partnership, we continued to invite others into the work God is doing through Wheeler Mission.

As you read this report, I pray that you see not only the help and hope given in 2025, but the faith and collaboration that will carry us forward to bring God's healing to those in need. Together, we remain committed to lives transformed by the love of Christ.

With gratitude,

**Perry Hines**  
President & CEO



## Our Mission

To provide Christ-centered programs and services for individuals experiencing homelessness and those in need



## Our Vision

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

“Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.”

Habakkuk 2:2

# PIT counts for Marion & Monroe Counties

The Point In Time (PIT) Count is an annual, single-night census of residents who are experiencing the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition of homelessness. PIT Counts from communities across the nation are included in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report, which informs federal policy on housing and homelessness. Locally, the PIT Count is used to inform community decision making and advocacy efforts. PIT Count was taken on January 22, 2025.

## Marion County

**1,815**

Residents were experiencing homelessness  
[7% Increase from 2024]



**1,325**

Residents in  
Emergency Shelter

**159**

Residents in  
Transitional Housing



**331**

Residents in  
Unsheltered Situations



## Monroe County

**305**

Residents were  
experiencing homelessness  
[Decrease from 2024]



**239**

Residents in  
Emergency Shelter

**55**

Residents in  
Transitional Housing



**73**

Residents in  
Unsheltered Situations



# EVERY DOOR LEADS TO LIVES CHANGED

*Three doors, three paths. One goal: life transformation.*



# Meeting Immediate Needs with Compassion



When someone comes to Wheeler Mission, they're often not thinking long-term—they're looking for the basics: a safe place to sleep, a hot meal, and immediate care. Wheeler Mission makes that first step easier. Our doors are open 24/7, and those who knock are met with practical support and compassion grounded in God's love.

This is the door of HELP—stabilizing individuals and families so they can take the next step toward hope.

**"It's a matter of life or death. It was a very rough journey and if it wasn't for Wheeler Mission, I would have probably frozen outside."  
- Former Shelter Guest**

## Emergency Shelter + Food Services

Our Emergency Shelter Services provide men, women, and women with children a safe and supportive place to begin stabilizing their lives. Guests receive essential care—including shelter, nutritious meals, hygiene supplies, and clothing—while partnering with staff to assess barriers and establish individualized plans for next steps.

