

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES!

9/9 & 10/7 Volunteer Orientation

Interested in volunteering at Los Angeles Mission? Plan to attend an orientation session. To register go to LosAngelesmission.org/act

10/7 Anne Douglas Center Honor's Evening

10/13 Graduation Day

Come celebrate our Urban Training Institute graduates with us!

11/9 Vision of Legacy Gala

Please join us for the Los Angeles Mission's Annual Gala at the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills. Contact Ivan Klassen at (213) 629-1227 ext. 325 for more information and sponsorship opportunities.

11/22 Thanksgiving Street Event

Join us for our Annual Thanksgiving celebration! You won't want to miss one of our biggest events of the year.



NEWS FROM THE LOS ANGELES MISSION • SEPTEMBER 2017

CROSSROADS

Encouraging hearts...
celebrating recovery

Planned Giving Make an Impact in Life's "Third Act"

Ever find yourself wondering if success and fulfillment ended with your career... like the curtain fell on your starring role in life? While retirement does present a monumental shift, it's also a great time to experience a significant "third act" in life. It happens more often than you might think! For instance:

- **Laura Ingalls Wilder** published her first "Little House" book at age 65.
- **Colonel Sanders** was 62 when he franchised Kentucky Fried Chicken.
- **Painter "Grandma" Moses** began her prolific art career at 78!

God wants to help you rediscover passion and purpose. In fact, your "third act" could be even more energizing than anything else you've experienced. What's the next step? Be willing to see your resources with fresh eyes.

- **Time:** One of your richest commodities is also the easiest to waste. Consider how you can invest your days in meaningful and productive ways for yourself and others. Join a Bible study, take a mission trip, volunteer, begin a new hobby or exercise routine.



PLEASE CONSIDER INCLUDING LOS ANGELES MISSION IN YOUR WILL

- ☐ I would like information on extending my impact through retirement asset giving.
- ☐ I have already included Los Angeles Mission in my will, Trust, or Estate Plan.

Name _____ Daytime Phone _____

Evening Phone _____ Email _____

Reply with the enclosed envelope or contact Randy Hess at (213) 629-1227 ext. 357 or rhess@lamission.net Go to www.christianwill.org/lamission to bless your family with a God-honoring Will.

• **Financial Flexibility:** Many retirees live on a fixed income, but that doesn't mean you can't bless others and make an impact through generosity. Blessing a charity like Los Angeles Mission as a beneficiary on your IRA, appreciated stock, or a giving account can help lessen your family's tax burden and bless eternal work.

• **Wisdom:** You've acquired knowledge, and developed skills, abilities and leadership that are worth more than any other gift you could pass along. The next generation needs to hear what you know, and God wants to position your legacy as an encore in the lives around you.

MONTH AFTER MONTH YOUR GIFT KEEPS ON GIVING



Have you considered a gift that keeps on giving? September is a special time to make your donation go even further in reaching out to our friends and neighbors on Skid Row. Our Meals-a-Month program is a convenient way to support the Los Angeles Mission each month. When you become a Meals-a-Month donor, you help provide meals, care and life-changing opportunities for those in need.

It's easy to sign up—visit us online at losangelesmission.org/give. If you prefer, call Nuria Mora at (213) 629-1227, ext. 334.

STAY CONNECTED

LOS ANGELES MISSION
303 East 5th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013
(213) 629-1227 Ext. 400

LOS ANGELES MISSION - DONATION DROP OFF
316 Winston Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013

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



www.LosAngelesMission.org

SNEMSI

Generous Friends,
It was a long,
painful journey for me...

Darrel's Story

PAGE 2



FROM DESPAIR
TO HOPE

PAGE 2



MENTAL
ILLNESS AND
HOMELESSNESS

PAGE 3



CELEBRATING
RECOVERY FOR
ANNE DOUGLAS
CENTER WOMEN

PAGE 3



From the Heart of Herb Smith

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TURN HOPELESSNESS INTO HOPE

Dear Generous Friends,

It was a moment we will never forget.

Recently one of our students was walking with his Chaplain along the streets of Skid Row when the student saw a man sleeping on the street with no shoes. Without batting an eye, he took off his own shoes and put them on the feet of the man. When asked why he did that, the student said, "I saw the need and I knew how he must have felt, because I was once in his condition."

