



Soup for your Soul

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Your Compassion
and God's Grace
Transform Lives





Dr. Patrick H. Vanderburgh
President

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

—Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)



WHEN THEY KNOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE

Dear Friend,

Theodore Roosevelt once said, “Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.”

Eric’s story, on page 3, is a perfect illustration of that truth. He didn’t want to open himself to God and the gospel we preach until he experienced how much we care about him.

Every day, more hurting people like Eric, and Shamika, who you’ll read about on page 8, come to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. Many have suffered for years from the emotional scars of painful childhoods. Others have struggled with paralyzing addictions and crippling hopelessness, because they think it’s all they deserve. Over the years, they’ve lost connections to family and friends. They feel abandoned. *They feel like no one cares*—and that their lives will never change.

But that’s not true. Jesus cares. His life-transforming work on the cross and His resurrection can change their lives today and for eternity. Together, we can remind our hurting neighbors of this powerful truth.

This summer, and all year round, your support shows precious men and women at the Milwaukee Rescue Mission that they aren’t alone. They aren’t abandoned. Every meal and night of shelter you help provide shows them you care. Every smile, every hug, every word of kindness they experience here is because you helped make it possible. Every class, every Bible study, every hour of spiritual counseling demonstrates how much you care.

Then, as our friends in need receive more and more loving care, their hearts are opened and eager to learn what we know to be true—that the Good News of Jesus Christ will transform their lives forever. Thank you for your life-changing generosity this summer. Thank you for caring!

Sincerely,

Patrick H. Vanderburgh, D.Min.
President



REMOVING THE MASK

In a way, Eric wore a mask almost all his life. "I learned pretty early how to talk, act, dress, and look like a good Christian," he says. "But it was just a mask. And by high school, I had enough. So I rebelled, left God behind, and went looking for a good time."

Instead, Eric found a prison of painkillers, heroin and crack that quickly became just another mask keeping him from ever looking at the hurt, shame, and self-hatred that filled his heart.

"I knew drugs were destroying my life, and I tried to get sober several times," he says. "But every time, I just wanted to fix my drug problem. I never wanted to fix Eric. So I kept relapsing. I even overdosed three times and almost died. I still couldn't stop."

Finally, in October 2017, after burning every bridge to friends and family, Eric decided to check out the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. "I didn't know it at the time, but God led me here," he says.

Over the next two and a half months, Eric dragged his feet. "I wanted to change, I just didn't want God," he explains. "But the people here cared about me so much. And I could see how God was changing so many other lives around me. Slowly, I opened myself up to the God I never knew, the God who loves me. The real me. The me with no mask."

Today, God is continuing to use your support for the Milwaukee Rescue Mission to not only restore



"Slowly, I opened myself up to the God I knew who loved me. The real me. The me with no mask."

Eric, but to reconcile the relationships with his entire family. "In some ways, for the first time, I feel like we're all learning who we really are, and it's amazing," he says. "Thanks to donors, I can finally be Eric. I can be myself, with no mask to wear."



EDUCATING KIDS, HELPING A COMMUNITY THROUGH

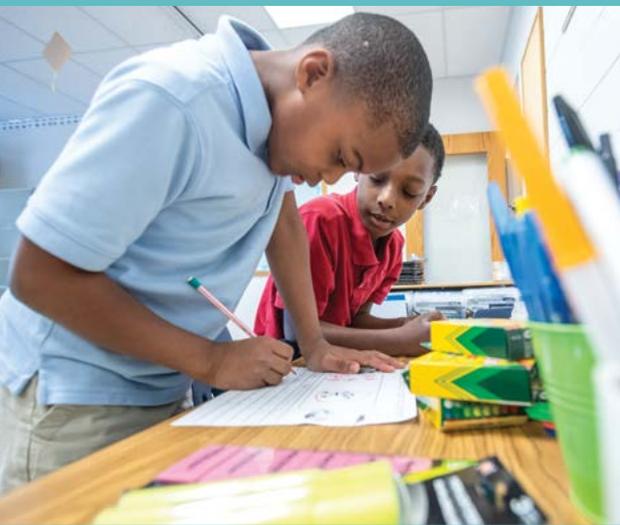


For years, the neighborhood of Lindsay Heights, no experienced some of the greatest suffering in our o

- Only 36% of adult males are employed.
- Two-thirds of the children live in poverty.
- 96% of children attending school come from econ

Thanks to your support, through our North Ca statistics and bring hope to Lindsay Heights th outreach programs.

