

News from Los Angeles Mission

CROSSROADS

Encouraging hearts . . . celebrating recovery

OCTOBER 2026



Los Angeles
Mission
The Crossroads of Hope™



Anne Douglas
Center for Women
at the Los Angeles Mission



Thanksgiving Is for Everyone

Join in our holiday mission to ensure
that no one on Skid Row goes hungry.

INSIDE:
**You Inspire Hope
and Gratitude**
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You Inspire Hope and Gratitude

Dear Caring Friend,

In a community marred by hunger, homelessness, abuse and broken families, you are a true source of hope and healing this Thanksgiving season — a stabilizer to people who haven't known stability in a very long time. Many of these folks have been unsheltered for years, surviving on L.A.'s dangerous streets. Some feel tethered to addiction with no way out. Others, overwhelmed by the high cost of living, are fighting to keep their jobs, their homes and their dignity.

When these vulnerable neighbors first come to our door, you can see the struggle in their eyes — see that they've been beaten down by life. But thanks to support from caring friends like you, we're able to welcome them in and offer a nourishing meal, a listening ear and a shoulder to cry on. Oftentimes, these are the first steps for someone entering our comprehensive recovery programs, where hope really begins to take hold and lives are transformed through the power of God's love.

Through your kindness and compassion, you have inspired that hope and a deep sense of gratitude in the hearts of many. If you are able, I hope you will continue your support with a Thanksgiving gift to help others find a fresh start and a new life in Christ. Thank you for your strong partnership and for all you do for our neighbors most in need!

Dennis Oleesky
CEO

Thanksgiving Is for Everyone

Join in our holiday mission to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry this Thanksgiving season.

This Thanksgiving season, people of all backgrounds will flock to Los Angeles Mission. Some are bound by homelessness, addiction and other trauma, while others are struggling with the persistently high costs of food, gas and just about everything else.

We'll welcome each of these neighbors with a nourishing meal. But through your compassionate support, some will experience much more than that. Because a meal here at the Mission can lead to a fresh start in our proven, comprehensive recovery programs, where hearts and lives are being transformed through Christ.

The need is tremendous as we head into our busiest time of the year, and **your continued support is vital to ensuring no one in our community goes hungry.** Please send a generous gift today to provide Thanksgiving meals to men, women and children in critical need of lasting change.



Every \$2.53 provides a meal and much-needed hope.



A meal at the Mission is often a first step toward new life in Christ.



Thank you for blessing neighbors in need with meals and so much more!

**What better way to spend \$2.53
this Thanksgiving? Give today!**

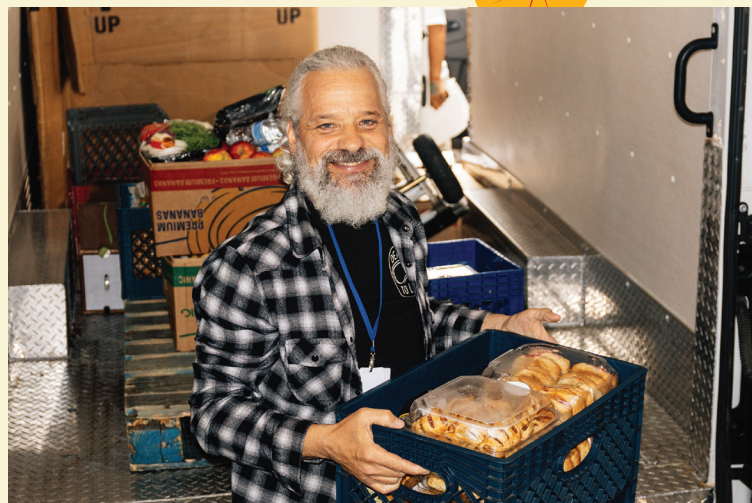
You're Helping Jeremy Learn Who God Is Calling Him to Be

One's childhood should be anchored by family, fun, friends and discovery. But that wasn't Jeremy's experience. Raised by a single father who was absent most of the time, Jeremy grew up in a world of fear and uncertainty. "Life was just a struggle from the youngest age," he says, recalling the marathon beatings he received from his older brother.

At 15, Jeremy ran away from home and found acceptance in a street gang, which drew him into a life of crime and addiction. But a few years later, when he became a dad, he decided to walk away from that lifestyle. Jeremy quit the gang and the crime and went on to become a husband and family man with a good job. But the addiction was another story. Try as he might, he couldn't let go of it.

Ultimately, addiction would cost Jeremy everything that was dear to him: his wife, his kids and his job. Thankfully, his story didn't end there. For some time, Jeremy tried connecting with God, but he was never fully committed — until one cool December day when, in a moment of complete surrender, he fell to his knees and cried out to God, "Help, Lord!"

