

Take a moment...

Did you know:

- There were 5,118 homeless in Grand Rapids in 2009.
- 64% of homeless individuals are men, primarily in their 40s and 50s.
- It takes 78 hours of work per week at minimum wage to afford a two bedroom apartment at fair market rent.
- 12% of homeless are veterans.
- 29 degrees is the average winter temperature.
- 21% struggle with drugs, alcohol, mental illness or a physical disability.

How you helped in 2010:

- 134 program participants benefited from our drug and alcohol rehabilitation and life recovery program.
- 59 percent of program graduates obtained employment.
- More than 500 people volunteered their time at Guiding Light Mission.
- 81,327 free meals were served.
- 31,315 overnight stays were provided in our patron dorms.

Just \$24.80 a day provides:

- A locker for safe storage of personal effects
- A hot shower
- Clean sleeping apparel
- Personal hygiene products
- A warm & safe shelter, with security 24/7
- Day shelter from extreme weather
- Three balanced meals
- Christian fellowship

Thank you for taking a moment to understand not just the lives but the issues that impact us all. Ultimately, it then takes action. And even the smallest actions can help us take a person off the street, heal substance abuse and give new meaning and faith to fellow lives once considered lost.

It's almost time for our annual banquet

Tuesday, September 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

There's still time to help support Guiding Light Mission by enjoying delicious food, entertainment, testimonies and fun at our Annual Banquet. Because it will be held at the Mission, you can see first-hand how your contributions make a difference. You can also preview the artwork of ArtPrize contestants, which goes on public display September 20 – October 9. Extra parking and security will be available. For more information, contact Jessica at Jessica@lifeonthestreet.org or 616-451-0236 x13.



Art and soul ArtPrize at Guiding Light Mission

September 21 – October 9, 2011

Come to Guiding Light Mission to experience ArtPrize, the world's largest international art competition. We'll display incredible works by Michigan artists, giving you a unique glimpse into the lives of people in the community that we

serve. Better yet, lend a hand! If you would like to volunteer, contact Jessica at Jessica@lifeonthestreet.org or 616.451.0236 x13.

WMU students learn from Guiding Light residents

Men in Guiding Light's S.T.A.R.T. program recently helped seven Occupational Therapy graduate students with an eight-week field-work experience. Under the direction of Dr. Ann Chapleau, Western Michigan University students evaluated residents' personal goals and assess their cognitive



functioning. The students facilitated weekly treatment groups to address performance issues related to addiction and homelessness, including communication skills, stress management, money management and sober leisure skills.

Hands-on activities included completing a job interest assessment and mock interview, creating a resume, role playing conflict situations and woodworking projects. Dr. Chapleau reports:

"While typical community sites (for OT fieldwork) include preschools, assisted living facilities and nursing homes, Guiding Light presented the opportunity to take students further out of their comfort zone, working in a setting that can be very intimidating initially, but ultimately very rewarding. Students demonstrate professional and personal growth as they learn to better understand those struggling with addiction and homelessness."

Dr. Chapleau also noted how helpful the Guiding Light staff was in coordinating the learning experience for the students.

As the eight weeks drew to a close, students evaluated changes in residents' performance skills. Most of the men reported a significant improvement in many of the problem areas they had initially identified!

Equally gratifying was this statement from a Guiding Light volunteer counselor upon hearing the WMU students' final report: *"We are already on the right track... I don't think most realize that we are right now providing the most comprehensive and thorough recovery program in the state... The road we are blazing now in the field of transition and follow-up is revolutionary in our industry even though it appears to be just common sense. The big difference is that we, as a mission, care."*

Board of Directors

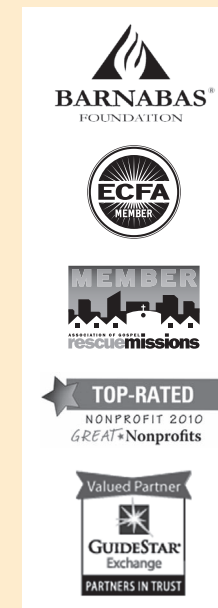
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Our Mission

Guiding Light Mission exists to create a healing experience that allows individuals to discover a new life in Christ. We expect re-engagement in community. We provide food and shelter to all and resources to men that support their social, physical, spiritual, and intellectual needs.



