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News from the Los Angeles Mission

JULY 2016

CROSSROADS

LosAngelesMission.org



“The Los Angeles
Mission helped me
get my life back.”

~RICHARD ALIMBOYOGUEN
MISSION GRADUATE

One local veteran finds a path to hope

I had spent nearly nine years in the Navy and then went to work as a lab assistant in my uncle's lab. Then I started making so much money. And with all that money, I started to get into drugs. I had hit rock bottom when I first came to the Mission.

Read Richard's story on PAGE 2

**BACKPACK
CHALLENGE:**

See how you can
change a child's future
on page 3!



Herb Smith
President/CEO

Steven W. Schultze
Vice President of
Men's Program

Meeting the need

So often, we see veterans facing two main challenges that can eventually lead to homelessness: they do not know the full extent of services available to them and they need help overcoming the stresses of military service.

The Los Angeles Mission has worked to make connections with so many agencies throughout the Los Angeles area for all our individuals and families in need—and that includes the local Veterans Affairs department for our veterans. Your support makes it all possible. **You give us the resources to help our friends and neighbors living on Skid Row get a Fresh Start.**

Whether it's helping veterans, children or another individual in need, your generosity will have an impact on our community for years to come.

Bless you and thank you for all that you do. We hope to see you at our End of Summer Block Party!

Did you know?

There were 3,071 homeless veterans identified in Los Angeles County during the January 2016 homeless count.

Thank you for providing hope and healing to veterans and countless more individuals in our community. God bless you!



Continued from cover

I had lost everything and had nowhere to go

From 2003 to 2014, I was doing drugs and found myself in and out of jail. When I wasn't in jail, I was homeless, bouncing from friend's house to friend's house each night for a place to sleep.

At one point in jail, I decided to change my life. I had lost everything and had nowhere to go. My parole officer was the one who suggested I come to the Los Angeles Mission to get my life back together.

Getting my life back

The Mission and my chaplain have been great liaisons to Veterans Affairs for me, which has helped me gain access to benefits and opportunities I wasn't aware of. I'm on a good path now to achieving my goals—the Mission has helped me focus on what I need to do to get my life back in order.

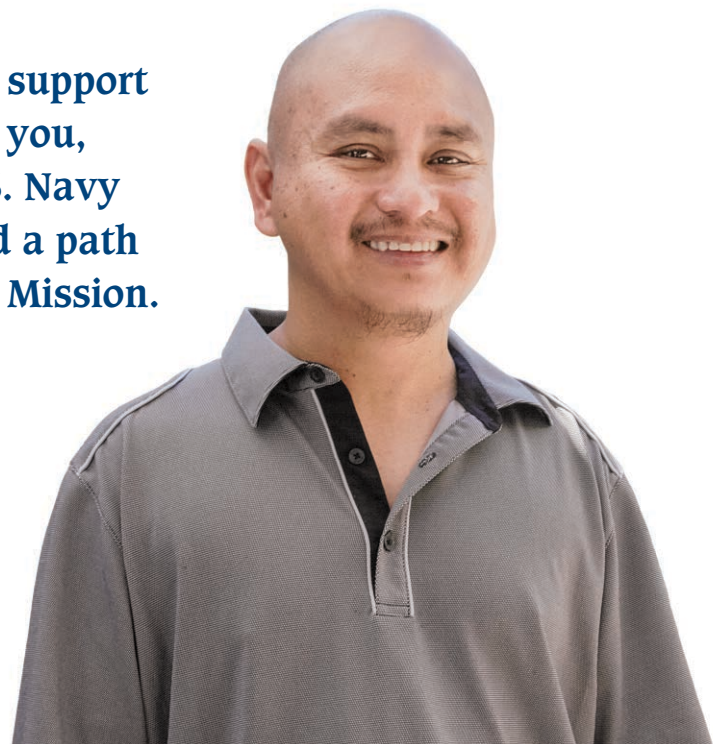
Reaching graduation day was one of the first times in my life that I followed through and finished something. I graduated in October 2015, and my family came in for the ceremony. My mom, my sister, my uncle and aunt were all there. It was a fun day, and I was so happy. I hadn't seen them in a long time.

I have a job working at Goodwill right now, and I'm hoping to attend truck-driving school in the near future. **I want to thank the donors for helping us homeless people—or really, supporting a lot of different people that just need some help. I have my life back because of you. Thank you.**

Thanks to the support of friends like you, Richard, a U.S. Navy veteran, found a path to hope at the Mission.

“I'm on a good path now to achieving my goals—the Mission has helped me focus on what I need to do to get my life back in order.”

~RICHARD ALIMBOYOGUEN
MISSION GRADUATE



“Being creative, having fun... that's the Art & Education Fair.”

~HERB SMITH, LOS ANGELES MISSION PRESIDENT/CEO

BACKPACK CHALLENGE:
You can change a child's future!

It's End of Summer Art & Education Fair time

Education is one of the most important steps in breaking the cycle of poverty and homelessness. And we know that along side academics, encouragement through arts education develops self-identity and purpose through creative expression. Yet when a family can't provide school and art supplies for their children, it becomes a challenge in breaking the cycle for another generation.

We want all the children in our community to have the tools they need to start the school year off right.

Please join us on August 27th when we will pass out backpacks with

► For more information, please contact Ivan Klassen at (213) 629-1227, ext. 325.

school and art supplies for underserved children living on Skid Row.

“Being creative, having fun, and playing in a safe place with other kids and caring volunteers... that's the Art & Education Fair,” says Los Angeles Mission President/CEO Herb Smith.

We are expecting about 2,000 people to attend. We are so grateful for U.S. Bank, In-N-Out Burger, King Taco and the Grilled Cheese Truck for helping make this special day possible—and delicious!



