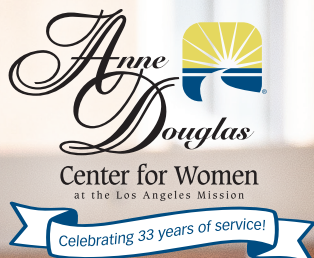


News from Los Angeles Mission

# CROSSROADS

Encouraging hearts . . . celebrating recovery

MAY 2025



## From the Heartbreak of Grief and Loss to New Life.

Intense sorrow left Daniesha trapped in a destructive cycle that cost her everything. Now, she has hope for the future, thanks to you.

Read how your impact changed her life on page 2

**MATCHING  
GIFT  
CHALLENGE  
DOUBLES  
YOUR  
IMPACT!**

(details on p.3)

## Loving Our Neighbors Through Transition



Dear Caring Friend,

I fell in love with Los Angeles Mission years ago, when I welcomed the change from a secular banking career to a ministry that is, at its heart — love in action.

Now, as the Mission transitions into a season of new leadership, we continue trusting in God's direction as His Word promises (Proverbs 3:5-6).

You will hear more from our Interim CEO, Dennis Oleesky, in the future. Dennis has served for many years on our Foundation Board. His extensive leadership and strategic planning skills are a tremendous asset, and he is dedicated to seeing that God's agape love continues to be very real on Skid Row and across our city.

Every day, we have the honor of seeing individuals who have suffered tremendous hardship take that first step of restoration . . . with God, with themselves, with their families. Restoration brings transformation.

And for that, I thank you, faithful partner. The meals, shelter and services we offer are possible because of the ongoing support of friends like you. Thank you for loving our neighbors experiencing homelessness!

Sincerely,

Randy Hess  
Chairperson of the Board

# You Helped Turn the Spiral of Grief into a Second Chance.

Daniesha's journey from  
grief to hope began at  
the Mission . . .



Daniesha was in a serious accident when she was 17 that left her unable to work and on medication for seizures. A self-professed “daddy’s girl,” Daniesha was very close to her father, as well as her brothers. She looked to them as her protectors and support network. Their deaths within a few years of each other turned her life upside down.

“After my dad passed away, my world came crashing down,” she explains. Daniesha was in her early 30s at the time. With her entire support network gone, life began to spiral as grief and the sense of abandonment became overwhelming. After a series of bad decisions, she ended up living in her truck with her infant child for the next year.

## A New Path Ahead

Late one night, Daniesha was pulled over by officers who had a warrant for her arrest. She spent the next several months in jail before being sent to the Anne Douglas Center for Women at Los Angeles Mission.

Here, Daniesha received meals, shelter and the opportunity to get her life back on track. Once she completed the initial drug program, she entered our year-long, life-transforming recovery program to help her deal with her feelings of loss and grow stronger.

## Grateful for Change

With hope for the future, Daniesha now says, “I just want to be happy and raise my kids. I have a 24-year old, a 17-year old, a 4-year old and a 6-month old grandbaby. I’m so grateful for the supporters who have helped me change my life.”

**Thank you for making it possible for people who have lost all hope to find their way off the streets . . . and into a new life!**

**Your support is a lifeline for our lost and broken  
neighbors at their time of greatest need.**

# José's Journey from Rock Bottom to Renewal

Becoming a father was a special moment for José. He was happy planning a life with his girlfriend and newborn son. Sadly, his plans abruptly changed when his girlfriend took their son and abandoned José.

Far from home and family, José felt broken and lost. He began drinking to escape the loneliness and despair, and in a moment of extreme weakness, he tried drugs to numb his pain.

That decision resulted in eight years on the streets of LA, suffering every imaginable indignity as he tried to make sense of just how broken he'd become. At rock bottom, the cycle of homelessness, hunger, addiction and incarceration led to a court order sending José to Los Angeles Mission — the best thing that had happened to him in a very long time.

Since being at the Mission, José has developed a real relationship with God. In his words, "My mind is maturing. I know the path I was on was not good, and now I can find value in myself." José hopes to reconnect with his family and eventually see his son again.

**You're giving hurting souls like José the chance to escape rock bottom on the streets — and the tools to build new lives upon the Rock of faith in Christ Jesus. Thank you!**



If not for friends like you, José's story could have ended very differently.

