



THE

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Missionary

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According to The State Education Agency of the U.S. Department of Education, more than one third (36%) of Washington, DC, resident adults read below a third-grade level—they are functionally illiterate. Nationally, the functional illiteracy rate is 21%. An unusual local factor is that 47% of the jobs in DC require a college or higher degree, compared to only 26% of the jobs nationally.

Central Union Mission knows that successful living in the community requires a decent job, which necessitates a good education. However, less than half of our Overnight Guests have graduated from high school. That's why Central Union Mission needs your help as we provide a range of educational opportunities for our Overnight Guests and Spiritual Transformation Program students.

Bright Futures Ahead

Falling back into the same old habit is harder once you've been well-trained for a brand new life. That's why Central Union Mission is committed to making education possible for our community, and your help makes it happen.



STP students study current events and living skills while improving their literacy.

After Overnight Guests decide to devote themselves to the Spiritual Transformation Program (STP), they are assessed to determine what education needs they have. Some men are referred to literacy programs and job agencies. Others meet with a volunteer tutor one to two hours a week to work on their education goals; at any time there are three to ten men taking lessons at the Mission.

For STP students, Central Union Mission has pioneered our own Current Events Program, which simultaneously teaches current events, reading and computer literacy. We also use our Bible Studies to teach literacy and comprehension. After viewing and discussing *The Ten Commandments*, *Moses* and *Prince of Egypt* movies, students read the Bible's Exodus story for themselves.

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Tutoring sessions with volunteer teachers prepare men for the GED exam and future employment.

A Career Serving God

The man that commits himself to Central Union Mission's Spiritual Transformation Program can find himself in places he never dreamed of. James LeBlanc is a recent STP grad who is thriving at Washington Bible College. With A's in all of his classes, he is now in his second semester working toward a Bachelor of Arts in Bible Studies with a concentration in Christian Counseling.



James LeBlanc

A Berkeley, CA, native, James ended up at Central Union Mission in 2007 to recover from his addiction. He graduated from the STP in February 2009, and David Treadwell, Mission Executive Director, saw potential. "I wasn't thinking about school at all, but Mr. Treadwell gave me the push I needed and helped me apply," explained James. "He gives me pep talks when I see him."

James is thinking about pursuing his Masters to have more career options; he is considering being a chaplain, a youth counselor or maybe having a private practice. He is grateful to the Mission and its donors for putting him on this new path: "I got some straight talk, and that's what I respect." ■

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR You Make the Difference

When Sean Chinn came to the Mission, there was not much he was proud of, but now he's graduated from Lincoln Technical Institute with A+'s as an HVAC technician.

Aaron Davis' life was in chaos before he graduated from the Spiritual Transformation Program, and now he is helping to transform others with his masters in Christian counseling from Capital Bible Seminary.

These men and many others came to Central Union Mission as a last resort, but God grabbed hold of their hearts and helped them put their lives together. Without your commitment to this ministry, who knows how these desperate men would survive—much less succeed?

Thanks to you, homeless people in Washington, DC, are learning to love God, respect themselves and contribute to their communities. Any contributions you'd like to make to our Kohlmeier Scholarship fund would be greatly appreciated.

As well, if you have internship or employment opportunities, we have men who are ready to prove their worth using their hard-earned skills. Please continue to pray for these men and for your involvement in their lives. We are truly grateful for your prayers and generosity.

Blessings,




We Thank Our Education Partners

Nyack College

Nyack College shares a spot in history with Central Union Mission. Like Central Union Mission, Nyack was founded at the end of the nineteenth century during the birth of the "rescue mission movement." Today, Nyack College's main campus in Nyack, NY, has satellites in New York City, Puerto Rico, Kiev and Washington, DC.

The Washington, DC, campus offers adults an accelerated bachelor's program as well as graduate studies in organizational leadership. This fall, Nyack College-DC begins a certificate program in community development that focuses on issues for non-profits and churches: fundraising, recruiting and developing volunteers and navigating bureaucracy. See www.nyackcollege.edu/content/DC_CDC to learn more about serving your church and community.



Dr. Johnson

According to Patricia Johnson, associate dean of the Nyack College-DC campus, both the college and the Mission are "grounded in history and faith." Nyack College-DC's investment in Central Union Mission is "using academic resources to build capacity and to fulfill God-ordained potential." Nyack College-DC is a partner of The Mission's Campaign for Compassion, and Dr. Johnson moderated the Mission's "Compassion: A Conversation" blog.

Washington Bible College/Capital Bible Seminary

Washington Bible College/Capital Bible Seminary collaborates with Central Union Mission to give its students real-life experience. While studying at WBC/CBS, interns can put their newly learned theory into practice at the Mission teaching the Bible or counseling Spiritual Transformation Program students and Overnight Guests.



