



SPRINGFIELD
RESCUE
MISSION

Life Transformation
Starts Here—THANKS TO YOU

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EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892

**"Food, shelter,
clothing—and
getting in touch
with God!"**

—Michael

inside

See how you are
transforming lives

pgs. 2 & 4

And right now, you can
DOUBLE your impact
for neighbors in need!

MATCHING CHALLENGE CHECK

8820

SPRINGFIELD RESCUE MISSION

PAY TO THE ORDER OF **SPRINGFIELD RESCUE MISSION**

Please fill in the amount of your generous gift here

\$ DOLLARS

FACSIMILE CHECK—NON-NEGOTIABLE

MATCH DEADLINE: MAY 31

Kim Hammett, Executive Director/CEO

Check is valid only if accompanied by a check for more. Thank you!

**Fill out your
Matching
Challenge Check
TODAY!**



"But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you." Psalm 39:7 NIV

MICHAEL'S STORY

"They took me right in . . . and taught me about the Lord." —Michael

In Michael's experience, a life lived on the streets only finished one of two ways: "It ends with incarceration," he shook his head. "Or maybe even death."

That's the hard truth he found himself facing after years of hurt, addiction and homelessness. At the end of his road, "I had nowhere to go... I was at the bottom of the bottom of the bottom" he says. And nobody left to look to for help—or hope. "I didn't know what to do so I just wanted to die."

Until one day, "some people were telling me about the Springfield Rescue Mission," he says. "They told me it could help me."

Hungry and afraid, he found himself at our door. "I had breakfast at 7:00 AM," he recalls. **"I talked with them here, they took me right in . . . and taught me all about the Lord."**

Michael marvels at all he's found at the Rescue Mission that saved him from the streets—and

helped him turn his life around: "I had nowhere to go. But, the Rescue Mission provided meals for me—and a bed, showers, and a place to stay when I was down and out . . .

"But," he smiles, "what I didn't know was how it was going to help me build a relationship with God, and that's the most beautiful thing about Springfield Rescue Mission. Food, shelter, clothing—and *getting in touch with God!*"

That, of course, is the core of our proven Men's New Life Rehabilitation Program, and Michael is a faithful follower of Christ. "I'm building a relationship with Him on a regular basis," he nods. "And it's a work in progress: I'm not where I want to be, but I'm where I need to be right now!"

He's also the first to share that Christ-centered point of view with others coming here for help and hope. "I've grown to a point where I have a better understanding about Christ. I pray, and I read the Word of God on a daily basis, participating in a relationship with Him. I also found out what a relationship requires, too," he beams. "So, that's what I'm doing—and it's a wonderful thing!"

A wonderful, real-life transformation you help make possible with your gifts and prayers.

And through our exciting Matching Challenge, any gift you send by the May 31 deadline will make a DOUBLE impact for TWICE as many lives on the line like Michael's. Thank you!

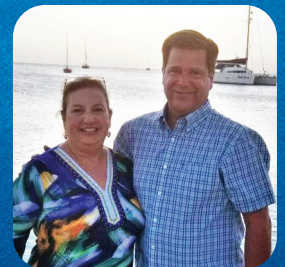


Sustainers of Hope
KEEPERS OF THE MISSION

**You can be a
SUSTAINER OF
HOPE—now and
for the future!**

As a faithful friend of the Rescue Mission, you know that the needs of those God places in our care are ongoing—and now, you have the opportunity to make a monthly impact as a *Sustainer of Hope!*

"We are proud to support the Mission because we believe it truly makes a difference in the lives of so many individuals who need a helping hand," says Mark and Elaine Roberts, whose monthly Sustainer of Hope gifts makes an enduring difference. "We are also inspired to give by the real life stories of those who have been lifted up by the wonderful, caring staff and volunteers. As Pope Francis stated, 'You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. This is how prayer works.'"



YOUR BENEFITS AS A SUSTAINER OF HOPE

- Meeting the intense need of our most vulnerable neighbors with your monthly offering
- Having an easy-to-adjust commitment and giving options that work best for you
- Seizing the opportunity to provide regular support, resulting in fewer administrative and overhead expenses at the Rescue Mission

To start saving and changing lives month by month, simply check the box on your enclosed reply slip and return it with your first life-saving monthly gift right away. And welcome, as a *Sustainer of Hope!*

2020 MINISTRY REPORT

Good Stewards of Your Support!