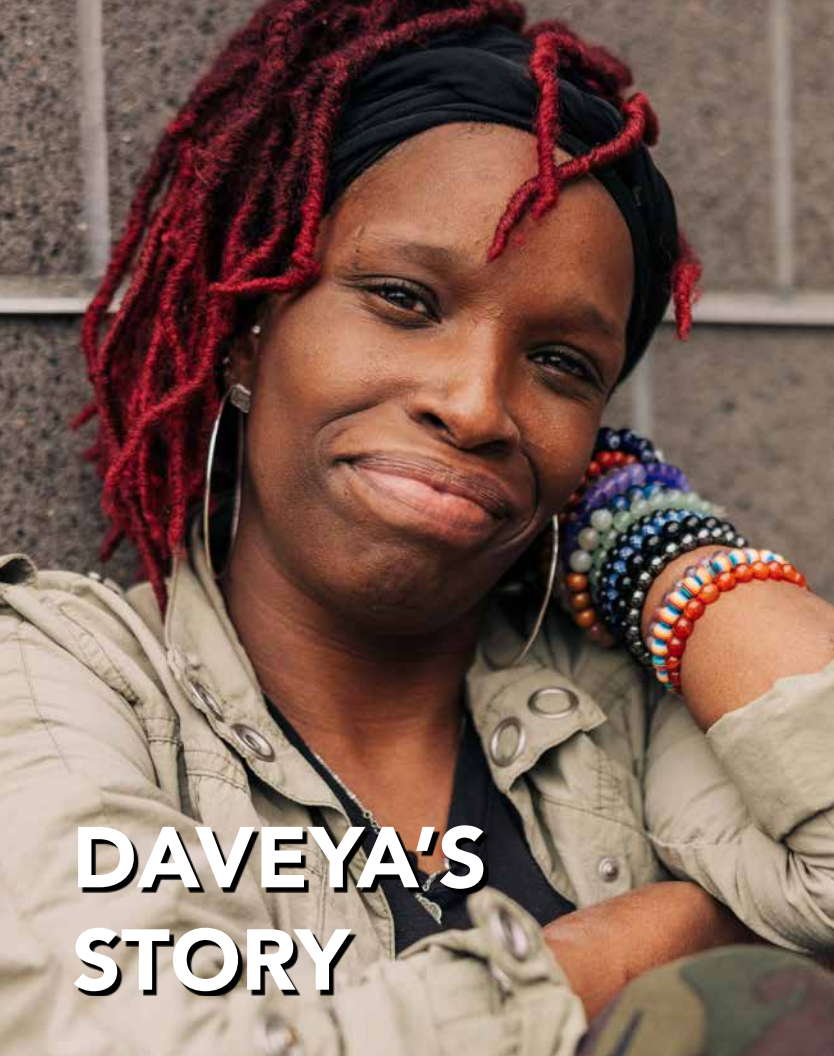
Comprehensive case management helps guests navigate available resources and connect with both on-site and community providers. Services may include medical, dental, and vision care; life-skills development; employment readiness support; and referrals for housing and long-term stability. Whether staying at the Center for Women & Children or one of our men's facilities in Indianapolis or Bloomington, each guest is met with dignity, encouragement, and practical tools to move toward a more secure future.

## Winter Contingency

Wheeler Mission is an essential service provider, coordinating with the cities of Indianapolis and Bloomington and other local organizations in the effort to make sure that men, women, and children, are cared for throughout winter. Regardless of the temperatures outside, Wheeler Mission's doors are open, extending beyond our bed capacity to help as many people as possible.

From December through March, Wheeler Mission served 700-900 guests per night, opening overflow space so more neighbors can come inside, regardless of the temperatures outside.





# DAVEYA'S STORY

## Meet Daveya

When you first meet Daveya, her joy fills the room. Her bold words, contagious laughter, and deep love for God shine through every sentence. But that light was once hidden behind years of pain, uncertainty, and carrying life entirely on her own.

Before coming to Wheeler Mission, life for this mother of four was, as she describes it, "tumultuous and chaotic." She moved from state to state searching for stability while shouldering every burden herself. Strength, however, was something she had learned early. Growing up in foster care and becoming a mother at just 11 years old, she had no choice but to survive. "I've always been my own star player," she said. "I was determined to make something of myself."

Eventually, the weight of doing everything alone became too heavy. Asking for help—something she had never allowed herself to do—became her turning point. "My cup was completely empty," she shared. "I had to put my pride aside and admit I needed help."

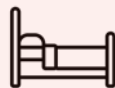
The moment she arrived at Wheeler Mission, everything shifted. “The love and energy here were exactly what my soul needed,” she said. She immediately chose Wheeler Mission as her new home.

Today, she and her six-year-old daughter are thriving in the Compass Family Program. Her daughter, once shy after being separated from her siblings, is now a lively “little butterfly.” Community has been healing for both of them. “Even the shared kitchen feels like fellowship,” she said.

Wheeler Mission also helped her rediscover her worth—and her faith. “Now, God is my right-hand man,” she said. “I don’t make a move without Him.”

With renewed strength, Daveya has enrolled at Ivy Tech and hopes to become a motivational speaker. “Sharing my story can help others,” she said. “Before Wheeler Mission, I was lost. Now, I am found—and excited for the future.”

