

Thanks to you, Ranvir was welcomed to the Thanksgiving table

From homelessness to hope

Ranvir had never had a Thanksgiving meal before.

Originally from Ambala, India, Ranvir built a life in Baltimore. But then an unexpected job loss turned everything he'd worked hard for upside down. Desperate for a new job to support himself, he moved to Washington, D.C.

With no connections, no job prospects and no place to stay, he ended up homeless.

Miraculously, someone told him about a place he could go to find shelter, job training and a Thanksgiving meal: Central Union Mission.

WELCOME HOME

He was immediately struck by how welcomed he felt. Like the staff cared for him as a person.

He stayed that first night and, impressed by the devotional programs and the overall atmosphere, decided to join the

Continued inside ►



Make this Thanksgiving transformational for struggling men, women

“Central provides all the basic necessities, and Thanksgiving served as a reminder to thank God for these things.”



Ranvir's story . . . (Continued from pg. 1)

Fresh Start program.

To Ranvir, the Mission quickly felt like home. And on Thanksgiving Day, he had so much to be grateful for.

HIS FIRST THANKSGIVING

Since he'd never celebrated Thanksgiving before, the holiday made him think differently about his life.

“I became more aware of all the things I can be thankful for,” Ranvir says. “Central provides all the basic necessities, and Thanksgiving served as a reminder to thank God for these things.”

Before coming to the Mission, Ranvir believed in God but didn't consistently practice his faith. The Fresh Start program introduced him to consistent Bible studies and devotional practices, deepening his spiritual life. Day by day, he got closer to God and

learned how to have a disciplined life—thanks to you!

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Looking back, Ranvir can see how God answered his prayers through a tangible sense of divine assistance. He believes God had a plan for him to be at the Mission, which he considers “the best place” he could have been.

But even better, Ranvir has learned life and job skills at the Mission's kitchen and has a full-time job lined up at a hotel.

Because of your support this Thanksgiving season, men and women like Ranvir will feel welcomed at the Mission—a safe space where they can eat a hot meal surrounded by a loving community and learn how to stand on their own feet again.

What does Thanksgiving at the Mission look like?

Thanksgiving at the Mission is no small affair. We go all out to make sure each guest feels loved, cared for and valued.

Dignity is in the details! Here's how your support goes to work for our annual Thanksgiving celebration:



FOOD: Each guest receives a hot plate filled with a heaping serving of turkey, green beans and sweet potato casserole—plus pecan pie, of course! When a man or woman is nourished and their basic needs are met, it frees them up to focus on rebuilding their lives.



FESTIVITIES: Decorations line the halls and the tables to show each guest that they're worth the effort. Thanksgiving should be fun!



FRIENDS: A key part of our Thanksgiving celebration is experiencing it as a community. The meals are served family-style and the guests have the opportunity to make meaningful connections—a key part of restoring their dignity and linking arms with others on the same path.

Be someone's hero this holiday season



JOE METTIMANO
President & CEO

As Thanksgiving approaches, my heart aches for the fathers, mothers and children in our city who will face this holiday without a home, without enough food and, perhaps, without hope.

Can you imagine the profound loneliness of being on the streets when the world around you celebrates warmth and togetherness?

For so many, the simple dream of a hot meal and a safe place feels like an impossible luxury. Your partnership this holiday season isn't just a donation; it's a lifeline extended in their darkest hour, a testament to the belief that every single life holds immeasurable worth.

What we offer at the Mission goes far beyond a plate of food. When you provide a Thanksgiving meal, you're not just filling an empty stomach; you're reminding a broken spirit that they are seen, they are loved and they are not forgotten.

This moment of grace opens the door to our life-changing programs—programs that offer not just shelter and sustenance, but the deep, abiding comfort of spiritual guidance, the dignity of vocational training and the unwavering support of a community that believes in our guests future.

You're helping us turn their despair into a journey of recovery, healing and true transformation. Your compassionate gift is an answer to someone's silent prayer. Thank you for being a true hero in their story this Thanksgiving.

Change a life with every \$3.21!

You can put hope on the Thanksgiving table this year

This Thanksgiving, a simple act of kindness can make a world of difference. It takes just \$3.21 to provide a warm meal and a seat at our table for one hungry and hurting person. Will you give generously so that many can experience transformation?

On Thanksgiving Day, people from all walks of life will step through our doors: families striving to make ends meet, individuals battling addiction and those who never imagined facing the holidays without a home.

Each guest arrives not only with an empty stomach but also with a profound hunger for real hope. Will you meet their needs with your gift today?

It truly takes our entire community to address the pressing challenges faced by everyone who turns to the Mission for help. Offering lasting solutions to homelessness and poverty is only possible with your unwavering support. Thank you for your incredible compassion!



BUILD A LASTING LEGACY

The way you steward your resources today can create a lasting impact for generations to come! Here are three powerful ways to give generously and strategically:



1. SHARE YOUR TIME:

Your time is a precious gift. By volunteering with Central Union Mission, you'll discover the deep satisfaction of supporting a cause you care about.



2. DESIGNATE A BENEFICIARY:

A simple, yet impactful, step is to name the Mission as a beneficiary in your retirement accounts, like an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b). This ensures your compassion keeps providing vital support for years to come.



3. MAXIMIZE WITH A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD):

If you're 70 1/2 or older, consider using a QCD from your IRA. This allows you to make a tax-free gift directly to Central Union Mission, fulfilling your charitable goals while potentially reducing your taxable income.

Ready to explore how your generosity can create a lasting legacy? Contact Megan Schmoll at **202-827-3078 ext. 219** or mschmoll@missiondc.org.

Your gift of nourishing meals, vital care and Gospel hope will restore lives locally!

3 WAYS TO TRANSFORM LIVES

1

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

2

GIVE ONLINE by visiting missiondc.org/SeptemberNL25.

3

SCAN HERE with your mobile device.



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