In that moment, Jeremy felt his addictive cravings disappear and sensed God calling him to Los Angeles Mission, where he entered our life-changing program for men. With help from compassionate friends like you, he's not only benefitting from shelter and meals, but is being transformed right before our eyes.



With your help, Jeremy is learning to disciple others.

"The Mission has helped me in so many ways," he says. "They're giving me a better understanding of who God is and who I am called to be. And **God is working through the Mission's supporters to change hearts and minds.**"

Pray for Jeremy as he works through our theology course so he can disciple other newcomers to the Mission.

Bridging the Gap for Skid Row

Volunteering is in Loresa's DNA. Raised in the faith and motivated by her servant heart, she has volunteered for a variety of charitable causes for over a decade. But in 2019, she discovered the work of Los Angeles Mission and has been an integral member of our ambassadors team ever since, empowering those who are struggling with homelessness.

"When it comes to things that pull at my heartstrings, watching people not have a place to live just does not sit well with my soul," Loresa says. "I knew that I wanted to volunteer and put myself somewhere that I could be resourceful and helpful and truly just spread kindness. To me, the Mission represents a beacon of kindness."

As a Los Angeles Mission ambassador, Loresa serves alongside eight other individuals as a consistent presence for the Mission, sort of like influencers. Their main goals are to help bridge the gap between Skid Row and changed lives by making our comprehensive services better known, and to help those who enter our programs get back on their feet as they connect with God in meaningful ways.

While juggling her busy schedule as a flight attendant with a major airline, Loresa still manages to volunteer five hours a week as an ambassador. Most of that time is spent here at the



Partner with Loresa to bring hope to Skid Row and beyond.

Mission. But our ambassadors also play a key role in carrying out occasional offsite events with ministry partners.

Regardless of whether the work is occurring inside or outside the Mission's walls, Loresa says her team is "a family of people who are not only willing to help, but who *want* to help." And she encourages those considering volunteering to become a part of Los Angeles Mission.

You can learn about current volunteer opportunities at the Mission by visiting LosAngelesMission.org/get-involved/volunteer-opportunity.

Volunteering Changes Lives. Including Yours.

When you volunteer with Los Angeles Mission, many lives are sure to be touched. Perhaps even your own. Visit lamission.volunteerhub.com or call (213) 629-1227 Ext. 412 to learn more about volunteer opportunities to help serve neighbors in need.



The Simplest Way to Make a Difference!



With demand for food and other resources way up, thousands of men, women and children are turning to Los Angeles Mission for meals, shelter and hope. To help meet that need, please consider becoming a Meals-A-Month partner. This dedicated group of monthly donors provides steady support that helps us budget and plan more efficiently, stretching every dollar further.

To join, visit us at Give.LosAngelesMission.org or call (213) 629-1227 Ext. 334.

Leave a Legacy That Lasts

3 Simple Ways to Give Through Your Will

When you include gifts to Los Angeles Mission in your Will, you ensure your God-given blessings continue to make an impact on hurting souls well beyond your lifetime.

Here are three simple ways you can give through your Will:

- 1. Percentage or Tithe:** Allocate a certain percentage of your estate toward charity. Some choose to designate 10 percent of their belongings toward Kingdom causes, reinforcing the biblical concept of tithing.
- 2. Child Named Charity:** Some families choose to add a “child named Charity” to their Will or Trust. By this method, for example, if a couple had four children, each of the children would receive 1/5 of their belongings, and the remaining 1/5 could go toward their favorite Kingdom causes.
- 3. Gifts of Assets:** People often designate non-cash assets, such as real estate, life insurance, business interests or retirement assets, as gifts.

Regardless of the method you choose, your gift will leave a lasting impact, extending your influence beyond your lifetime. To learn more, call Cliff Marshall at (213) 629-1227, Ext. 326, or email CMarshall@lamission.net.

ACTION ALERT! Urgent Help Needed!

Many neighbors who have never asked for help before are struggling to afford groceries and keep a roof over their heads. Your help is urgently needed to provide meals and care to the growing number of men, women and children who are fighting to survive. Please send your generous Thanksgiving gift today. Or, to give now, scan the QR code with your smartphone and follow the link. Thank you!

Scan to
give today!



Stay Connected

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



LOS ANGELES MISSION DONATION DROP OFF

351 S. Anderson Street
Los Angeles, CA, 90033

My Mission. Your Mission. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday: 9:30am-3:30pm. Closed on Saturday and Sunday.