**“Life had me holding my breath—  
but here at Wheeler Mission, I  
can breathe. They’ve shown me  
safety, love, and hope.”**



**249,398**

NIGHTS OF SHELTER



**406,897**

MEALS SERVED



**2,658**

FIRST TIME GUESTS



**12,921**

INDIVIDUALS  
RECEIVING A SERVICE

# Pathways to Stability and Renewal



**hope**  
residential programs

After immediate needs are met, guests can begin addressing deeper barriers—addiction, trauma, unemployment, and instability. Wheeler Mission’s residential programs provide free, structured, Christ-centered pathways that support long-term change and renewed purpose.

**“This place taught me how to be on my feet. To take care of myself. To serve others. To be part of a community.”**  
- Current Guest

## **Foundations**

Foundations provides men and women with structured, Christ-centered support designed to build long-term stability. Through case management, life-skills development, and personalized guidance, guests work toward restoring relationships, strengthening daily routines, and preparing for housing and employment. Foundations also offers specialized wellness support for individuals facing physical or mental health challenges, helping them build stability using holistic wellness principles and pathways to financial and housing security.

## **Compass Family Program**

Our holistic family program is designed to support every member of the family unit, moms, youth, and children, by meeting their needs and honoring their voice in shaping a unique path forward. Rooted in relationship, this program empowers families to rebuild together, spiritually, emotionally, and practically, as they move forward into a life marked by stability, faith, and purpose.

## **Addiction Recovery & Discipleship Programs**

Wheeler Mission offers long-term, residential addiction recovery programs that serve both men and women through Christ-centered discipleship and structured support. Participants engage in biblical teaching, counseling, life-skills development, and vocational or therapeutic work experiences that help restore purpose and build daily routines.

Whether through vocational training and work crews like Pallets & Industry, or therapeutic social enterprises like Restored Creations, guests develop responsibility, discipline, and confidence as they pursue healing. These programs guide individuals toward total restoration—emotionally, spiritually, relationally, and practically—equipping them for lasting recovery and a renewed life in Christ.

## Servant Leadership Training

Servant Leadership Training is a 9–12-month residential internship for Wheeler Mission residential program graduates seeking ministry experience and leadership development within a Christ-centered community. Through mentorship, practical service, and spiritual formation, participants strengthen the rhythms and skills needed for long-term stability. Many graduates go on to stable employment, ministry roles, or leadership positions in their communities.

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### Meet Matthew

Matthew's life began in chaos. He grew up surrounded by instability, watching both parents struggle with addiction. By fifteen, he was already caught in the same cycle—using and manufacturing drugs simply to survive the only world he'd ever known. What followed were years marked by homelessness, addiction, and prison. He



## MATTHEW'S STORY

“What Wheeler Mission has given me is a chance,” he says. “A chance to live. A chance to be a father. A place where I finally belong.”

drifted from place to place, searching for love, purpose, and belonging, but never finding either. “I didn’t know how to love people,” he admits. “Because I didn’t know how to love myself.”

Still, even in his darkest moments, something inside him longed for change.

That turning point came in a small county jail cell. Exhausted and broken, Matthew met Miss Wendy, a staff member who refused to give up on him. She offered him something he hadn’t known in a long time—hope. “She told me she had a place for me,” he remembers. “A place to start over.” That night, he prayed for the first time in years. The next morning, he walked through the doors of Wheeler Mission.

Seven months later, Matthew hardly recognizes the man he used to be.

At Hunt Training Center, he found stability, quiet, and space to finally heal. “When I first got here, it felt like a program,” he says. “Now, it’s a lifestyle.” Through Scripture, community, and daily routines, he feels chains of shame, fear, and anger

breaking off his life. He’s learning to trust again, to forgive, to rebuild relationships he thought were lost forever.

Work therapy unlocked opportunities Matthew never anticipated. He discovered a passion for pallet-building—and a dream of one day owning his own business. Most importantly, he feels ready to be the father his two boys need.



