Make TWICE the impact to restore lives this Christmas

Christmas will be here before we know it. And now’s a great time to bless a man, single mom or even an entire family in need! If you can give by Friday, December 31, a $57,000 Christmas Challenge Gift will DOUBLE the impact of whatever you send. A group of generous supporters has offered these matching funds as a way we can do both in the practice of biblical stewardship.

Will you rush your best gift today? The Challenge expires at midnight on New Year’s Eve, so please don’t wait to give.

Thank you for giving generously before year-end so more people can find hope and help!

How your generosity makes Christmas a reality for struggling families

Like so many struggling single moms in our community, Tamara (not her real name) wanted Christmas with her kids to be a season of peace, joy and celebration. But times were tough, and she didn’t have the money to make the holidays special with gifts for her kids to open on Christmas Day and other treats and activities most of us take for granted.

“I remember having to make a decision,” she says. “Whether to provide Christmas gifts for the children or pay the electric bill. I ended up paying my electric bill. We didn’t have money for gifts. We barely had money for food.”

Most of us probably can’t imagine that kind of need. But here at the Mission, we see it every day. And it’s heartbreaking, especially at Christmas.

After that disappointing and depressing Christmas, Tamara decided she never again

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A Christmas Challenge Gift means you can have TWO TIMES the impact now!

Christmas at the Mission
You make the miracles happen!

When you’ve experienced the worst that life can throw at you, Christmas often only magnifies your misery. That’s why we make the holidays special here at the Mission. Please know that we couldn’t do any of it without the tireless efforts of our caring volunteers AND your faithful financial partnership!

This holiday season, Operation Christmas Miracle will show families, and especially children, they’re not forgotten. Through your giving, more than 2,000 underprivileged children and youth will know love, laughter and joy.

Show Some Love is an evening of love, appreciation and celebration for homeless men. While volunteers transform the shelter into a Christmas wonderland, the men are treated to haircuts, clean clothes, an elegant dinner, gift bags and special entertainment.

Christmas can be a tough time for moms, dads and kids who are facing poverty — a reminder of all they don’t have. That’s why we go big for the holidays at our Family Ministry Center. They enjoy special food, parties for the children and help with gift-giving so everyone has a reason to celebrate.

“Operation Christmas Miracle is all about love. Through your generosity, your gifts make the holidays special for families, especially children. Please know that we couldn’t do any of it without your faithful financial partnership!”

JOE METTIMANO
President & CEO

One more chance . . . (Continued from pg. 1)

wanted to feel the pain of telling her children there would be no Christmas presents.

You and other caring friends made it possible for her to experience firsthand what Central Union Mission’s Operation Christmas Miracle is all about.

Through your generosity, her children received toys and clothing. Tamara recalls, “I was teary eyed when I saw my 5-year-old’s face. She was screaming with joy! She asked me, ‘Mommy, did Santa Claus forget our family last year?’ I told her, ‘Well, Baby, Santa Claus didn’t forget you this year!’”

Because of health problems and the pressure of being a single mom, Tamara wasn’t able to hold down a job that paid what they needed to survive. Even with food stamps and other support, her monthly income was so small she could barely afford rent, utilities and food. Hardly anything was left at the end of the month.

Today, Tamara is back on her feet. She has completed her GED and found work with help from the Mission. She can’t thank you enough for your help to make both Operation Christmas Miracle AND her new life possible.

Please stand with Central Union Mission this Christmas to make even more holiday miracles. You’ll help someone like Tamara find stability and self-sufficiency.

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