

# the missionary

APRIL 2024



## BREAKING CYCLES

**Carey found himself homeless and out of hope. But YOU gave him a second chance at the Mission!**

Carey never planned to become homeless. No one does.

There's always a root cause we can't see at first glance that puts someone out on the streets. For Carey, it was deep-rooted habits he needed help to break out of.

"I was a consummate procrastinator," says Carey. "I always thought, *Why do today what you could put off for tomorrow?*"

Carey knew he needed to pay back taxes on his house. But his procrastination tendency got the best of him. Before he could make things right, he was out of time.

This home was more than just a place to live for Carey. It was where he grew up with his mother and grandparents. "My grandmother was my rock," he says. "She told me

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Pass your values down to your loved ones!

# Your gift today will save lives in the D.C. metro area!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

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she would rather me sell the house than ever lose it. She was the one person I didn't want to fail."

When he lost the home, Carey had no immediate family left to take him in. He was out of options, angry and grappling with what he allowed to happen. But then, his cousin—who went through our program 18 years ago—told him about the Mission.

"He told me about the programs here," says Carey. "Something was telling me that what brought me to this point could happen again if I didn't do something different."

Carey decided to take the first step toward a fresh start and enroll. It was a decision that would restore his stability and turn his life around for good.

### A NEW DIRECTION

If you ask Carey what the best part of the Mission is, he'll tell you "fellowship." He connected with three other men who became encouraging friends he still walks closely with today. "We have common threads in our history," says Carey. "Whenever one of us is going through

something, we're there for each other."

Thanks to your support, Carey was able to participate in classes that addressed his past experiences and destructive behaviors.

"There was a major point in my childhood that started me down the road of not being truthful," he says. "I couldn't afford to let people get too close to me. Doing so would allow them to know the 'real' me." Now, the "real" Carey is much different—and in the best way.

### LASTING LIFE CHANGE

Carey is finding true freedom from anger and regret and is focused on getting his life in order again. Right now, that looks like training through our Workforce Development and Education program.

"I'm brushing up on accounting skills, achieving customer service certificates, working on spreadsheets and increasing my typing speed," Carey says. "I would love to go back to college and get my bachelor's degree in Business Administration."

*It's thanks to your generosity that Carey—and so many others—have a caring place at the Mission where they can recover from crises and make lasting changes in their lives!*

**PROVIDE LIFE-CHANGING SERVICES to more people like Carey!**



## Join your local businesses making a lasting impact!

For over 20 years, Everett Hellmuth—president of Passport Auto Group—has been standing alongside the Mission as a business partner. He'll tell you his company's faithful support is "not to pat ourselves on the back, but to encourage others."



FERNANDO

"I can see how easy it is for someone to slip into homelessness," says Everett. "Someone could go from having an apartment and a job to sleeping in the back of a bus. We want to encourage people that are in that situation to get out and improve their lives."

Everett's impact goes beyond just financial generosity. He's hired several men, like Fernando (pictured above), who've walked through our program and are ready to take the next step toward self-sufficiency.

"The Mission does a great job of preparing people for the workplace," says Everett. "We don't hesitate to hire their recommendations. They're excellent employees."

Everett hopes his company's support of the Mission will inspire his employees, the community and other business owners to get involved. "If people see businesses like us standing with the Mission, it'll make them realize they can do something, too," says Everett.

You can make a long-lasting impact like Everett—starting today! If you own a business and want to stand with the Mission, visit [missiondc.org/stand](http://missiondc.org/stand)

## Transformational grace



JOE METTIMANO  
President & CEO

In this life-changing work you're a part of, we sometimes hear "what if?" questions.

*What if they go back to the streets? What if they make the same mistake again? What if the changes they make don't last?*

We could ask "what if" questions every time someone walks through our doors for help. But scripture tells us to "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32). That means we will never turn anyone away who needs compassion and care.

After 140 years of the Mission serving the Metro D.C. area, I firmly believe in our proven approach of helping struggling people achieve lasting stability . . .

**. . . but I believe all the more in God's ability to totally transform lives with His grace.**

The Lord's mercy and love exceed every shortcoming. That's why we offer second—and third—chances. It's why we take in people like Carey who want to mend the mistakes of their past. It's why business owners like Everett welcome men from the Mission to come work for him. It's why you give so generously.

The power of your generosity, transformational care and God's redeeming love are changing lives locally. Thank you for standing with us!

HOMELESSNESS IS ON THE RISE

Every \$3.21 will DOUBLE in impact to change lives in our city

You've probably seen it for yourself on our city streets—the homeless crisis in Metro D.C. is hurting men, women, children and veterans who never planned to end up on the streets.

It takes vital emergency care, long-term support and a compassionate heart like yours to transform a life. Will you do what it takes today to help even just one person overcome poverty for good?

Every \$3.21 you give now will DOUBLE in impact to help people in deep need with meals and other critical services.

Think of how many lives you can change with your generous gift. You'll make double the difference!

Thank you for your partnership. It's because of you that people across the D.C. metro area are able to escape homelessness and find hope!



Pass your values down to your loved ones!

Your estate plan is less about who gets what and more about what's important to you. It's one of the best ways to communicate with your loved ones about values you hold dear. Here are two ways to share with your family what matters most:

**Write a legacy love letter.** Consider this a cover letter for your estate plan that outlines guiding principles, stories of personal faith and future wishes for your family. Contact us for a free guide.

**Include a gift in your will to the Mission.** An in-will gift makes your priorities clear and helps us continue to transform lives across Metro D.C. for years to come.

*For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "Are You Talking to Your Family About What Matters Most?" by contacting Megan Schmoll at (202) 745-7118 ext. 219 or mschmoll@missiondc.org—or bless your family today with an up-to-date will at missiondc.christianwill.org.*

Give now to share hot meals and vital care with someone who needs it most!  
**3 WAYS TO MAKE A LASTING IMPACT**

**1 GIVE BY MAIL** by sending your gift and reply form in the enclosed envelope.

**2 GIVE ONLINE** by visiting missiondc.org/AprilNL24

**3 SCAN HERE** with your mobile device.

