

UPCOMING EVENTS

Easter Street Event: April 14th
Easter is around the corner! Come celebrate with us on Good Friday with food, fellowship and fun!

Volunteer Orientation:
April 6th, 9–11 a.m.
Come join us as a volunteer! To register, please visit us online at LosAngelesMission.org/act



Make a difference for families in need this Easter!

There is still time to have a huge impact on hurting and homeless families this Easter and beyond in 2017.

By becoming a Meals a Month partner today, you help us provide meals and care in time for Easter to everyone who comes through our doors. It also allows our life-changing programs and services to run year-round to help as many people as possible.

This Easter season, the needs of our friends and neighbors living on Skid Row continue to grow. We hope you'll prayerfully consider becoming a Meals a Month partner today. Help us make a difference in our community. Join today!

► It's easy to sign up—fill out the form below, or visit us online at LosAngelesMission.org/give. If you prefer, call Nuria Mora at (213) 629-1227, ext. 334. Thank you!



Meals and care
HOW YOUR GIFTS HELP

JANUARY		FISCAL YTD
36,385		242,385
	MEALS SERVED	
9,197		68,190
	NIGHTS OF SHELTER	
9,957		74,564
	CLEAN SHOWERS	
9,985		65,843
	CLOTHING DISTRIBUTED [PIECES]	

The Los Angeles Mission exists to provide help, hope and opportunity to men, women and children in need.



Many thanks to American Airlines, City National Bank, Go Country, The Goldwin Foundation, Honda, the Johnny Carson Foundation, LATLC (LA Trial Lawyers' Charities), Russ Reid and Wells Fargo Bank for sponsoring our 80th Gala.

STAY CONNECTED

Keep track of the latest Mission news, make safe online donations and more.

LosAngelesMission.org



CREATING A LEGACY: Giving from the heart

Randy Hess has worn several hats at the Mission: volunteer, then board member and then joining our Development Team staff to help with Planned Giving. He shared about how the Mission has greatly impacted his own spiritual journey, and how much he enjoys the chance to interact with supporters of the Mission.

As the Planned Giving Associate, I assist donors who have an interest in exploring gifts to our ministry that create a legacy or that enable them to share their faith and values. I also work with other Development Team members.

I was in banking for 36 years, and stepped away in 2011. That's when I began to serve on the board for the Mission. My decision to join the board was pivotal in my own spiritual journey. I began to discover the difference that a hardworking, faith-based community can make.

I often say the stories of those we serve are powerful—and they are. But in this role, I have learned that the stories of those who serve us—our donors—are truly unique and inspiring, too. The ability to pray with many of them has been meaningful to my own spiritual formation.

It has been a true joy to deepen my contributions beyond my role as a board member.

► For more information about legacy gifts or planned giving, please contact Randy Hess at (213) 629-1227 ext. 357 or rhess@lamission.net.



Yes, Herb. I want to provide meals, care and hope this Easter season to hurting and hungry neighbors living on Skid Row.

I've enclosed: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$_____

☐ I would also like to sponsor _____ Easter basket(s) for just \$10 each. I have enclosed an extra gift of \$_____.

☐ I want to become a Meals a Month partner and give a monthly gift of \$_____. My first gift is enclosed. (Please check the box in the Giving Options section.)

If you would like information on planned giving, contact Randy Hess from Los Angeles Mission at (213) 629-1227, ext. 357 or at rhess@lamission.net

NAME			
ADDRESS	APT		
CITY	@	STATE	ZIP
EMAIL			

Please make your check payable to: Los Angeles Mission and mail to: P.O. Box 60127, Los Angeles, CA 90060-0127 **THANK YOU!**



303 E. 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013
losangelesmission.org



Double or triple your gift! Visit our matching gift page to find out if your employer has a corporate matching gift program, losangelesmission.org/give/matching-gifts.

A receipt for your tax-deductible gift will be sent to you shortly.

On page two
Sparkling an
eternal change

Our View

News from the Los Angeles Mission

CROSSROADS

LosAngelesMission.org

On page two
From shopping
carts to shine

Read Reginald's story of transformation

On page three
Give back,
be a blessing

Celebrating National Volunteer Month

APRIL 2017



Hope Heals
EASTER 2017
Provide meals and hope this Easter
Read Cynthia's story on page 2!

Bringing hope to the streets

Our Easter Street Event is just around the corner on April 14th! Please join us in providing blessings to almost 2,700 guests from our Skid Row community.

Read about restoration and hope this Easter on page 3.




Herb Smith,
President/CEO

Ivan Klassen, Director of
Community Partnerships

Sparking an eternal change

True love given freely makes an eternal change in people. That's why Easter is such an important time of reflection and celebration. It's a chance to think about how God's love has transformed our own lives and the lives of so many others.

At the Mission, we are fortunate to see the impact on someone when they are loved in big and small ways. Reginald Alex experienced that power when he walked through the Mission's doors. You can see how love and care gave Reginald the tools he needed to rebuild his life.