Cross Trainers Academy



Cross Trainers Academy has been providing Christ-centered education for at-risk students, from pre-kindergarten through high school, since 2006. Education is essential to breaking the cycle of poverty and CTA provides students with the resources they need to reach their full potential by emphasizing:

- **Strong Academics:** CTA offers comprehensive courses including STEM classes and arts programs.
- **Character Development:** Students are taught to develop a strong sense of personal responsibility, civic duty and moral integrity by establishing a personal relationship with Christ and discovering His calling on their lives.
- **Career Readiness:** The curriculum at CTA prepares students to enroll in a post-high school program, either a vocational program for a trade or technical career, or a two- or four-year college. In addition, students may enroll in one or more classes at Milwaukee Area Technical College during their senior year.



ING FAMILIES, TRANSFORMING GH OUR NORTH CAMPUS

North of the Milwaukee Rescue Mission, has
city. Did you know that in ZIP code 53206...

onomically disadvantaged households.

ampus we are determined to change
through our school and community

Equip

MRM's Equip programs focus on strengthening families in the community by providing education and resources. Equip's mission is to help men, women and children become stable physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Equip Highlights:

- **Child Enrichment Center:** Provides children ages 4 weeks to 4 years with healthy activities and nurturing love to help them grow.
- **Neighborhood Association:** Established to help the community take ownership of their local concerns.
- **Navigate:** Offers Bible studies, classes and practical resources to help the community address parenting issues, conflict resolution, finances, nutrition, career help and more.
- **Community Room:** Offers daily access to computers and community-outreach staff.
- **Community Events:** Through block parties, movie nights, local barbecues and other events, we help build a stronger sense of community and relationships.
- **Monthly Distributions:** Every month, we distribute food, clothing and hygiene items to those in need.

“I love the Cross Trainers’ curriculum, and I love the fact that my kids are being challenged academically. I especially love that they’re learning about Jesus and the grace we have in Him. They don’t just worship God in church, but all week long now.”
—Tenesha

“My daughter is learning more than her ABCs and 1-2-3s. She’s learning to believe in herself and to have faith in God. She loves attending Cross Trainers Academy. She’s happy, she’s safe and she’s learning. I don’t want her going to any other school.” —Anthony



MATCHING CHALLENGE!

Your Gift Will DOUBLE in Impact!

Thanks to a \$255,664.64 Matching Gift Challenge, your May gift will go TWICE as far this summer!

\$2.04 = ~~1 Meal~~ 2 Meals
This month your gift DOUBLES!

Hurting men, women and children who come to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission desperately need hope and a helping hand—in fact, they need YOU! Thanks to a generous group of friends who recently contributed a \$255,664.64 **Matching Challenge Gift**, every donation we receive in May will be combined with the Match to feed, clothe, shelter and help transform the lives of our homeless neighbors now and through the summer.



That means any gift you send will be DOUBLED in impact—automatically—to provide twice as much help for struggling neighbors, and to remind them that someone really does care. This extraordinary opportunity is only available for a short time—**please give by May 31!**

Please send a generous gift today and provide **TWICE** as much help!

Attention Golfers: “18 Holes for the Homeless” —Save the Date!

Calling all golfers! Doesn't matter if you're a golf pro or a weekend hacker, we'd love to see you at our annual golf outing, “18 Holes for the Homeless,” on September 9 at Bluemound Golf & Country Club. Your participation will help provide hope and care to struggling people in our community.

For more information contact events@milmission.org or call 414-935-0205.



MEMORIAL & IN HONOR OF GIFTS

IN MEMORY OF: Our deepest sympathies are with those who have lost a loved one. A memorial gift to MRM is a special way to offer hope to the hurting in the name of a friend or family member.

