

the missionary

AUGUST 2024



“I was homeless . . . hungry . . . hurting.”

When Roy gave up everything of value and came to the Mission, God did something incredible . . .

“I sat there hurting, wondering, *How in the world did I end up here?* To go from making a six-figure income to sitting in the day room was a long, hard fall to the bottom.”

After Roy’s mom died from a medical mistake, his life began to spin out of control. “I was completely broken,” recalls Roy. “Alcohol, marijuana, gambling. I was

hurting and making bad decisions.”

Roy had no family or friends to help him get back on track. No professional help. No one who cared. For three years, he battled trauma alone. The pain brought him to a place of desperation. Tired of the way he was living, Roy brought himself to Central Union Mission.

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“I was homeless. Hungry. Hurting . . .” (Continued from Page 1)

“Sitting in that day room, I knew if I surrendered my life, God would do all things but fail. He created me. So He can fix me and deliver me.”

Roy was obedient to God’s call and enrolled in the Restoration & Transformation Program. He doesn’t regret his decision for a second. Roy says, “God used the Mission to restore my life. I’m grateful there’s a place where I could come and lay it all down.”

REVIVAL FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Because you give, Roy received tools to heal from trauma, build a strong foundation and achieve lasting sobriety. The grief he continually numbed with drugs and alcohol lifted. He finally has his life back—a true testimony of God’s power and your generosity.

“When I graduated and left the Mission, I felt revived,” recalls Roy. “My story could’ve gone a

different way. I was homeless. I was hungry. I was hurting. And Central Union Mission was there for me. They had compassion when no one else cared. In my worst hour, someone met me at the door.”

UNDENIABLE TRANSFORMATION

Today, Roy is married to his beautiful wife of almost three years, running his own business and traveling. Looking back at that moment in the day room where his transformation journey began, Roy can’t help but be amazed.

“In my worst hour, someone met me at the door.”

“When I walked through these doors, I didn’t know things could get better. I didn’t see . . . all that God had in store for me. He has totally restored my life.”

When no options are left for hurting people across the D.C. area, you open a door—the door to safety, stability, transformation and hope. That invitation is exactly what every “Roy” in our community needs.

THANK YOU
for giving to restore lives, dignity and hope!



Have you heard? Central Union Mission is expanding!

Like you, we see how widespread the need is. *Together, we’re rising to meet it.*

After much prayer and planning, Central Union Mission is expanding to Northern Virginia to bring transformational services to even more low-income families and people experiencing homelessness!

Instead of duplicating the work of existing organizations in the area, our goal is to collaborate—filling any gaps and making care accessible in communities that need it most.

You’ll make it possible for people in need to access a full range of bilingual services under one roof in South Arlington:

- Addiction support groups
- After-school programs
- Computer access
- Christian discipleship
- Social workers
- Job training and placement
- Parenting classes
- Food and clothing



Small actions speak volumes



JOE METTIMANO
President & CEO

What speaks volumes to someone who walks through our doors?

A warm smile from our staff. A clean, safe place to sleep at night. The words “Don’t worry, we’ve got you.”

Or a conversation, enjoyed over a hot meal, with someone who cares—not just for their physical needs, but for their mind and soul, too.

We see it every day at the Mission—little actions speak volumes. Men, women and children facing poverty are longing for what you and I have easy access to every day. A meal or an encouraging word might not look like much. But those simple acts of obedience restore dignity.

Here, people find solutions to not just homelessness, but their brokenness. And it’s because you generously give.

You’re meeting people in the middle of their crisis with compassion. Intentional care sparks hope in someone’s heart—hope for addiction’s grip to break . . . hope for self-sufficiency . . . hope for a future not defined by their past.

Thanks to your partnership, people who once suffered are now telling a story of transformation.

YOU CAN CHANGE A LIFE

No one should silently struggle in poverty . . .

If there's one thing we can all agree on, it's this: **No one should live hungry and homeless.**

But across our communities, men, women and children are suffering silently. Families who never before struggled to stay above the poverty line are suddenly wondering if they'll be able to keep food on the table or a roof over their heads.

Every \$3.21 you give now will provide a meal and care that puts someone on the path to lasting stability. Will you help restore a struggling community member's dignity and hope?

Homelessness is always painful. But in the summer, it's especially brutal. The heat and humidity make conditions all the more dangerous. Thank you for taking action and meeting urgent needs across the D.C. area!



Is making your will at the end of your to-do list?

You're not the only one! Getting started on any task is the hardest part. Here are 5 questions to help you lay a strong foundation for your will and leave a legacy of generosity:

- 1. How do you want to be remembered?**
Pick three attributes and build from there.
- 2. What are the most important lessons you've learned?** Your wisdom will inspire future generations!
- 3. What values do you want to pass on?**
Document the principles that guide your decisions.
- 4. What stories do you want to share?**
Share the memorable and the mundane.
- 5. What people and organizations embody your values?** Use this list to find the beneficiaries of your estate, including organizations that matter to you—like Central Union Mission!

For the full version of "5 Questions to Ask Before Making Your Will," contact Megan Schmoll at (202) 745-7118 ext. 219 or mschmoll@missiondc.org—or bless your family today with an up-to-date will at missiondc.christianwill.org.

Your gift of meals and vital care will transform lives locally!

3 WAYS TO MAKE YOUR IMPACT

1 GIVE BY MAIL by sending your gift and reply form in the enclosed envelope.

2 GIVE ONLINE by visiting missiondc.org/AugustNL24.

3 SCAN HERE with your mobile device.