255 S. Division
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
www.lifeonthestreet.org



A hand of kindness You helped Brian walk a journey of recovery

Brian had it all...a loving family, a beautiful home, cars and boats. But Brian also had a powerful addiction to drugs that plunged him into a deep depression and ultimately cost him everything he had worked so hard for.

For years, Brian wrestled with his addiction on his own. Realizing that he needed help, he joined a program at another mission, but it didn't work for him.

On April 1, 2011, Brian decided to try again, this time at Guiding Light Mission. His previous experience left him a little skeptical that Guiding Light could lift him out of his despair. That all changed with one encounter.

As Brian sat by himself, one of the Mission residents came over to him, put a hand on Brian's shoulder and said, "I want you to know that the Lord loves you and your brothers here will walk through the journey with you."

Read more about Brian inside >



Brian is confident that the Lord has plans for him and is committed to staying close to Him as those plans unfold.

After rescue and recovery... Re-engagement!

Your gift of support today will help more men recover and re-engage!

Dear Friend,

The first big step a homeless man takes is the one that brings him over Guiding Light's threshold. Once inside, he finds food, shelter and opportunities to take many more steps towards recovery. The final—and biggest—step is the one that takes him back out into the community. We call it re-engagement.

Every part of our ministry, from providing basic safety and security to guiding men through recovery and leading them to a new life in Christ, is aimed at re-engagement as contributing members of society.

How do the men get to that point? In practical terms, we provide weekly job postings, a website with community resources, computers and office services, private voicemail boxes for contact with potential employers, financial counseling, bus passes and more.

Just as important, if not more so, are the intangible preparations for re-engagement. The men are expected to join a church and actively engage in a support group. They're encouraged to attend AA or NA classes and to stay connected with the Mission for after-care counseling to aid in their long-term recovery. And they're discouraged from finding housing in undesirable areas, to help avoid occasions for relapse.

Does it work? Yes! With your help and God's grace, more residents are taking that final step back into the community. Thank you for your partnership—your gift of support today will help more men recover and re-engage!



You are cordially invited to join us for the Director's Information Breakfast

1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month, 8:00–9:00 a.m.

At Guiding Light Mission,
255 S. Division Avenue,
Grand Rapids, MI

Parking is on Bartlett Street
behind God's Kitchen

Take a moment to:

- Learn more about the homeless and what Guiding Light Mission is doing in the community
- Meet and hear from the men who live at Guiding Light Mission
- Tour our facility
- Hear from our Executive Director, Stuart Ray

The next Breakfasts are scheduled for September 21, October 5 and October 19. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP by phone 616-451-0236, fax 616-451-8723, or email info@lifeonthestreet.org. We'd love to see you there!

A hand of kindness... con't from cover

Brian understood that he was among men who really cared about him, in a place where lives truly do change! Brian's journey through the Spiritual Truth and Recovery Training (S.T.A.R.T.) brought him from the darkness of addiction into the light of a new life in Christ.

Today, as a member of our Mission Security Team, Brian

welcomes new arrivals at the Mission with the same love and encouragement he found here. He's confident that the Lord has plans for him and is committed to staying close to Him as those plans unfold.

Thank you for helping Brian and so many others find a fresh start on the road to recovery!



Where your treasure is... remember Guiding Light Mission in your will

Creating or updating your Will communicates that you've planned for and prayed about the resources God has entrusted to you. It communicates a desire to provide for your family. And for many Christians, it communicates a heart for making an eternal impact through organizations such as Guiding Light Mission. You may find it helpful to think and pray about the 3 P's of estate planning below as you reflect on creating or updating your Will.

People. Start by making a list of family and friends for whom you are financially responsible. Are there others you may want to also assist? You can also leave a legacy for generations to come by including ministry organizations such as Guiding Light Mission in your Will.

Property. Next, make a list of your home(s), vehicle(s), jewelry, collections, and other items of value. List your cash on hand, stocks, bonds, profit sharing, retirement plans, and life insurance policies. Beside each asset, write down the cost, current value, and whether

you own it outright or with others. Also make a note of any debts you owe and when they are due.

Plans. As you make your lists, the Lord may give you a sense for how best to plan for and bless your loved ones and the ministries you care about with the resources He has provided to you. You may discover that some of the things you own may be a good "fit" for particular people or organizations. For example, retirement accounts can be an excellent choice for an organization such as Guiding Light Mission since they may be taxed much more than other assets when given to individuals.

