

# TASTING COMPASSION ON SKID ROW



Celebrities and community leaders serve 3,500 lavish holiday meals to LA's neediest residents on Skid Row.

For the 11<sup>th</sup> year, Wells Fargo Bank makes a generous donation to the Mission providing significant funding for Thanksgiving; bringing 200 Wells Fargo volunteers to work the event.

Fifth Street, known locally as the "nickel" in downtown L.A. closed to vehicular traffic: 6 AM until 6 PM day before Thanksgiving. Street transformed into alfresco dining room with tents, tables and chairs. Custom fall flower arrangements and tablecloths grace the tables.



Established 82 years ago, in 1936, as a soup kitchen and Christian outreach to homeless men on Skid Row. Today, the Los Angeles Mission provides overnight/emergency services (bed, meals, showers and clothing). Long-term rehabilitation program destroys substance abuse and rebuilds broken lives.

The Mission offers a lifeline to weary exiles stuck living on the streets of L.A. Every day of the year, the Mission serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. During the past year (2018) the Mission served more than 400,000 meals. Every meal comes with the opportunity to recover and build a new life off the street. Many on Skid Row come for a meal and then decide to repair their damaged lives in the Mission's year-long residential Recovery Program.

Los Angeles Mission was the first facility on Skid Row designed and built specifically to meet the food, shelter and rehabilitation needs of LA's homeless population.

The Anne Douglas Center for Women was first in L.A. to establish long-term residential rehabilitation facility, devoted to women. Named for Anne Douglas, longtime wife of Kirk Douglas. *Douglas is, by far, the most generous financial contributor to the Mission's success over the years. The Anne Douglas Center is in its 26<sup>th</sup> year of service.*

*Chicago School of Psychology Graduate student interns provide comprehensive mental health services. Residential Program rebuilds lives from the inside out. Mission Chaplains provide spiritual guidance to help move individuals from desperation to a new and improved life.*

The Mission offers a 12-month residential treatment and rehabilitation program. Program emphasizes individual problem solving with a life-changing gospel focus. The curriculum includes life skills required to restore dignity and productivity. Participants are motivated to continue their education with opportunities to advance through vocational training.

After graduation, the Mission provides a supportive follow-up year. Allowing graduates to: find reliable employment, experience a stable housing situation, and develop a functioning support network.



# Happy Thanksgiving

## Menu

Mission Kitchen Staff (led by Chef David Thomas) prepares:

- 2,100 lbs. turkey breasts.
- 2,500 pounds of crushed potatoes with olive oil and herbs,
- 1,000 lbs. cornbread dressing,
- 90 gallons turkey gravy,
- 1,000 lbs. collard greens with ham hocks,
- 3,500 servings fresh cranberry sauce,
- Thousands of *King's Hawaiian* donated dinner rolls & butter.
- Dessert: 600 made-from-scratch sweet potato pies.



**Top Chef Michael Voltaggio**

**Meals served: 11 AM to 3 PM.**



## Donors Do It All

Faithful donors make this event possible. Generous support from:

**Wells Fargo Bank**

**Cooking with Hart**, actor *Kevin Hart's* charity giving hygiene kits

**Dignity for the Homeless** Korean Businessmen

**"Warm Heart"** *Kimberly Vodang*, former *Ms. America International* handing out blankets

**Morongo Band of Mission Indians** give 200 turkeys

**Kings Hawaiian** donating dinner rolls

**Hanes** providing socks

**Suzanne Middle School** donating candy.

The **Los Angeles Christian Health Centers** washing and medically treating the feet of the homeless

**Los Angeles County Health Department** offering flu and Hepatitis A shots.



**Jeffrey Katzenberg**



**The Los Angeles Mission is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit**

Funded through donations from individuals, corporations, foundations and other non-governmental entities.

**The Mission receives no government funds for programs.**

The annual operating budget is about \$14 million. A member in good standing of Citygate Network and the *Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA)*. Listed on *Guidestar* [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org).