

UPCOMING EVENTS | SAVE THE DATES!

- 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 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.
- 12/2

Volunteer Orientation

Interested in volunteering at Los Angeles Mission? Please attend an orientation session. To register go to: [LosAngelesMission.org/act](http://LosAngelesMission.org/act)
- 12/22

Christmas Street Event

Join us for our annual Christmas gathering where our outdoor space is transformed into a Winter Wonderland!

Planned Giving

Los Angeles Mission is committed to providing meals and care to our friends and neighbors on Skid Row now and well into the future. When you leave Los Angeles Mission in your Will, your legacy will help us provide hope to the hopeless.

There are many ways to make a legacy gift to Los Angeles Mission that offer benefits to those we serve, as well as your family. Making a simple bequest in your Will has a huge impact on our ability to provide meals, care and hope for those who come through our doors.

And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. Hebrews 13:16

For more information about including Los Angeles Mission in your Will, Trust, or Estate Plan contact Randy Hess at 213-629-1227 ext. 357.

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](mailto:rhess@lamission.net) Go to [www.christianwill.org/lamission](http://www.christianwill.org/lamission) to bless your family with a God-honoring Will.

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



MONTH AFTER MONTH  
YOUR GIFT KEEPS ON GIVING

Will you consider a gift that keeps on giving month after month? When you do, you become a valued member of our Meals-a-Month program. This is a convenient, hassle-free way for you to support Los Angeles Mission each month.

When you join our Meals-a-Month program, you help us provide nutritious meals, holistic care, life-changing programs and other critical services for all who come through our doors. When you make your first gift in October, you join more than 3,000 other committed friends of the Mission to reach even more people in need in our community each month.

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

Thank you for being a valuable partner in our Meals-a-Month program.

Meals & Care  
How Your Gifts Help



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

[www.LosAngelesMission.org](http://www.LosAngelesMission.org)



CROSSROADS

Encouraging hearts...  
celebrating recovery



“Generous Friends,  
I will always remember  
your kindness.”

Marilyn's Story  
PAGE 2



A WORD  
OF THANKS  
PAGE 2



LEGACY  
OF VISION  
GALA  
PAGE 3



A SINGLE  
GREAT  
ACHIEVEMENT  
PAGE 3





## From the Heart of Herb Smith

Dear Generous Friends,

The holidays are here, and our staff is already gearing up for the vast numbers of men, women and children who'll be coming to the doors of Los Angeles Mission for food, clothing, and shelter. For our friends and neighbors, the holidays are filled with emotions: feelings of loss, loneliness and the temptation to relapse into earlier addictions. And that's why we're here to help ... and that's why every day our Chaplains reach out to those in need with love, compassion, and respect, always reminding our friends there is a future and hope for them after all.

However, none of this tender response to human need would be possible without your ongoing support. There's a saying that you cannot outgive God. Truer words were never spoken. Donors often tell me, "I never thought I would feel this good about sharing with others." Thank you for being one of those vital caregivers ... and for sharing so much of yourself, not only during the holidays, but every day of the year.

God bless you,

*Herb Smith*

Herb Smith  
President/CEO

### COVER FEATURE:

## From surviving a nightmare of drugs ... to living a life worth living

I once lived only for drugs and wild living; today I'm chasing a dream I pray brings honor to God. For too long I was a Long Beach party girl. I was already selling meth, coke, and heroine at age 16. I figured why waste time working at Starbucks for \$60 a day when I could make \$800 a day selling drugs? For me, the math was simple ... so I took the easy—and painful—way out.

But then I learned about the Los Angeles Mission and how it might be able to help someone like me. I was 18 when I walked through their doors – homeless and lost. Before long I knew this was the life I wanted to live. I wanted a connection with God, and I wanted Him to transform my life. I can tell you honestly, the drug money I could have in my pocket right now means nothing to me. I'm not saying it's easy living this new life, but I know there is no victory without a battle, and that there's no testimony without a test.