323

TOTAL SPIRITUAL  
COMMITMENTS



59

GUESTS IN SERVANT LEADERSHIP  
TRAINING PROGRAM



223

TOTAL PROGRAM  
COMPLETIONS

Guest satisfaction scores increase as individuals move through Wheeler’s continuum:

**Emergency Shelter:** 5.38 / 7

**Residential Programs:** 5.88 / 7

**Supportive Housing:** 6.58 / 7

# Continuing the Journey



# healing

lasting success

Lasting transformation doesn't happen overnight. After program completion, many guests still face barriers such as limited income, rental history challenges, or the need for a supportive community. Wheeler Mission continues to come alongside guests to promote ongoing healing and lasting success in Christ through supportive care, housing pathways, and leadership development.

"I'm going home to my family," he said. "But this time, I'm going back as a man of God."  
- Hunt Training Center Graduate



## Supportive & Transitional Care

Wheeler Mission offers a range of supportive and transitional housing options to help men and women take their next steps toward independence. Supportive Care may include case management, childcare assistance, and access to transitional or permanent housing. A shared goal across programs is to help guests secure safe, affordable housing within nine months.

For graduates needing additional structure, Wheeler Mission provides up to one year of apartment-style living with affordable fees, continued case management, life-skills classes, and employment support. These environments strengthen spiritual growth, sobriety, and the routines needed for lasting stability.

## Aftercare Services

Aftercare Services provide critical, wraparound support to individuals and families who have participated in Wheeler's residential programs. Through individualized support, former guests receive ongoing guidance, and connection to community resources that support their ongoing independence. Through Aftercare, former program participants also have access to quality day care services and a computer lab, which help remove barriers to maintaining employment, education, and daily stability. In addition, Wheeler Mission offers diversion and housing-stability assistance, including food and support designed to help former guests remain safely housed and prevent a return to homelessness. Together, these services reinforce our commitment to those we have had the privilege to serve.



# Cornerstone Living

In June of 2023, Wheeler Mission began a supportive care pilot designed to provide housing support to those who complete our programs. In 2025, we expanded the program and rebranded our pilot under the name Cornerstone Living, highlighting how having a life grounded with Christ as the cornerstone is the foundation of lasting success! Of those who have moved on from Cornerstone Living in the last three years, 93% have remained housed and connected to a Christian community.



Building Lives on Christ, One Home at a Time.

**"Wheeler has taken me from homeless, to hopeful, to grateful."  
- Cornerstone Living Resident**

Cornerstone Living by Wheeler Mission is a Christ-centered, supportive housing initiative providing stable, sober, and affordable housing for graduates of Wheeler's long-term programs. Through community, case management, and spiritual support, residents build sustainable lives rooted in faith and accountability. Length of stay is individualized based on each person's goals, barriers, and opportunities, allowing progress toward lasting independence and stability.

Upon successful completion of one of the residential programs, graduates may still face barriers such as:

- Insufficient income
- Lack of rental history
- Ongoing health needs
- Limited relational support

At Cornerstone Living, residents are not simply housed—they are nurtured. Through spiritual formation, supportive relationships, and community engagement, individuals continue strengthening the skills they built in their programs and work toward thriving, independent lives rooted in Christ.

**Cornerstone Living Provides:**

- Stable, affordable housing
- Wraparound support services (case management, referrals, community resources)
- Faith-centered community
- Accountability and relational support
- A clear pathway to long-term independence



**202**

GUESTS STARTED A JOB  
/ STABLE INCOME



**26**

GUESTS IN  
CORNERSTONE LIVING



**635**

GUESTS IN  
STABLE HOUSING



**103**

KIDS SERVED IN CHILDCARE  
AT COMPASS KIDS

# ZACHARIAH'S STORY

A portrait of Zachariah, a man with a beard and short hair, wearing a blue t-shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

**"Without God, I'm nothing," he said. "But here, I found Jesus. Here, my life changed."**

## **Meet Zachariah**

Growing up, he rarely saw his mother as she battled addiction, and he didn't meet his father until he was a teenager. With no one to guide him, he fell into drugs at a young age. What followed was decades of addiction, homelessness, jail time, and heartbreak. "I had to grow up fast but anger and bitterness took over my life."

