



## Planned Giving How Not to Succeed at Failing

Most people associate Thomas Edison with his famous invention—the light bulb. But did you know he purportedly tried 1,000 times before creating a successful prototype? While we don't often like talking about failure, it's important to consider what it could look like for a Christian. Some failures to avoid are:

- 1) Not leaving behind a Godly legacy. When people tell the “success story” of your life, will they say you pointed others to Christ, loved well, and valued what mattered most? Do those close to you know what you believe?
- 2) Not providing for those you love. Taking care of children and grandchildren goes far beyond eighteen years of food, shelter and unconditional love—it means discussing and taking care of matters that affect them well into adulthood. For instance, you can provide stability and peace by getting your affairs in order so they won't have to later.
- 3) Not impacting lives. Are you wisely using your energies and finances to advance eternal work? Did you know leaving a gift in your Will or Estate Plan for Los Angeles Mission will impact lives for years to come?

### PLEASE CONSIDER INCLUDING LOS ANGELES MISSION IN YOUR WILL

- I would like information on how I can build a legacy that blesses my family and Los Angeles Mission.
- 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](http://www.christianwill.org/lamission) to bless your family with a God-honoring will.

## UPCOMING EVENTS | SAVE THE DATES!

- 5/05 **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)
- 6/07 **Annual Career Fair**  
It's a great opportunity to connect employers with job seekers from our Mission community! For more information, call Allen Ceravolo at (213) 629-1227, ext. 517.
- 6/08 **Graduation Day**  
Join us in celebrating the men and women who will be graduating from our Fresh Start Program! For more information on attending the graduation, call Ana Ceravolo at (213) 629-1227, ext. 387.



## PLEASE GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

When you become a member of our Meals-a-Month program, you enjoy a convenient, hassle-free way of supporting the Los Angeles Mission each month—monthly gifts that help us reach out to friends like Gregory and hundreds more.

Here's what your monthly donation provides: daily nutritious meals, holistic care, one-on-one counseling, life-transforming programs and other vital services for all who come through our doors. When you make your first gift in MAY, you join the thousands of other friends of Los Angeles Mission who commit to touch the lives of even more people in need each month.

Please sign up today by visiting [losangelesmission.org/give](http://losangelesmission.org/give). If you prefer, you may also reach out to Nuria Mora at 213.629.1227 ext.334.

Thank you for joining us as a partner in our Meals-a-Month program. We look forward to having you on board.



# CROSSROADS



## Providing TWICE the Hope

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Changing hearts...transforming lives

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

TN-581N



TWICE THE HELP

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CAREER FAIR

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MEALS A MONTH

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## From the Heart of Herb Smith

### Challenged and Blessed

What would we do without your generous support? I can't even imagine. Since we don't depend on the government for our funding, we really value faithful partners like you who give out of your compassionate hearts. I'm thankful every day that you care enough about the suffering people of Los Angeles to give so sacrificially. It makes all the difference to the men, women, and children who just need a helping hand to get on the right track.

We're especially grateful for your gifts as we face the summer months, when our support gets thin. You're a real lifeline at these critical times!

This May we have a special blessing that comes with a challenge. Generous friends of the mission have challenged us with a gift of \$200,000 to raise equal dollars. Your gift today will enable us to rise to the challenge and impact twice as many experiencing homelessness this summer

It's exciting to know we're all working together to achieve great things for the hurting families of Los Angeles. Thanks again for standing with us as we serve them.

In partnership with you,

Herb Smith  
President/CEO



## A Fresh Start Times TWO

It's been more than a year now since Willie came to Los Angeles Mission, broken, angry, and disappointed. He knew his problems were largely of his own making. All the drinking, drug use, and adultery had been his choices, after all.

But life had dealt Willie some harsh blows, too. His parents split up when he was just five. He was sexually and physically abused. He grew up angry and, to no one's surprise, joined a gang as a teenager.

Michelle's story was just as dreary. Her mom was just 15 when she had Michelle. And the little girl's childhood was marked by horrible physical and sexual abuse. Drugs, alcohol, crime, and the gang life were right around the corner. And Michelle jumped in.

Willie and Michelle found each other and got married. Their life together seemed good for a while. But then their bad habits came back and ruined everything. When Michelle followed Willie to the Mission after a few days, they were both ready for a change.



*At the Mission they found a renewed focus on God, peace with their pasts, and a new hope for a better life together.*

As Willie and Michelle learned, real change takes time. Marriage counseling at the Mission was an important step in restoring their shattered marriage. They began taking classes to get back on the right track. Most importantly, they both renewed their commitment to God and began relying on Him to change them day by day. Now they're growing spiritually, drawing strength from the Lord, the Mission family, and each other.

And at last, their future looks bright.

### Meals & Care How Your Gifts Help



2017 Year End  
Fiscal Year-to-Date  
Services



406,953  
241,770  
Meals Served



124,551  
74,871  
Nights of Shelter



136,122  
81,248  
Clean Showers

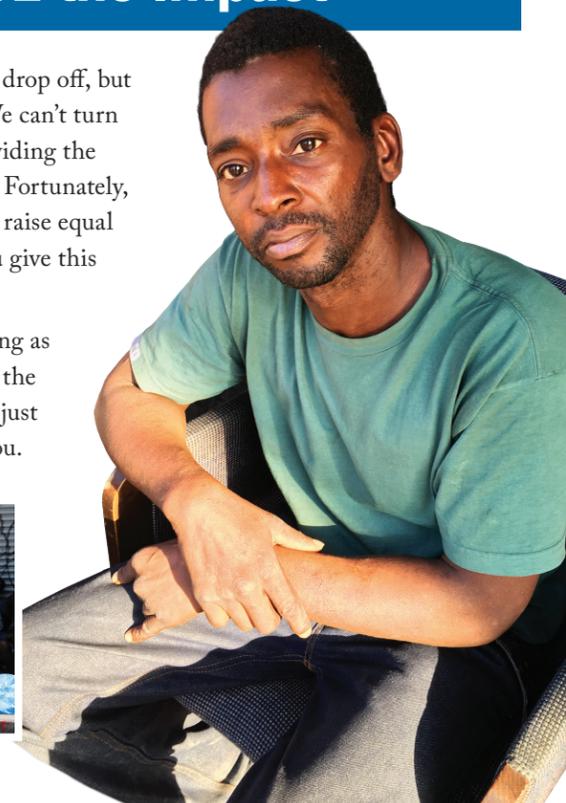


118,280  
62,732  
Clothing Distributed  
[Pieces]

## You Can Make TWICE the Impact

Summer is almost here! That's when our donations usually drop off, but hurting people still come to us for help—by the thousands. We can't turn them away. We need an extra infusion of support to keep providing the meals, shelter, counseling, and program services they deserve. Fortunately, generous friends have donated \$200,000 and challenged us to raise equal dollars during the month of May. That means every dollar you give this month can provide twice the impact!

Please help us prepare for the lean summer months by giving as generously as you can before May 31. It will mean so much to the grateful men, women, and children we serve! And remember, just \$2.03 provides a complete meal for a hungry person! Thank you.



## Opportunities for Job Seekers

Our Annual Career Fair is happening right here at Los Angeles Mission on **Thursday, June 7, from 8 a.m. to noon.** Hundreds of participants from around the community will find job opportunities presented by major area employers such as Coca Cola, Double Tree, and Smart & Final. The jobs presented will range from entry level to salaried positions, along with training opportunities for those who need to upgrade their skills. It's another way to put our faith into action, providing practical help that will benefit people far into the future.



*Thanks to your support, lives will be changed.*

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