### I will always remember your kindness

I'm so grateful for the Anne Douglas Center and for my counselors who are always by my side. Little did I know so many would be there to help me. I'm now completing an entrepreneurial course at Pepperdine, and one day I plan to start an all-natural skincare business. Thank you for helping me to chase my new dream and my new way of living. I will always remember your kindness. ~Marilyn



Life survivor Marilyn

## A Word of Thanks from David Thomas, Head Chef



Los Angeles Mission Head Chef  
David Thomas

19 years ago I came to the Mission homeless, broken, and addicted. But this is where God turned my life around. Early on, the Mission taught me how to cook ... and soon made it possible for me to become a certified chef. I've been at the Mission ever since ... and there's no place on earth I would rather be.

Right now, volunteers, my staff, and I are gearing up to prepare the hundreds of meals we'll serve to our friends and neighbors during the holidays. Thank you for all you do to help us provide good, nourishing food for those who otherwise would go hungry. Please continue to give your enthusiastic support to the Mission through your prayers, volunteering, and generous donations. God bless you for playing a key role in this ministry of rescue now and throughout the year.

## The Anne Douglas Center

Thank you, Anne Douglas, for your legacy of caring



Los Angeles Mission's Women's outreach was named the Anne Douglas Center for Women in recognition of Mrs. Kirk Douglas' long-standing compassionate generosity to those facing homelessness. Anne says, "If I had but

one wish, I think becoming a recognized patron of homeless men and women would be it. I hope together we will be able to alleviate their plight entirely."

Women arrive at the door of Los Angeles Mission shattered, drained of emotions, suicidal, alone...and in desperate need of help. Their lives are filled with incidents of physical, sexual and emotional abuse that have left a wake of broken family relationships and chaos. Tired and no longer able to manage their own lives, they are seeking a way to make a change. At the Anne Douglas Center, they are welcomed and offered the chance to transform their lives and regain their dignity.



Anne Douglas and Patricia Heaton

### An Invitation to our Legacy of Vision Gala

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming *Legacy of Vision Gala*, one of the Mission's premier fundraising events each year, honoring the contribution of Mrs. Anne Douglas for her tireless work with women facing homelessness on Skid Row.

This year's Gala will take place on November 9, 2017, at 6 p.m. at the Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills. To date, through the generosity of the Anne and Kirk Douglas and others, this event has raised more than \$11 million to help provide a new way of life for the women on Skid Row.

The objective of this year's Gala is to raise funds and awareness for Los Angeles Mission and the Anne Douglas Center for Women through the generosity of current and prospective donors.

To become a sponsor and/or to order tickets, contact **Ivan Klassen at 213.629.1227 ext. 325**. Or email Ivan at **IKlassen@lamission.net**.

Learn more about the Gala by visiting **www.LAMGala.org**.

**Thanks for your support... and we hope to see you there.**



## This watch does much more than tell time ... it's a reminder of a single great achievement

This is a special watch indeed... a keepsake we give all students who complete the Mission's 12-month Fresh Start Program of intense rehabilitation. This watch is a daily reminder that students have taken the time to complete this special program.

Just as it took time for students to reflect on new values for their lives, this watch is now a reminder of how time with God is vital for the rest of their days.

During this 12-month Fresh Start program, men and women are provided shelter, meals, and clothing as they are equipped with new skills and taught how to accept responsibility to prepare them for a life of independence.

All graduates are expected to have housing upon leaving the program through personal means, or with eligible government assistance. Last year, we handed out 45 watches to men and women who completed the full 12-month program. Most have moved on to get their own housing and establish successful careers—all made possible because of your ongoing generosity.

### Become a scholarship sponsor today

Right now you have the opportunity to take the next step of caring – by providing a scholarship – full or partial – for men and women who have made the choice to allow God to transform their lives. For more information on how you can play a vital role in this program of physical and spiritual healing, please contact:

**Chris Doyle at (213) 629-1227 ext. 432**  
or **CDoyle@lamission.net**.