Even in his darkest seasons, something in his heart longed for something more. Ten years ago, he picked up a Bible for the first time. The words convicted him deeply—but transformation didn't happen overnight. Life continued to spiral as he struggled with drinking, drugs, and destructive relationships.

Arriving at Hunt Training Center was the beginning of a new life. Through Bible study, accountability, and the guidance of his mentor, he began confronting the pain and sin he had carried for so long. "I realized I couldn't fix myself," he said. "Only God could."

In Wheeler's Christ-centered community, Zachariah discovered purpose. He learned Scripture deeply, found joy in serving, and began encouraging other men with the same compassion he once needed. Depression lifted. Addictions lost their hold. Hope returned.

Today, Zachariah is part of Wheeler Mission's Servant Leadership Training program, growing as a leader and follower of Christ.

# Voices of Hope Podcast

Voices of Hope isn't just another podcast—it's a platform for storytelling, reflection, and connection. Rooted in Wheeler Mission's 132-year history of serving those in need, this series dives deep into the human side of homelessness and the collective effort required to build a more compassionate community.

Each episode features candid conversations with guests ranging from Wheeler Mission team members and program graduates to community partners, advocates, and thought leaders. Together, we'll explore topics like addiction recovery, housing barriers, mental health, and the power of hope that fuels transformation every day.

## *Why We Created Voices of Hope*

Too often, stories about homelessness are told from the outside looking in. Through this podcast, we're inviting listeners to step closer—to hear directly from the people living, serving, and leading in this space. Our goal is to challenge misconceptions, celebrate resilience, and highlight the work happening across our city and beyond to restore lives and uplift communities.



***Listen Here***



# Stories of Impact

Our mission is carried forward by generous donors and dedicated volunteers. And as the work continues, so do the stories of the people who make it possible.



“As an organization, it can be easy to just fall into managing the daily crises. It takes a special culture to balance between what’s required in the day to day, addressing those challenges while also looking out into the future, setting the vision and then actually doing what it takes to achieve that vision. As a donor, I’m driven by the way I’ve consistently watched Wheeler communicate that vision so effectively and then tell us exactly what they’re doing to achieve it”  
- Clint and Bethany Brock



**38,734**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS SERVED



**\$1,347,552.03**  
VALUE OF  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS



**16,791**  
VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FILLED



"I volunteer at Wheeler Mission because I like to help women and children in need. I chose it because it is Christ based unlike similar organizations in Indianapolis. My volunteer time at Wheeler is always put to good use, and I leave feeling like I have made a difference."  
- Wheeler Mission Volunteer

# Faithfully Serving Together for Decades

Over 130 church partners play a vital role in Wheeler Mission's ministry. They **give generously, serve faithfully**, engage in **projects that strengthen our facilities**, and gather essential items through **donation drives**. Their commitment reflects the power of community—because meeting the needs of those facing homelessness takes all of us. These are some of the 2025 church partners that have faithfully impacted Wheeler Mission.

39  
Years

Traders Point Christian Church



33  
Years

Northview Church



24  
Years

Clear Creek Christian Church



37  
Years

Sherwood Oaks Christian Church



20  
Years

Holy Spirit Parish at Geist



36  
Years

Venture Christian Church



# Because of You: Healing That Lasts

Events strengthen Wheeler Mission's ability to walk with guests during their programs and support them well beyond completion. By rallying the community around the long-term vision, more opportunities for life transformation are made available to those experiencing homelessness and those in need.