Your support makes it possible to have an impact on the lives of so many like Reginald. And with occasions like our Easter Street Event on April 14th, we hope and pray we can reach more people in need of a hot meal and the message of hope that Christ gives us.

Thank you for blessing the lives of countless homeless and hurting neighbors in our community. We wish you a happy Easter!

Did you know?

The Mission had 1,778 volunteers who gave 21,079 hours of their time in 2016. We are so blessed by our incredible volunteers. Thank you to everyone who gave their time in 2016!



From shopping carts to shine

My life was a disaster before coming to the Mission. I had been doing marijuana, PCP and cocaine off and on since 1985. I had a drinking problem, too.

I spent many years homeless, living on Skid Row. I pushed a shopping cart, ate out of dumpsters and slept under freeway underpasses. Sometimes

I would walk all night because there wasn't anywhere safe to sleep.

“The Mission...they transformed my life in every way.”

~REGINALD ALEX
FRIEND AND NEIGHBOR

But all that changed when I came to the Mission. If you look in the mirror when you first come to the Mission and then you look again three to six months later, you can see a big turnaround. You can see the shine.

The Mission helped me to trust in God and start my day out with prayer. They transformed my life in every way. I want to thank the donors because you are keeping the door open for people to come in and improve their lives. Thank you.

You can help someone like Reginald find hope and purpose this Easter season. Just \$2.03 provides meals and the holistic care needed to start a new life.

Finding hope and a future at the Mission



Cynthia was struggling with alcoholism and living on the streets when she came to the Mission. She graduated from the Anne Douglas Center in February. Here, she shares her story of transformation and the hope that she found during her time in the program.

I had to lose it all and be on the streets in order to look up and find God. Before coming to the Mission, I had a home, a car, a career and a husband.

On the streets, I was sleeping behind dumpsters. I was brutally attacked. It was horrible. But a family friend graduated from the ADC and helped me get here. Graduating from the program in February was a culmination of hard work and a complete realignment physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally.

I have been accepted into the Microenterprise Program at Pepperdine University. I am a jewelry designer and this program will help me start my own business. What an amazing gift and opportunity.

I have hope and a future because of the Mission. The ADC and the Mission could not exist without the year-round contributions from our donors. All the donations you give are life-giving and life-changing. Thank you.

Your support changes lives like Cynthia's each day. For every \$2.03 you give today, you provide meals and care to hurting and hungry people living on Skid Row. Change a life this Easter. Give today!

Continued from cover

A message of hope and restoration on Skid Row



Our Easter Street Event is a special day sponsored by Los Angeles Christian Health Centers and will take place on Good Friday. There will be delicious Easter meals, baskets for the children and new shoes thanks to etnies!

“This event represents so much of what we do here, all in one day,” says Ivan Klassen, Director of Community Partnerships at the Mission. “We are able to show the love of Christ to our friends and neighbors and show them a sense of community and belonging.”

One of the special parts of the festivities that day will be when volunteers wash the feet of our guests attending the event. This is symbolic of how Jesus washed feet to show care for others, but it also gives volunteer health care professionals the chance to assess any health needs for the guests who have spent years on the streets of Skid Row with little or no medical attention.

The professionals work with our partner for the Easter Street Event, Los Angeles Christian Health Centers. The LACHC volunteers will be washing feet and providing our guests with foot care packages. They will be able to perform simple procedures on any guests' feet that will allow them to leave our event pain free.

“The care and services are so needed in the area,” says Dr. Lisa Abdishoo, President & CEO of LACHC. “Our mission is to share God's love through health care and services, and there is no better occasion to do this than during the Resurrection season.”

This is also a special day for the children living in Skid Row community, as they will have plenty of fun activities throughout the event, and will get to leave with an Easter basket full of goodies.

There is still time to help us fill these baskets for this special event. Please see the box to the right to find out how you can make this a special Easter for the children living on Skid Row.

“Our mission is to share God's love through health care and services...”

~DR. LISA ABDISHOO, PRESIDENT & CEO OF LACHC



You can bless children this Easter!

Your additional gift of just \$10 will provide all the Easter goodies to fill one child's Easter basket. Please send your gift by April 12th and we'll fill as many baskets as possible for the children at our Easter Street Event. This is such a memorable day for the children living on Skid Row—please consider blessing their Easter celebration with your extra gift today. Thank you!



Give back, be a blessing

April is National Volunteer Month, so we wanted to celebrate one of our longtime volunteers, Gloria Nunez. A volunteer and donor, Gloria shared with us how the Mission changed her view of life and how giving her time always makes her feel blessed.

I have volunteered at the Thanksgiving and Christmas street events every year since 1992, and some years I'm here for Mother's Day, too!

I came to the United States from the Philippines on my own 25 years ago. Someone suggested I volunteer to help me feel better after being homesick. Coming to the Mission painted a whole new picture for me, and I just kept coming.

As a volunteer, you come in doing it for the community, but you walk out blessed.

We could all be in the same position. So come and give back, and be a blessing.

Many thanks to Gloria and all our volunteers. You are a blessing to us!

► For more information on volunteering, please visit losangelesmission.org/volunteer.