Commit your plans to the Lord as you think and pray about the people and property He has entrusted to you, and He will "make your path straight." (Proverbs 3:6)

For more information on remembering Guiding Light Mission in your Will, please call our friends at Barnabas Foundation toll-free at 888-448-3040.

Guiding Light Mission is a member of Barnabas Foundation.
The Foundation's goal is to help caring Christians make tax-wise decisions and strengthen support for ministries close to their hearts.

Mission needs...

Basic Needs:

- Bus Passes
- NIV Bibles & Christian reading materials
- Spiral notebooks
- Men's short-sleeved shirts
- Men's briefs & socks
- Men's jeans & khaki pants (size 30–50)
- Men's short-sleeved shirts
- Hair combs
- Disposable razors & shaving cream
- Bath towels & washcloths
- Men's deodorant
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Shampoo & bar soap
- New pillows (twin size)

Specialty Needs:

- Wet-dry vac
- Desk
- Lamps for men's dorms
- Oscillating fans for men's dorms
- Laptop computers
- Physician's scale
- 12-passenger van
- Projector & screen for Chapel
- Projector screen for conference room
- New carpet for chapel riser

Volunteers & Special Projects:

- Financial planners
- Case managers
- Counselor and social work interns

- Bible study leaders
- Teachers (remedial reading, math tutors, GED coaches)
- Exercise educators
- Nutritionist
- Office assistants
- Mentors
- Job coordinators
- Housing chaperones
- Paint front of building
- Remodel utility room

Food Pantry:

- Canned vegetables & fruit
- Canned chicken & tuna
- Boxed cereal & pasta
- Dry or canned milk
- Frozen meats
- Butter or margarine
- Bread
- Cheese
- Desserts (non-frozen)

Alumni Move Kits:

- Dishes (set of 4 or 6)
- Silverware (set of 4 or 6)
- Coffee mugs & glasses
- Pots & pans
- Comforter covers
- Bed sheets
- Pillows & mattresses
- Window curtains
- Rugs
- Lamps
- Bath & hand towels
- Shower curtains

Share while you shop!

Join Meijer Community Rewards

Now, the everyday purchases you already make at Meijer will help to raise funds for Guiding Light Mission! Simply enroll in the **Meijer Community Rewards program** and shop at any Meijer or Meijer Gas Station location. Meijer will automatically reward a percentage of your purchase price to Guiding Light. It's that easy!

There are two ways to enroll:

1. Apply online for a Meijer credit card at Meijer.com/creditcard or at your local Meijer store. Include our 6 digit code (638324) on the application.
2. Apply online for Meijer Community Rewards at Meijer.com/rewards or with an enrollment form from your Meijer store or our organization. You will receive a Meijer 1 CardSM to be used with cash or a PIN-based debit card for Meijer Rewards.

Our 6-digit code: 638324

Your family and friends are invited to use this free program as well. Encourage them to join us in helping the less fortunate in Grand Rapids!

For more information,
visit Meijer.com/rewards.

My Gift for Rescue, Recovery & Re-engagement

Yes, Stuart, I want to help men at Guiding Light Mission to re-engage with their families and with our community. To provide food, shelter, counseling and education, I have enclosed:

Email Address: _____

GUIDING LIGHT MISSION


Take a moment. Take action. lifeonthestreet.org

255 S. Division
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If you would like to charge your gift on your credit card, please use reverse side.

Please return this form with your donation in the envelope provided. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt. Thank you for caring!

If you would like to make a donation online, visit **www.lifeonthestreet.org**.

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- Please send me a complimentary copy of *Becoming The Person You Were Made to Be*.
 - I would like to learn about volunteering at Guiding Light Mission.
 - Please pray for the requests listed on the back of this page... 

For Your Convenience!

Many friends have requested that we provide them with the ability to make contributions via credit card. To assist you in your credit card giving, please provide the following confidential information:

The card I am using today is: Visa MasterCard Credit card no. _____
 AmEx Discover

Name (please print) _____ Signature _____

Expiration date _____ 3 number verification code _____
(Located on the signature panel on the back of your credit card)

Home mailing address Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____ Phone number _____

PLEASE PRAY FOR: _____



Guiding Light Mission
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GUIDING LIGHT MISSION

Take a moment. Take action. lifeonthestreet.org

Your New

Times

is Enclosed