WHEELER MISSION

38 participants  
\$98,000 raised



128 participants  
32 teams  
22 volunteers  
\$41,000 raised



360 participants  
30 teams  
45 volunteers  
\$250,000 raised



14,638 registered  
9,832 finishers  
472 volunteers  
\$1,050,000 raised



357 registered  
283 finishers  
75 volunteers  
\$47,140 raised

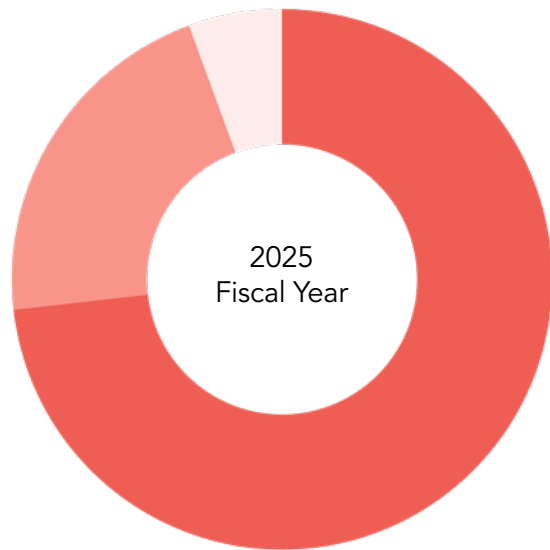


# Financials

Wheeler's fiscal year runs from June 1 to May 31, and 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. Our audited financial statements are available on our website; [www.wheelermission.org/about-us/financials/](http://www.wheelermission.org/about-us/financials/)

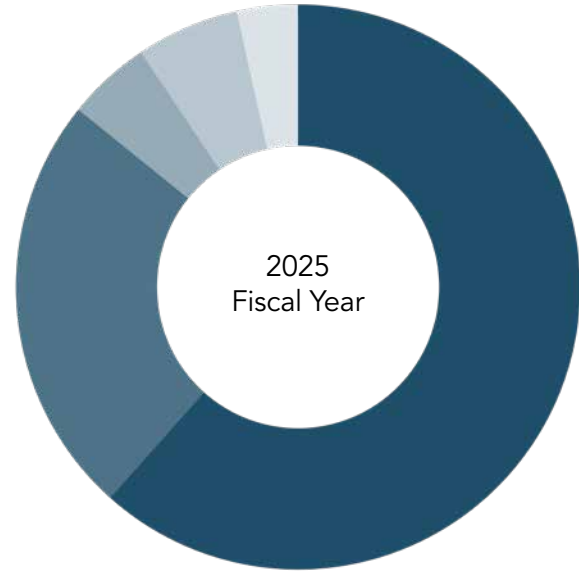
## WHEELER MISSION EXPENSES

● Programs	73.2%
● Fundraising	21.2%
● Administrative	5.6%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>100%</b>



## WHEELER MISSION INCOME

● Contributions	61.6%
● Program Services & Other	24.2%
● Gift-In-Kind	5.9%
● Special Events	4.8%
● Wills & Estates	3.5%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>100%</b>



Wheeler Mission-Bloomington represents 4% of Wheeler Mission's total income operations for the 2025 fiscal year, Wheeler Mission-Bloomington continues to play a vital role—meeting urgent needs, offering stability, and strengthening recovery across Bloomington, Indiana.

# Accomplishments

Wheeler Mission was honored to be recognized as the **Indianapolis Business Journal (IBJ) Nonprofit of the Year** in the Large Nonprofit Category at the 2025 IBJ Nonprofit Excellence Awards. This distinction celebrates the heart and hard work of our staff, volunteers, donors, and community partners who faithfully support our mission. The award highlights Wheeler Mission's significant impact across Central Indiana—especially our ongoing efforts to serve men, women, and children experiencing homelessness and to support their recovery journeys. We are deeply grateful for this acknowledgment and for everyone who stands with us in the fight against homelessness.



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Where to find us:



@WheelerMission



[WheelerMission.org](https://WheelerMission.org)

Wheeler Mission is the only comprehensive provider of a full continuum of services to people facing homelessness in Central and South Central Indiana.