

Gospel Rescue Ministries to Merge with Central Union Mission

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Central Union Mission (the Mission) and Gospel Rescue Ministries (GRM) are pleased to announce that the two organizations will be combining their ministries in order to expand their long and distinguished histories of helping the poor and homeless in the Nation's Capital.

According to David Van Duzer, chairman of GRM's board of trustees, "This new cooperation between the two charities will permit the best services of each organization to continue under the guidance and vision of Central Union Mission. GRM's tradition of providing services to the poor for the last 107 years will continue as the Mission moves forward. Though this means that a long and fruitful chapter will close for GRM, there is no better organization than Central Union Mission to continue our tradition of offering hope, refuge and healing in Christ's name to those who need it most."

Roy Wright, president of Central Union Mission's board of directors, said, "This is truly a case of the sum being greater than its parts. By bringing on the programs and buildings of GRM, the Mission will be able to serve even more people in need of help throughout DC. We are honored to expand our services through the legacy of GRM."

The addition of GRM programs and services will enhance the Mission's services to:

- Families in need of special care, compassion and therapy; and
- Men and women who need help in returning to the mainstream of life with good job opportunities and renewed hope.

Certain of GRM's assets will officially be transferred to Central Union Mission to assist in this effort. Specifically, GRM will transfer the following to the Mission:

- GRM's 20-bed Fulton House of Hope, which has been renamed the Gospel Mission House in honor of GRM's long history of service, and
- GRM's Lambert House, which will continue to offer five apartment units for occupancy by poor families.

In addition, GRM's Ready to Work program will continue as part of Central Union Mission. This successful community clean-up program currently employs 18 men and women to help keep four Washington, DC, neighborhoods clean and beautiful. The Ready to Work program

provides an important step in returning participants to mainstream life by easing them back into the workforce with special support services.

“We are blessed to be able to build upon our long tradition of working together with Central Union Mission to provide for the needs of the most vulnerable among us,” said Van Duzer. “It was especially important to GRM that this joint effort further the long established goals of Central Union Mission, the oldest social service agency in the nation’s capital, to provide programs and services rooted in the message of hope in Christ Jesus.”

The final steps of the GRM program assumption and asset transfer to Central Union Mission are expected to be completed in November 2013.

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About Gospel Rescue Ministries

Gospel Rescue Ministries is a faith-based 501(c) (3) that has been providing recovery services to the homeless and the poor for more than 100 years.

About Central Union Mission

Central Union Mission, also a faith-based 501(c) (3), is the oldest social service agency in the District of Columbia. Since 1884, it has continuously operated an emergency shelter for homeless men and been a place for spiritual rebirth and recovery. Today, CUM operates an 18-month rehabilitation program for men with life-controlling issues, provides free meals, and runs a clothing and furniture distribution center and a 220-acre retreat center for underprivileged children with recreation facilities for the community. Through this acquisition, the Mission will now be able to expand its programs to serve even more of the city’s needy people.