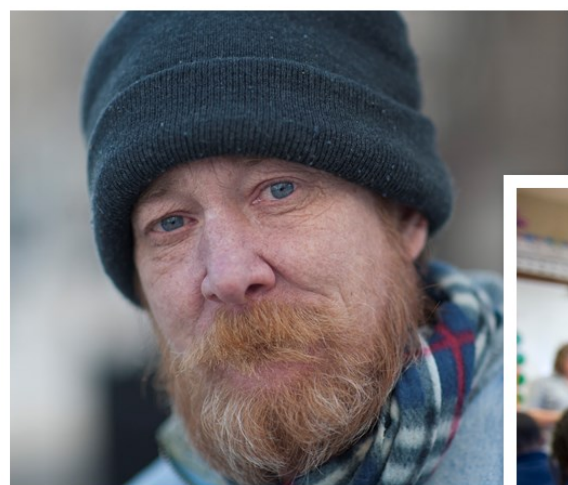
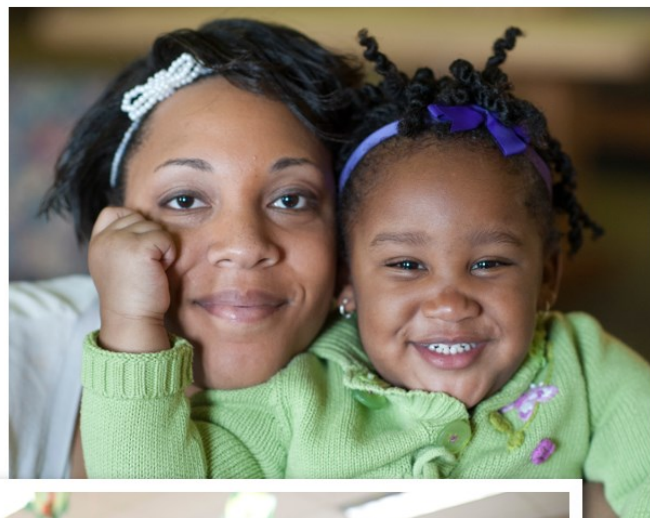


***MRM***

**Milwaukee Rescue Mission**



**2014 Annual Report**



## From the Executive Director

Dear Friend,

Every day, up to 400 men, women and children come through our doors looking for a hot meal, safe shelter and hope for a brighter future. The challenges they face can be overwhelming—homelessness, addiction, unemployment, domestic violence, illiteracy and lack of education to name a few.

It is through the generosity of friends like you that these men, women and children have their basic needs met and are offered the opportunity for a better future. I hope you enjoy hearing how your support allowed this work to be accomplished in 2014, and I am excited to share our plans for the coming year. Please know that without your help, none of this would be possible.

Thank you and God bless!

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. Vanderburgh'.

Patrick H. Vanderburgh, D.Min.  
Executive Director

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## The Need Continues



**Almost 1 in 3 of our  
neighbors lives in poverty.**

Every night, at least

**1,500**

**people endure life on  
the streets of Milwaukee.**

Milwaukee is the eighth poorest big city in America, with a poverty rate of 29.4 percent. That's 171,500 poor people in our city. Many are just one bad break away from joining the already 1,500 homeless folks on our streets — and some estimate the number may be twice that high. Ten percent of our workforce is unemployed; for African-American men, that number is an astonishing 34 percent!

"I guess you can call us invisible," David Baker, a homeless man, told the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. "I mean we're there, but most of the time people don't want to look at you. It's better that they pretend that you don't exist."

# Overview

The Milwaukee Rescue Mission provides homeless men, women and children with emergency aid, such as food, shelter and clothing, as well as long-term assistance including residential recovery programs through our Safe Harbor and Joy House shelters. We also provide at-risk children with a quality education through our Cross Trainers Academy and support local families in need through our Equip community program. Our hope is to see those we serve achieve stable and productive lives. We offer help in the present in order to give hope for the future.

This work would not be possible without the support of the many individuals, businesses, churches and foundations who partner with us each year. To demonstrate how your support has impacted the lives of the homeless and hurting in our community, we are happy to provide this annual report.

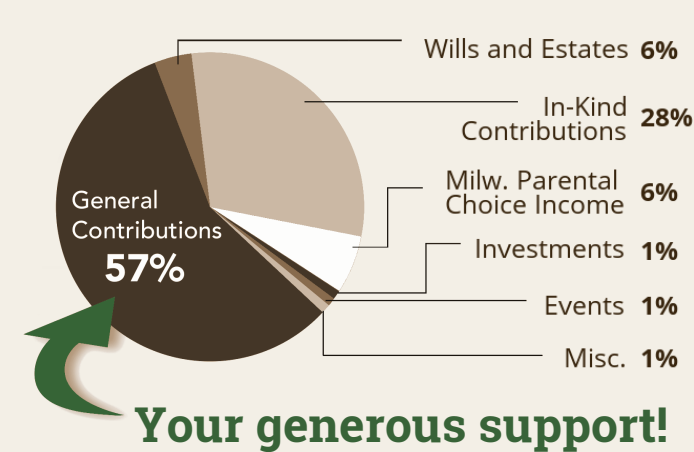
## 2014 By-the-Numbers



## Where your dollars went



## 2014 Financial Information



General Contributions	\$9,195,213	57%
Wills and Estates	\$1,030,150	6%
In-Kind Contributions	\$4,487,651	28%
Milw. Parental Choice Income	\$1,054,629	6%
Investments	\$135,034	1%
Events	\$194,429	1%
Misc.	\$140,683	1%
Total Contributions	\$16,237,789	100%

# Safe Harbor

our shelter and recovery programs for men



## 2014 Impact

- 2,406 different homeless men stayed in Guest Ministries, our emergency shelter, with an average of 220 men receiving shelter each night and staying an average of 33 days
- 423 men in Guest Ministries participated in additional programs for guests who are employed, attending school, or have disabilities
- 63 men participated in a 12-month residency program called New Journey to overcome barriers such as addiction, lack of education, unemployment and financial debt
- Nine men participated in a six-month transitional living program called FOCUS to continue their recovery, maintain employment and save enough money to transition to permanent housing
- 6,100 hours of job training and more than 5,800 hours of academic instruction were provided to homeless men

## 2014 Significant Accomplishments

The restructuring of the New Journey residency program was completed and included focusing the program on four areas: work readiness, stability, interpersonal relationships and spiritual growth. By year's end, our internal assessment tool demonstrated the group score for work readiness increased by 37.6% in 18 months.