## \$275,000 Matching Challenge DOUBLES Your Impact!

**This is incredible timing!** Several friends of Los Angeles Mission who share your deep compassion for our neighbors suffering from homelessness have anonymously provided a limited-time \$275,000 Matching Gift Challenge.

The new state laws banning homeless camps have created an overwhelming increase in need, stretching the Mission's budget beyond the breaking point.

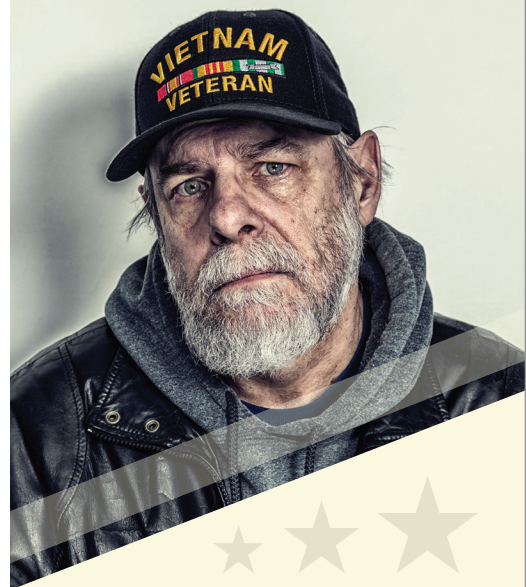
**This Matching Gift Challenge will go a long way to help us bridge the \$1.01 million fundraising gap . . .**

**But we must hear from you by the June 26 deadline.**

Please send your generous gift of support today that will double your impact for men, women and families facing homelessness.



Your gift today will double in impact to help twice as many people!



PLEASE  
DON'T FORGET  
**AMERICA'S  
VETERANS**  
IN NEED!

Tragically, too many of our nation's Veterans in Los Angeles are struggling with homelessness and hunger. The brave men and women who risked everything to protect the freedom you and I enjoy every day deserve better.

While the number of veterans experiencing homelessness is down across the country, there are still thousands of them on the streets of Los Angeles. Together, we can do something about that.

**Your continued gifts to Los Angeles Mission will give them meals, care and a chance to transform their lives. Thank you.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS/ SAVE THE DATES

### Volunteer Opportunities

You can impact lives with your time, compassion and service. Visit [lamission.volunteerhub.com](http://lamission.volunteerhub.com) or call (213) 629-1227 Ext. 412 for a list of current needs.



## Too Good to Be True? *Gifts That Pay Income*

Here's an inside tip that a growing number of our supporters already know . . .

**You can give to Los Angeles Mission in a major way and receive steady income payments for life!**

Sounds too good to be true? It's not!

Life income gifts are a smart, no-catch solution for those who wish they could give more but are concerned about having enough income for life.

A life income gift can be established by giving cash, or you can give non-cash assets that you no longer need or care to manage (such as rental property or a vacation home). You can even withdraw up to \$50,000 from an IRA for a one-time transfer to a life income gift.

Depending on your funding method, you may receive an immediate tax deduction at the time of your gift and then a lifetime of payments for you or a loved one. The remainder of your gift will further the life-changing work of the Mission!

**Ready to discover whether life income gifts are the right solution for you?**

Contact Michelle Trinh,  
Chief Development Officer,  
at (213) 629-1227, Ext. 326,  
or [mtrinh@lamission.net](mailto:mtrinh@lamission.net).

**Matching  
Gift Challenge  
DOUBLES the  
impact of your  
gift today!**

## A Decision that Helps All Year . . .



Thousands of men, women, families and veterans in need depend on Los Angeles Mission every month. As a *Mission Without Walls*, your compassionate support allows us to reach further into the community to respond to those urgent needs. When you become a Meals-A-Month partner with your committed monthly gift, you'll help ensure that no one is turned away hungry.

To sign up online, visit us at [Give.LosAngelesMission.org](http://Give.LosAngelesMission.org). Or call (213) 629-1227 Ext. 334 to join by phone.

## ACTION ALERT! Urgent Help Needed!

The number of people experiencing homelessness continues to grow sharply, and requests for help from Los Angeles Mission have increased just as much. We urgently need your help today to provide meals, shelter and care to all the people who are barely making it from one day to the next.

### Stay Connected

Keep track of the latest Mission news, make safe online donations and more.  
[LosAngelesMission.org](http://LosAngelesMission.org)