Fred Antisdell	Steve Fisher	Ted Lamparski	Rose Marie Reitz
Barbara Antrim	Gracion Forrest	Helen Larsen	Mr. Revanna
Art and Mike	Jesse Ryan Gamache	Brian Lash	Majorie Robinson
June Bergholz	Susan Geibel	Leila	Ronald Romanowich
James (Jim) Bott	Thomas and Nancy Giebel	Nancy Lockwood	Michael Finley Schmidley
Virginia Brennan	My dad, Gil	Susan J. Malicki	Rosalyn Schmitt
Michael D. Bulter	Grandparents	Marian S.	Scott
David P. Chyla	Ann Alice Guentner-Harris	Linda McGovern-O'Neill	Mary E. Skidmore
Marilyn J. Cifaldi	Donald W. Hahn	Barbara (Bobbi) McLean	Arthur (Art) Smith II
Tim Clausen	Jeffrey Heilert	Samantha Medinger	Charles W. Sorensen
Elizabeth (Liz) Condon	Milton H. Held	Michael	Kim Steinrad
Laila Cooley	Henry	My Mother	Ione P. Stock
Duane (Red) Corder	Chuck Herbst	Bill & Vera Muir	Janet Stokes
Clifford Countryman	Ileana & Gheorghe	Sophie Musial	William Stokes
Marian Daly	Ileana & Gheorghe	Marshall W. Nelson	Richard Suleski
Robert DeBuhr	Thomas Herrick	Noel and Carol	Louis Szep
Bruce Dehli	Carol Hibbard	Donald Peterson	John (Jack) Tadych
Lila Desert	Ellsworth H. Hilbelink	Gino Pezzin	Jim and Laura
DJ	Chuck and Helen	David A. Plier	Dennis L. Thompson
Timothy Wallace Earley, Jr	Jim Kessen	Grace Pohlmann	Robert Wagner
Charmaine Eickelberg	Karl Keup	Manfred Polak	Mary Jane Walsh
Dorothy M. Enders	Manfred Kindler	Peter P. Puck and Mary M. Puck	Ken Warschkow
Eugene Erba	Edward E. Klug	Stephen A. Purpora	Cassandra Watts
Dennis Fabbri	Christopher (Chris) Koller	Dorothy Raasch	Sharon Weeks
Lucille Faust	Nancy Krueger	S Raju	Margaret (Marge) Wendelberger
Mitchell Fischer	Robert & Dorothy Kruger	John Rechert	Daniel Zentgraf

IN HONOR OF: A gift to MRM is a great way both to provide hope and to remember a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion!

Ayesa	Tom and Marty Durand	John	Joyce Orenstein
Dan and Cindy Beck	Luke Eisner	John Kissinger	Steve Patterson
Leopoldo Bernal	Robert and Heidi Ewert	Pat Koppa's Birthday	Ryan
Paul Bruno	Gene and Charlene's 60th Wedding Anniversary	Michael Lattos	Sarah and Richard
Dennis		Larry Murray	Joshua Woehlke

The names published on this page represent gifts to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission, received from February 1 through March 31, 2019, greater than or equal to \$25.

www.milmission.org

LEAVING THE CHAOS BEHIND



“My life was crazy growing up,” says Shamika, who came to Joy House recently, pregnant and lost. “There were nine of us kids. There was no child abuse, but there was stuff going on with my parents, and we got put in foster care when I was 11.”

Despite the chaos she experienced at home, the trauma she felt being taken from her parents haunted her for the next seven years. “I was trying to figure out what was going on,” says Shamika, now 20. “I felt abandoned.”

Yet Shamika has fond memories of her foster mother. She had her own room and her own bed for the first time. Her foster mother even officially adopted her, and Shamika calls her “Nana” to this day. But as soon as Shamika turned 18, she tried to reconnect with the family she lost.

She moved in with an older sister, and later her birth mother. Unfortunately it didn’t work out. Then, when Shamika got pregnant, she realized she needed help. “It was too much,” she says. “I knew I had to get my life together before my baby came. That was my main focus.”

So Shamika came to Joy House where she learned about God’s love, and where her faith in Him has been growing ever since. She also credits the parenting and financial classes with giving her a solid foundation to build a new life for herself and her baby.

“Joy House really showed me I can have a better life,” she says. “They taught me so much here. Life can throw you some hard stuff, but things are going to get better. And they already are better. I want to thank the donors, because they made sure my daughter will not have to go through the same chaos I went through.”

Work at the Milwaukee Rescue Mission!

Have you ever thought of joining the team at MRM? Check out our employment opportunities at milmission.org/employment

MRM
Milwaukee Rescue Mission

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MISSION STATEMENT

In response to God’s grace through Christ, we compassionately serve men, women and children who are homeless, hungry or poor to help them become whole in body, mind and spirit for the glory of God.

“. . . whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” – Matthew 25:40 (NIV)