## 2014 Lessons Learned

Entering a 12-month residency program is a big commitment which deters some men from entering New Journey. To make the transition more manageable, Safe Harbor implemented a "candidacy" period where men can experience New Journey before committing to the 12-month program.

## 2015 Plans

- Broaden the reach of our 12-step recovery program to include men in the emergency shelter
- Continue to develop a fatherhood initiative to connect men with their children
- Partner with MATC to help men in the New Journey program earn their high school diplomas



# Joy House

our shelter and recovery programs for women and children

## 2014 Impact

- 734 different homeless mothers and their children stayed in our shelter, with an average of 75 women and children receiving meals and shelter each night and staying an average of 38 days
- 127 women graduated from our two-week instructional program called New Life
- Four women completed our 12-month transitional living program called Fresh Start
- 9,800 hours of job training and more than 3,500 hours of academic instruction were provided to homeless women

## 2014 Significant Accomplishments

In response to a survey completed by guests, Joy House improved the living space and layout of the Fresh Start transitional living program to ensure more privacy for families. As a result of the design changes, enrollment doubled. Additionally, an intermediate program (called On Your Mark) was updated to offer increased case management, accountability, mentoring and goal-setting for women considering the Fresh Start program.

## 2014 Lessons Learned

Joy House administrators recognized the value of having an on-staff trained mental health counselor to offer family and one-on-one counseling, as well as conduct anger management and de-escalation classes. Also, a need was identified for a bi-lingual staff member.

## 2015 Plans

- Assess the need in the community for shelter and services to homeless single women without children
- Integrate trauma-informed care components to improve services to clients in the shelter and transitional living programs
- Implement a Health and Wellness program for children in the shelter, with an emphasis on nutrition, exercise, rest and mental and spiritual well-being



# Cross Trainers Academy

our school for at-risk neighborhood students

## 2014 Impact



- 179 students in grades K4-8 were enrolled in the 2014-15 school year
- In the 2014-15 school year, 88% of students from the prior school year returned and students averaged a 92% daily attendance rate
- 25% of students exceeded the projected growth in MAP assessment tests by 1.5 times and 13% of students achieved twice the expected gains



## 2014 Significant Accomplishments

In November, our Board of Directors voted to expand the school to include a high school that focuses on vocational readiness for both the college bound and those planning to enter a trade or technical career.



## 2014 Lessons Learned

The impact of daily stress for many CTA students is high. It is through a long-term process of providing consistent, quality teaching and building strong, trusting relationships that we are able to see progress. Any future school expansion will be done slowly to preserve the healthy school culture that has been established.



## 2015 Plans

- Relocate to a new campus on 15th and Center Streets in Milwaukee to accommodate the expansion of the school
- Offer our first 9th grade class in the 2015-16 school year, and add one additional grade each year until there is a full high school for the 2018-19 school year
- Add a second section for the K4, K5 and 1st grades
- Design a fully functional STEM lab and science program for the high school and begin implementation with a physics lab for the 2015-16 school year
- Develop vocational training classes for the high school



# Equip Ministries

our community-based services to support program graduates and neighbors

## 2014 Impact

- 63 children received academic support from volunteer tutors in an after-school tutoring program
- 189 families in need received Thanksgiving baskets
- 261 low-income families received Christmas gifts and winter clothing
- 83 at-risk children attended a six-week summer City Camp, where they maintained academic proficiency, received two healthy meals a day and participated in fun enrichment activities

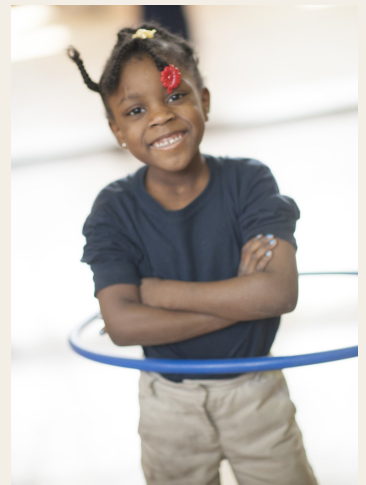


## 2014 Significant Accomplishments

The Equip department was added to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission in 2014. It serves to coordinate existing supplemental programs such as the after-school tutoring program and summer City Camp, as well as reach out to the community with new program offerings.

## 2014 Lessons Learned

Through the after-school tutoring program, our staff identified the need to supplement academic support with physical activity and extracurricular activities. As a result, martial arts and a volleyball team were added to the after-school program offerings.



## 2015 Plans

- Open a state-licensed Child Enrichment Center in fall 2015 for low-income families, which will include a daycare and 3K classroom
- Further develop our community outreach and expand services to program graduates
- Explore expanded youth programming, including additional extracurricular opportunities for the community and Cross Trainers Academy families
- Extend our clothing distribution avenues further into the community







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## Milwaukee Rescue Mission Board of Directors

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To learn more or to make a donation, visit our website at:

**[www.milmission.org](http://www.milmission.org)**