Thank you for investing in children's futures!

For children living on Skid Row, the End of Summer Art & Education Fair is a day of delicious food, art and fun activities. Most importantly, it's a day we can give these kids the school and art supplies they need to help them be prepared to succeed in school this fall.

We need your help to be able to bless the lives of every child who joins the fun at the fair on August 27th. **Every \$20 you give, fills a backpack with all the school and art supplies a child needs to start the school year off strong.**

Thank you for making a positive impact in our community!

► Supplies can be donated directly to the Mission.

Proper nutrition at the Anne Douglas Center

Healthy eating means a healthy future

By Dr. Roxanne Jordan and Chaplain Antoinette Burwell

It's a biblical truth that “people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge.” Likewise, people experience ill health and are adversely impacted by a lack of understanding about proper nutrition—especially the links between food, health, and addiction recovery.

One of our goals at the Anne Douglas Center is to increase education and awareness of proper nutrition among our students. Often the women entering the Anne Douglas Center have a tendency to substitute food for previous sources of addiction. Therefore it becomes critical that they learn more about the link between food, nutrition, and health in order to heal. We know that mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing is a paramount component to any recovery program.

And to that end, Chef Katherine Lewis has joined the team at the ADC, with a desire to shift the way the ladies think about food. Through a focus on nutrition education, and aligned with the goals of our program, Chef Kathy will teach the

women how to enjoy, live and heal their bodies and minds through healthy eating.

She will provide the discipleship needed to inspire the women through vocational therapy in food services and as a family ministry, teaching them how to shop on a small budget, the importance of good food choices, adequate meal preparation and healthy menus.

Food and health are integrally linked. **Through education and your generosity, ADC students are experiencing a holistic approach to healing themselves physically, mentally and spiritually. God bless you for making this possible!**



Chef Kathy is bringing proper nutrition to the ADC.

Help Support the Mission at Live & Dine LA!

Angeleno magazine holds its annual Live & Dine LA event on Sunday, July 31st from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and **you're invited to attend. A portion of the ticket sales will benefit the Los Angeles Mission.**

The event honors the city's most distinguished chefs and restaurateurs featured in its restaurant issue that continue to shape and evolve L.A.'s culinary scene

Guests will be treated to culinary demonstrations prepared by award-winning chefs, which will be paired with wines and artisanal cocktails. Dave Damiani & The No Vacancy Orchestra will perform.

► For tickets, please visit modernluxury.com/angeleno

MODERN LUXURY
Angeleno

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

End of Summer Art & Education Fair: August 27th—A time to bless the children and families living on Skid Row with school supplies, food and fun!

Legacy of Vision Gala: October 20th
For additional information, please contact Ivan Klassen at (213) 629-1227, ext. 325. Thank you!



Make an impact this summer and beyond!

You can make a lasting impact in a veteran's life and the lives of countless more individuals and families by becoming a Meals a Month partner today.



At the Mission, we are committed to helping provide a path to healing and hope for the hurting in our community.

We want to have quality services and programs available to anyone who comes through our doors, but especially to veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country. Thank you for blessing the Mission!

► **It's easy to sign up—simply fill out the form below, or go online to our website: LosAngelesMission.org/give. Or if you prefer, call Nuria Mora at (213) 629-1227, ext. 334.**

Meals and care HOW YOUR GIFTS HELP

MARCH

FISCAL YTD

25,273



286,725

MEALS SERVED

5,225



71,199

NIGHTS OF SHELTER

9,418



92,070

CLEAN SHOWERS

7,026



99,785

CLOTHING DISTRIBUTED [PIECES]



Many thanks to The Goldwin Foundation, the Johnny Carson Foundation, City National Bank, Wells Fargo Bank and LATLC (LA Trial Lawyers' Charities) for sponsoring our 79th Gala.

CREATING A LEGACY: Experiencing the Divine in the Daily

In his book *Baby, We Were Meant for Each Other*, Scott Simon, host of NPR's Weekend Edition states "Adoption is a miracle. I don't mean just that it's amazing, terrific and a wonderful thing to do. I mean that it is, as the dictionary says, 'a surprising and welcome event that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore considered to be the work of divine agency.'"

Did you know there's another "form" of adoption, called "Child Named Charity"? This concept means an individual "adopts" a ministry they care about like the Los Angeles Mission by adding them as a beneficiary in their will. This act ensures a portion of the individual's hard-earned dollars will continue impacting lives long after they're gone. The impact you can have by adding a charity to your will makes a powerful statement today and can create a strong legacy for the future.

Is God touching your heart to "adopt" a ministry through "divine agency"? Please consider adopting the Los Angeles Mission into your will.



► **To request a FREE copy of "Leveraging Your Past to Impact the Future":**

1. Check the box on the enclosed reply card and return it today
2. Contact Chris Doyle at the Los Angeles Mission at (213) 629-1227, ext. 432 or cdoyle@lamission.net
3. Or, bless your family today with a God-honoring will at www.christianwill.org/lamission

I'll help restore dignity and hope for veterans, kids and other people in need.

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

I've enclosed an additional gift of \$20 to fill a backpack with school and art supplies.



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.)

I would like to receive my FREE copy of "Leveraging Your Past to Impact the Future"

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!

To give a gift by credit card, please fill out the information below or call (213) 629-1227, ext. 400.

Please charge my gift to my credit card.
Giving Options:

- One-time gift Monthly gift
 EFT (include voided check)

VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

ACCOUNT NUMBER _____ CID/CVV _____

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE _____ EXP. DATE _____

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.



Los Angeles Mission
The Crossroads of Hope

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