Since 1892, this Christ-centered ministry of Greater Springfield has helped save and *transform* lives and futures—**but only because of God blessing gifts and prayers like yours.**

With your help, **we've served thousands of suffering souls** at the Rescue Mission in the last 12 months, providing life-sustaining meals, safe shelter during these difficult pandemic days and proven rehabilitation for men to grow in *new life*, now and in the days ahead!



Because of your compassion, we have served over **800,000 wholesome meals** to men, women and children through our programs and Community Outreach.



Through the community Give Away Center, nearly **200,000 pounds of clothing** and over **1,000 Hope Tote Bags** were provided to **over 1,000 men, women, and children.** This includes Undie Sunday/Monday distribution to those coming in from the street.



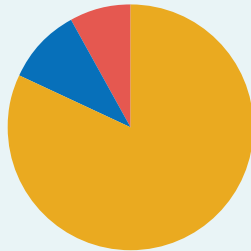
With your generous help – from Taylor Street to Mill Street – nearly **50 beds** were occupied every night of the year.

WHERE YOUR GIFTS GO

82% Emergency, Rehabilitation & Outreach Programs

10% Administration

8% Fundraising



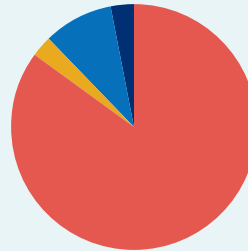
WHERE YOUR GIFTS COME FROM

85% Friends like you and area businesses

3% Local Church Support

9% Grants

3% Legacy & Trusts



HOW YOU ARE TRANSFORMING LIFE WITH HOPE!



"This is a God-given place and can change your life!"

—Donny



"I thank God for everything I've received!"

—Mike



"I realize now that this is definitely where God wanted me!"

—Theron

Special thank you to these businesses and foundations for their generous grant support: Agnes M. Lindsay Trust, Berkshire Bank, Charles H. Foundation, Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, Country Bank, Florence Bank, Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation, People's United Community Foundation, United Way of Pioneer Valley, and Webster Bank



***"I can't thank you
enough—all the time!"***
—Steve

"COVID-19 played a big part in me becoming homeless," Steve sighs, looking back at how the pandemic swept through his life, like so many others in Greater Springfield.

"I was an alcoholic, pretty much since my early '20s," he admits. "But, I'd been sober for 29 years—had a house and everything." But after a car accident, he fell into opioids—and coming out of that, back into alcohol.

And when the pressures of the pandemic pushed him further into his downward spiral, he lost his marriage and his home. The pain still fresh in his eyes, Steve says, "I ended up being on the street for quite a while—and now, **when you're out there in this COVID-19 situation, you're not welcome anymore.**"



Finally, Steve found his way to our door—*literally*, falling asleep there one dark early morning. He was woken by one of our staff and invited inside for a meal, a bed—and, after a short while, "He invited me into the total

program here," Steve nods. "And it worked out fantastically!"

Full of enthusiasm for his second chance, Steve says, "I totally absorbed the Word and everything about what's going on here—going to classes that brought structure to my life that I didn't have before . . . **this place is wonderful.**"

And we were only able to care for Steve in this way because of friends like you who are involved in this ministry.

"I've met so many wonderful people, you know what I mean?" he says gratefully. "Really, honestly, the nicest people I've ever met in my life. *I can't thank you enough—all the time!*"

YOU are an important part of the care and compassion he received here. It's because of you our doors are open for suffering souls like Steve, who come for a meal—but what they really find is Christ, a renewed purpose and a path to a productive life.

Thank you for helping make that possible—providing transformation for the men, women and children God has placed in our care!

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Springfield, MA 01102-9045
PHONE: 413-732-0808 | FAX: 413-732-5512
WEB: springfieldrescuemission.org

Give today at:
springfieldrescuemission.org/match

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.



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[@hope4spfld](https://twitter.com/hope4spfld)



The Springfield Rescue Mission is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. You can donate your used cell phone, ink and laser cartridges to the Rescue Mission!