



**You Can Help Stop
Homelessness**



**Serving Neighbors ...
Changing Lives**



The Mission with a Heart

Central Union Mission is a faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with four locations throughout the Washington, DC, area.

Central Union Mission serves the people of Metropolitan Washington through:

- Overnight Guest Services—men's emergency shelter and related services
- Spiritual Transformation Program—our 18-month residential recovery ministry
- Community Services—food, clothing and furniture for underprivileged families and seniors
- Hispanic Family Ministries—services to the growing Latino community
- Camp Bennett—rural experiences for children, residential training for men and rental facilities available to the community, located in Montgomery County, Maryland

All of Central Union Mission's services and programs are provided for free. For more information, visit our website at www.missiondc.org or call (202) MISSION.

Programs

Overnight Guest Services



In 2011, Central Union Mission served 179,597 nourishing meals.

Hope starts with a meal. A hot supper, a warm shower, fresh, clean clothing, a safe bed and a hearty breakfast convey the Gospel's message of hope as well as any sermon. Every time someone in need enters our doors, he or she encounters Christ's love and compassion.

Every night, guests and students are invited to enjoy a worship service led by volunteers from Washington area churches. Medical care, housing assistance, counseling and clothing are available at no cost.

Guests are offered spiritual guidance; those who are ready to conquer their addictions and other issues are encouraged to enter the Spiritual Transformation Program. Last year, the Mission provided emergency shelter and care for more than 52,000 men.

Spiritual Transformation Program

The 12- to 18-month residential Spiritual Transformation Program gives dedicated students the tools they need to overcome life-controlling addictions, train for employment and find jobs and homes. It also offers counseling, educational opportunities, job training, cultural exposure and work therapy projects for up to 50 men at a time.



STP students work with tutors to gain basic skills as well as to prepare for the GED and future jobs.

Previously despairing men transform their lives from dependent addicts to contributing members of society. They improve their literacy, earn high school equivalency degrees and participate in regular counseling and Bible study. Staff social workers help them find jobs or further education and housing. Most importantly, men are reconciled with their families and become active in their local churches.

Programs

Camp Bennett

For seven weeks each summer, Central Union Mission runs a residential camp for more than 400 needy children from all over the Washington, DC, area at our beautiful 220-acre retreat in Brookeville, Maryland. Children enjoy swimming, singing, crafts, hiking, sports, a ropes course and a petting zoo while learning leadership, teamwork, sportsmanship and compassion.

Since 1934, Camp Bennett has also provided outdoor work and therapy for homeless men and today offers conference center amenities to the metropolitan community.



Camp Bennett gives children a break from the hot, city streets and helps parents who struggle with the expense of summer daycare.

Hispanic Family Ministries



At the Food Depot, Hispanic parents share bags of donated fresh produce and groceries.

Since 1998, Hispanic Family Ministries has provided immediate aid and long-term training to help low-income families improve their financial situations. Beginning with two women in a Bible study, today the ministry impacts more than 500 families.

The program provides English language instruction, GED and citizenship exam preparation, health consultations, vocational support and food, clothing and furniture.

The program also works with Hispanic pastors in the Washington area to reinforce their efforts and open new doors for ministry. Hispanic Family Ministries provides Spanish-

language support for many of the Mission's activities, and the Hispanic families participate in all the services the Mission offers.

How We Began

Central Union Mission is the oldest social service agency in the District of Columbia. For the past 128 years, the Mission has continuously operated an emergency shelter for homeless men and been a place for spiritual uplift and recovery.

Central Union Mission was founded in 1884 by the Reverend Latham Douglass, a young man filled with compassion for the thousands of homeless, neglected men who wandered Pennsylvania Avenue, many of whom were Civil War veterans. From the beginning, the Mission was envisioned as a Christian ministry dedicated to serving others—a place of spiritual encouragement for people in need but not necessarily drawn to church.



Founded in 1884, Central Union Mission is the oldest social service agency in Washington, DC.

Community Services

Central Union Mission is committed to supporting our needy neighbors through:

- **Camp Bennett**, providing a week at summer camp for 400 inner-city children;
- **Operation Backpack**, which gives children supplies for school, and **Operation Christmas Miracle**, offering gifts to families who could not otherwise afford them;
- Our **Food Depot**, which distributes groceries to senior citizens and families in need, as well as clothing, housewares and furniture; and
- Special events such as monthly **Seniors Luncheons**, an annual **Everyone's Birthday party**, community holiday celebrations and nightly chapel services.