Dr. Mercer

According to College President Dr. Barry Mercer, the College/Mission relationship "is for mutual benefit at any point." The Mission needs the interns' help, and the interns "are on the front lines helping people. They have the opportunity to understand the challenges they will face in their future careers." Says Dr. Mercer, "The interns go to the Mission with a spirit to serve, and there's as much value to the interns as to the Mission students." Also this semester, four Mission men and staff are studying at Washington Bible College.

With the main campus in Lanham, MD, and satellites in Annapolis, MD, and Springfield, VA, Washington Bible College offers bachelors degrees as well as graduate degrees in Biblical studies. It also offers continuing education credits through the Equip Institute, which offers Bible courses to empower your ministry to your church and community. Faithworks is a professional advancement program that offers online classes with a spiritual emphasis tailored for particular career fields. See www.bible.edu to apply. ■

Bright Futures Ahead

continued from cover



Mothers and children learn to read together at the Kids Book Club.



Aleazar Samuel (left) displays his diploma from Lincoln Technical Institute to David Treadwell, Mission Executive Director

After the men are up to speed, the Mission helps them get training to take the GED or get a high school diploma. Others can access trade school or college.

The Mission also helps women and families through the Hispanic Family Ministries. Parents can learn English for Speakers of Other Languages and train for their citizenship exam. Volunteers work with Hispanic students at the Ministries' offices at Mt. Gilead Bible Church, and others work with children at the Kids' Book Club.

With your volunteering and financial help, we can continue to brighten minds and futures with knowledge. If you are interested in tutoring, or if you can provide trade school internships or contribute to our Kohlmeier Scholarship fund, please contact Shirley Johnson at **202-MISSION** or sjohnson@missiondc.org. ■

You Can Help!

Do you have specialized skills or business contacts? We need computer and programmer experts, teachers and Spanish speakers to help with education. Perhaps you can offer trade or technical apprenticeships with your company.

If you would like a supervised internship at the Mission, we need students with expertise in business, grant writing, marketing or food service. We currently have interns from Howard University, Regent University, Wesley Theological Seminary and Capital Bible Seminary/Washington Bible College. Please contact Deborah Chambers at **202-MISSION** or dchambers@missiondc.org for information. ■

Upcoming Events

May Senior Luncheon

May 19, 2010, 11:00 am

Please help us honor our seniors at this special Mother's Day program.

June Senior Luncheon

June 9, 2010, 11:00 am

This Senior luncheon features a Father's Day celebration.

Father's Day Luncheon

June 20, 2010, 1:00 pm

This event is designed to help fathers reconcile with their families.

All events take place at Central Union Mission.

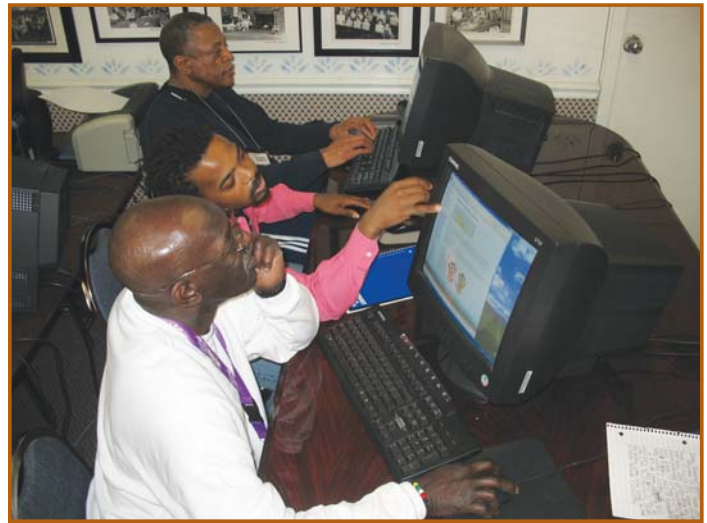

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Sarah Spinler at **202-MISSION** or www.missiondc.org/support_us/volunteer/.

New Life, New Start

We know the saying about how teaching a man to fish feeds him for life. The same is true about teaching him skills that make him competitive in today's workplace. A high school or higher degree, a commercial driver's license or a computer certification can make the difference between being homeless and being a productive part of society.


Your spring gifts enable your Mission to prepare men and women for the rigors of the working world. With relevant job training under their belts, parents are off the streets, and children have a brighter future.

Please make a donation today. Your generosity changes peoples' lives and their eternities. Contact **202-MISSION** or *www.missiondc.org* to learn more. ■

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Maryland Residents: A copy of Central Union Mission's current financial report is available upon request by writing 1350 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20009 or by calling (202) 745-7118. Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitations Act are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-5532.

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