

# the missionary

APRIL 2025



## “I WANTED TO GIVE MY KIDS A BETTER LIFE”

Gineé grew up coming to the Mission for help. But she never imagined she'd return like this . . .

“I never had stability as a child,” says Gineé.

No consistent place to call home. No strong father figure to cheer her on in life. No mother to walk with her through teenhood.

“I was removed from my mom’s care when I was 12 and put into foster care,” says Gineé. When she turned 18,

Gineé became homeless and got mixed up in an abusive relationship. She never wanted to follow in her mom’s footsteps. But Gineé found herself a mother of three, fighting drug addiction and trying to survive the streets.

“The hardest part about homelessness was seeing my kids’ faces. They felt helpless,” says Gineé. She would

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# Your gift today will save lives in the D.C. metro area!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

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look at them and think, *I’m your mom. And I can’t even take care of y’all.* It was a fight just to put food in their stomachs and clothes on their backs.

“And all the while, I was trying to keep them in school. I wanted to give my kids a better life,” says Gineé. “But breaking the cycle is hard without support.”

Gineé was living in hotel rooms, using drugs to numb her pain and trying to raise her children alone. When her middle son was removed from her care, Gineé had had enough.

She didn’t want this for herself or for her precious little ones. Gineé’s desire for her children to live a life different from her own childhood was enough to take the taste of drugs away.

“I remembered coming to the Mission as a child with my mom and getting help,” she says. “I had always clung to how they don’t just help you—they show you love. So I started coming on my own.”

## BECOMING THE MOTHER SHE WAS MADE TO BE

Because you give, Gineé is breaking the cycle of homelessness and addiction for herself and her three children.

This single mother found everything she needed to rebuild—help securing an apartment, continued education resources, groceries, spiritual growth and more. “Before I became homeless, I went to school for medical assistance and phlebotomy,” says Gineé. “I’m currently taking online classes to become a registered nurse.”

Most rewarding of all, Gineé received help reuniting with her 15-year-old son. She’s becoming the mother she was always made to be.

“The parenting classes here helped me recognize that parents make mistakes and helped me to bring my son back into my life,” says Gineé. “I’m learning patience. It’s helped my kids and I heal and form a bond of trust. I’m becoming a better mother.”

*Because of you, Gineé—and so many others—are breaking cycles that keep them trapped in homelessness. Thank you!*

PROVIDE  
LIFE-CHANGING  
SERVICES  
so more people  
like Gineé can  
rebuild!



## Check out this business making an impact in the D.C. area . . .

Changing lives in the D.C. area takes a community-wide effort—from you, community partners, local businesses and more! Every part matters. And we want to take a moment to recognize a valued, long-time friend of the Mission—Coca-Cola Consolidated, Inc.

Headquartered in Charlotte, NC, Coca-Cola Consolidated holds the title of the largest independent Coca-Cola bottler in the U.S. You’ll see their commitment to Christian values and serving by the way they’ve met needs big and small at the Mission.

Coca-Cola Consolidated played a vital role in renovating Lambert House—our transitional housing facility for men in recovery. They supported our first-ever large-scale Job and Resource Fair to help people in need secure employment.

And their local distributing facilities are close friends of the Mission, frequently supplying a variety of Coke products.

In addition, they gave a deeply meaningful and generous gift last year in honor of the Mission’s 140-year legacy.

Thank you, Coca-Cola Consolidated, for being a part of changing lives in the D.C. area!

You too can make a long-lasting impact—no matter how big or small! If you own a business and want to stand with the Mission, visit [missiondc.org/stand](http://missiondc.org/stand).

## Free to dream big



JOE METTIMANO  
President & CEO

It’s God’s delight to put dreams and ambitions in our hearts. We’re all “created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:10).

But when you’re experiencing homelessness . . . going to bed hungry every night . . . or fighting addiction, unlocking these dreams feels impossible.

Too many people across our D.C. area are dreaming of a safe place to sleep at night. Food. An escape from their painful past.

*They’re not free to dream for their future, to dream big . . .*

**But because you give, people like Gineé are dreaming big for the first time.**

Her goal of becoming a registered nurse and being a strong mother for her children is coming true. And it’s thanks to your partnership.

“New life” is not too good to be true or some feel-good phrase we say as Easter rolls around. It’s real transformation for our struggling community. It’s a chance to experience fullness of life through Christ’s death and resurrection.

Thank you for unlocking the God-given potential of men, women and children who never thought they’d find a way out of poverty. God bless you!

WILL YOU HELP END THEIR HOMELESSNESS?

## Every \$3.21 you give will DOUBLE in impact to change lives locally

So little is needed to help someone take the first step out of poverty . . .

. . . just a \$3.21 meal you provide today.

Right now, every \$3.21 will instantly DOUBLE in impact—thanks to a \$50,000 Challenge Gift. Twice as many struggling men, women and children will find a pathway out of homelessness and hunger.

Knowing the power of every gift will be multiplied, will you give generously today so as many people as possible can receive transformational care?

The services you provide *work*—recovery resources, safe shelter, grocery assistance, parenting classes, workforce development, social services and more.

**Will you help someone heal today—body, soul and spirit? You can be the hands and feet of Jesus in the D.C. area!**



## Is it time to expand your family circle?

Married or single, parent or not, you can leave a lasting legacy by adding a ministry you're deeply connected with to your estate plan. Here are two people who are impacting generations beyond their lifetime:

**ALAN NAIMAN.** A social worker who worked with families in crisis, Alan served as a foster parent and was the main caregiver for his disabled brother. When Alan died in 2018, he left \$11 million to charities that serve children.

**JANE KESSON.** Jane, a music teacher, left a gift in her will to the Philadelphia Orchestra. They use that gift to fund teacher workshops and concerts for schoolchildren.

Neither Alan nor Jane ever married or had children of their own. So they expanded the definition of family to include causes they cared about. You can do the same!

*For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "Is it Time to Expand Your Family Circle?" by contacting Megan Schmoll at (202) 745-7118 ext. 219 or mschmoll@missiondc.org.*

Provide hot meals and care to help someone overcome homelessness for good!

## 3 WAYS TO DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT NOW

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

**2 GIVE ONLINE** by visiting [missiondc.org/AprilNewsletter25](http://missiondc.org/AprilNewsletter25).

**3 SCAN HERE** with your mobile device.