Last year, 800 children received backpacks filled with necessary back-to-school supplies.

All of Central Union Mission's services are provided for free. Please check www.missiondc.org for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

My Story

“Now I Let God Drive”

Ryan had a lot going for him: an Air Force veteran, he was well educated and trained in the culinary arts. He worked in several fine restaurants in the Atlanta area and Washington, DC. That was until a prescription pill addiction caused him to hit bottom. He was too proud to reach out for family help, so he found himself living on the DC streets.

“I came to Central Union Mission for an ‘oil change’—some meals, a bed—just until I could find a new job,” he remembers. Instead, he started hearing some of the Spiritual Transformation (STP) men talk about what they were learning in their program. Ryan realized that the STP could be what he needed.



Ryan (center) helps other Mission men sort donated clothing.

“Jesus was my detox. He lifted the needs right off my chest, and that emptiness in my heart was filled.”

During one chapel service, he realized that what was missing was a relationship with the Jesus who had given His life for him. Ryan started in the STP and quit the pills cold turkey: “Jesus was my detox. He lifted the needs right off my chest, and that emptiness in my heart was filled.”

Ryan decided to make service his passion. While he was still studying in the STP, Men’s Senior Director James Lewis asked him to work with the Men’s Ministry, and less than a year later, David Treadwell promoted him to executive assistant to the executive director.

Nowadays, Ryan has even more going for him. “I just want to be a servant for the Mission for God. Once I was in the driver’s seat, but now I let God drive.” He has recently moved out of the Mission into the suburbs, and when asked what the future holds, he replied, “I have nothing to worry about; God won’t lead me astray.”

Our Next Step



Our new home will accommodate the STP and 50% more overnight guests as well as provide free legal, dental and medical help, tutoring and counseling plus two safe dayrooms.

After 30 years, Central Union Mission is returning to the heart of Washington, DC, barely two blocks from Union Station. Renovations to the historic Gales School at 65 Massachusetts Ave., NW, are underway, and we expect to move in Spring 2013.

The Mission's first permanent shelter opened in 1891 on C Street, NW, between 6th and 7th Streets. In the early 1980s, Pennsylvania Avenue

restoration displaced the Mission through eminent domain, and we relocated to 1350 R Street, NW. Today the R Street neighborhood has been revitalized, necessitating our move to an area of greater need.

No District funds will be used for construction or providing Mission programs. Private funding from generous donors like you will save the city \$13 million in restoration costs and more than \$60 million in projected maintenance and service delivery expenses over the next 40 years. With God's provision through your faithfulness, the "Mission with a Heart" can share its love in the heart of the city.

Join Our Meals-A-Month Program

Meals-A-Month donors are a very special group of friends who ensure that the Mission's ministry continues month after month, all year long. Your commitment especially helps us make it through the leanest months of the year.



Guests enjoying a Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings.

Since one complete meal costs \$1.98, a donation of \$19.80 will provide 10 nutritious "meals a month." We'll provide coupons and envelopes for sending in your monthly gift, or you can select an autopay option. You can make a difference in Jesus' name—every single month.

To join, please return the attached response coupon or visit www.missiondc.org/support_us/meals_a_month.



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

I Want to Partner with Central Union Mission

You can count on me to help the homeless people in Washington, DC.

I would like to contribute:

- \$29.70 to serve a hot meal to 15 hungry guests.
- \$59.40 to serve 30 guests.
- \$89.10 to serve 45 guests.
- \$_____ to serve as many as possible
- I will give a monthly gift of \$ _____.
(My gift is enclosed.) Please contact me about the **Meals-A-Month Program.**
- Please contact me with volunteering opportunities.
(phone # or email address: _____)
- I will pray for Central Union Mission guests, families and staff.

Please make checks payable to "Central Union Mission."
To donate by credit card, please see our website at **www.missiondc.org**.

Name: _____

Address: _____

*Your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.
We'll send a receipt for your records.
God bless you for caring.*

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Central Union Mission

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