Make TWICE the Difference!

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ECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892

PRINGFIELD

Transforming Lives Together THANK YOU!

But there's more . . . and TWICE the chance to help neighbors in need!

INSIDE

"I'm so grateful to you because without you, we would have nothing!"

See your transformational impact inside! page 3 And your new MATCHING CHALLENGE CHECK

is enclosed with your reply slip to use TODAY!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" —2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

CHANGED-LIFE STORY

"People here seem like they actually care—and act like they care!"—Andrew

When you hit bottom like Andrew, you have no home, no hope, and you have *no one*...

That sense of total isolation is almost as terrible as the constant hunger and hurt of alcoholism, and Andrew knows it well.

"I was drinking myself to death," he admits, and it drove him to a despair so deep, "I didn't believe in anything, anyone. I was ready to die.

"My life was falling apart—I was falling apart!" he says with a shudder, and recalls thinking, "I'm just going to go in a corner and die."

Still, Andrew knew there had to be rescue somewhere, from someone—maybe even a caring neighbor like you.

"One morning, I just woke up, and I was like, 'I have to DO something,'" he says. And God took it from there . . .

"I don't know what made me go to a church one day," he says, shaking his head in amazement. "A guy there spoke to me . . . asked if I'd ever heard of the Rescue Mission. And I was ready to go!"

So Andrew came for a meal . . . "and spent a year here!" he smiles—in our landmark Men's

"Families and everybody come in, and you feed them . . . show love to them. Which is what I needed at the time and didn't even know it!" he laughs, perhaps for the first time in years.

New Life Rehabilitation Program. And today, Andrew rejoices with us in Christ.

"People here, they seem like they actually care—and *act* like they care," he nods gratefully.

"I couldn't do this on my own," Andrew says. "But here, you said, 'Ask God for help.' That's what I did, and He's helped me!"

Yet hundreds more in harm's way are headed our direction this summer, which is why your loving support means so much.

And thanks to the exciting Matching Challenge, *any* gift you send by our May 31 deadline will DOUBLE instantly, making TWICE the difference for neighbors in need like Andrew. *Thank you!*



Certified Training Center for Biblical Counselors!

The Rescue Mission has partnered with the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors to become a Certified Training Center, newly named the **Lighthouse Biblical Counseling Institute** (LBCI). The center will serve to advance this ministry we share by equipping participants to restore, inform and disciple others through biblical care and instruction. In the near future, LBCI will offer training, counseling and a path to Certification in Biblical Counseling to the community. *Please pray for God's blessings on this opportunity to teach, train and transform more lives together*!

James McGown (left) is a certified ACBC Counselor and LBCI Director who is leading the charge to help train up and send out Bible counselors around the region. **YOUR NEIGHBORS NEED YOU**— And in their own words, they thank <u>you</u> for helping transform their lives!



"We were thirsty; we were hungry; we needed help. A lot of people depend on this for food and care. As those who are less fortunate, we're not coming for attention **just a blessing!**" –Chris



"This help is so hopeful! It's a blessing from God. We thank you and know it's important to **pray together and be heard.**"–Joseph

"This blessing is from our heavenly father and very much a part of faith. It's a beautiful thing. **Bless your whole** organization."–Ty

"The water from a storm came into my apartment, and I lost practically all my clothing—even pots and pans! **So** this makes a big difference in my life."–Rosa

> "It makes me feel good that there are places like this in our community that are willing to help people in need. **There are a lot of people who struggle, so this is really important!**" –Ben

> > "I'm so grateful to you because without you, **we would have nothing!**" –Anna

Through your gifts and prayers, bodies and souls are being saved and changed each and every day! So thank you for being the message of this ministry— "Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name." And thank you for helping transform TWICE as many lives together with the Matching Challenge by May 31!



Your Values Can Live On for Those You Love!

Family is what many of us value most, and one thing most often wished for is that our families will have peace and security after our passing.

Updating your will to reflect your core values will not only ensure your legacy, it will help create peace in your family! Wise estate planning and an up-to-date will eliminates conflict long before it might happen. And a relevant will, true to your beliefs and values provides . . .

- 1. *Peace*—Your children and others in your bequest will know you cared enough to plan ahead.
- 2. Communication—Putting your final wishes in writing and sharing them verbally lets those you love know your heart while you're still with them.
- **3.** Love in Action—By including provision in your will for the ministries you support, like the Rescue Mission, your family will see a powerful example of living your values now and for the future!

As you consider updating your will and estate plans, know how vital you are to this ministry we share at Springfield Rescue Mission, transforming lives in Christ's name! To learn more, request information on how to create a legacy that matches your values by contacting Greg Clark at (413) 732-0808 ext. 219 or gclark@springfieldrescuemission.org. You can also bless your family with a God-honoring will by going to this site: www.christianwill.org/springfield.

Thank you for caring!

Transforming Lives Together THANK YOU!

But there's more . . . and TWICE the chance to help!

Ronald Willoughby Executive Director/CEO

Make TWICE the Difference

For those who need you most this summer!

Simply fill in your enclosed Challenge Check with the amount God leads you to share, and return it with your gift and reply slip to help transform **TWICE** as many lives this summer!



My Friend,

With everything that's happening in the world and our community right now, this summer is looking less like vacation time and more like a time of significant challenges-

Which is even more difficult if you're already struggling to keep a roof over your head . . . or the virus pandemic is making it hard just to feed your family ... or you're a senior struggling to pay the utility bills to keep your home cool while still trying to keep food on the table on a small fixed income.

Or imagine being hot and homeless on the streets—hungry and all but hopeless . . . like Andrew, whose story you can read on pg. 2.

It's for neighbors in need like these that I'm thrilled you and I have the opportunity to help transform

TWICE as many lives through the power of the \$91,000 Matching Challenge!

Never has the opportunity to *double* your impact instantly, dollar for dollar,

been more necessary, as we are seeing as much as a 20% surge just in the number of meals needed—that's over 5,000 *more* on top of the 45,000 breakfasts, lunches, and dinners we're already providing!

And each healthy meal served here, each night of safe shelter, each opportunity to provide critical emergency services leads directly to more life change through emergency services, daily programs, transformational rehabilitation and neighborhood outreach.

So please look for God's leading as you make your generous gift to help meet the full value of the Matching Challenge to make TWICE the difference by our May 31 deadline.

Thank you, and please be sure to remember this ministry we share in your prayers as we answer Christ's call—transforming lives together!

Thanking God for you,

Kardd Willaugh



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Give today at springfieldrescuemission.org/donate

Connect with us at info@springfieldrescuemission.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The goal of the Springfield Rescue Mission since 1892 is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the hungry, homeless, addicted and poor by introducing them to Christ and helping them apply the Word of God to every area of their lives.

The Springfield Rescue Mission is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.



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