That incident sums up everything we do at the Los Angeles Mission. We are able to be kindness in action because your prayers and donations allow us to reach out to so many in need. You help us turn hopelessness into hope and chaos into lives worth living. For so many, depression and despair are constant companions...so we do all we can to help those who struggle with mental challenges. Daniel's story is a reminder of how much your involvement with the Mission means to those who struggle. Thank you for joining us on this journey of compassion.

God bless you,

Herb Smith

Herb Smith
President/CEO

Darrel's Story

...until I finally arrived at the Los Angeles Mission ... with stops along the way, which included a year in prison, around-the-clock depression, alcoholism and 12 suicide attempts. When things were going well I had a good job as an anesthesia tech at UCLA. But not even that was enough to give meaning to my life. Meanwhile, my depression continued, which ultimately led to criminal behavior. I was finally locked up for assaults and batteries.

I'll never forget the day I was on my way from County Jail to court. When I arrived at the courthouse I caught a view of myself in a large mirror. I hated what I saw. There I was in a jumpsuit and wearing handcuffs—a singular moment that turned my life around. I said to myself this is not who I am, and this is not who I want to be.

By the grace of God I came to the Mission while on parole. Here, as a student in the program, I'm learning what it means to be alive in Christ. I am also understanding the origin of my despair and depression—something God has taken away through prayer and meditation. I don't know where I would be today without the Mission and my mentor Chaplain Lewis, who continues to stand with me every step of the way.

I also want to say how much I love you. I don't know you personally, but I can honestly say you have saved my life. So when I say I love you it comes from the depths of my heart. I have gone from a life of hopelessness to one of hope, peace and joy. God bless you for caring so much.



The Anne Douglas Center Celebrating Recovery For Anne Douglas Center Women

By Stephanie Mines,
Beauty & Wellness Committee Chair

To be involved with the Anne Douglas Center (ADC) for Women is one of the great privileges of my life. One woman told me had she not come to the Center she would have been delivered to the morgue in a body bag. And this is just one of hundreds of stories of changed lives. That's why it's such a privilege to be a part of the Graduate Honors Evening for women who have completed the ADC's 12 month rehabilitation program.



Beauty and Wellness Committee,
Stephanie Mines pictured 4th from the left

It brings joy to my heart to see how so many are now empowered, strengthened, restored and loved. The Graduate Honors Evening is a time to celebrate a beautiful new chapter in their lives. I am humbled and honored to be part of this amazing, life-transforming program for our women. I also want to thank you for your generosity in making this program possible for so many—and for being a member of our valued team where Together, Everyone Achieves More.

Thank You

The Los Angeles Mission would like to thank all the companies who took part in our 2017 Career Fair. We thank them for partnering with us to make our local community stronger! For a complete list of participating companies please go to:

www.losangelesmission.org/learn/services-and-programs/annual-career-fair



Chaplain Dwight Lewis

From Despair To Hope ...the ministry of Chaplain Dwight Lewis

When people come to the Mission for help they need to know they are part of God's love, grace and mercy. As we work together I do my best to help them pursue their goals for a better future. But that future begins with rest and physical and emotional healing today, with the encouragement to know God loves them more than they ever could imagine.

Darrel came into my office a broken man, but he was determined that once out of prison he would live for God. Every day I now witness God's touch on his life—not only in his own spiritual and emotional growth, but also how he reaches out to others. Darrel's hope in Christ is like an anchor on his soul. All of us at the Mission appreciate your strong support as we reach out to Darrel and to so many who've lived too long in despair.

Meals & Care | How Your Gifts Help

Through June of 2017

35,600

10,332

11,636

11,278



Fiscal Year-to-Date

Services



408,577

Meals Served



119,281

Nights Of Shelter



130,764

Clean Showers



119,763

Clothing Distributed
[Pieces]

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

Mental Illness and Homelessness: The Connection

The link between mental illness and homelessness on Skid Row is staggering—where bipolar disorders, depression and schizophrenia abound. When you live on the streets, there's little opportunity to be treated for mental illness. That's why your support of the Los Angeles Mission is so vital as you help our staff reach out to those with mental challenges. Depression and despair take lives: your compassion saves them.

Thank you for caring.

