

YOU CHANGED DARRELL'S LIFE

Darrell had no safety net to catch him when he became homeless. Then you stepped in.

Without warning, Darrell's home and everything he knew was ripped from him.

He was living with his mother, helping with house upkeep. But he had no idea she wasn't paying the mortgage until an eviction notice was posted to the door. "They told us we had to get our stuff and leave," Darrell says.

For three long years, Darrell lived in the shadows. He spent nights in hotels when he could and a full year on a relative's couch. Other times he'd show up at homeless shelters. But he hated feeling like a burden. He hated feeling like he didn't belong anywhere. His life was in limbo.

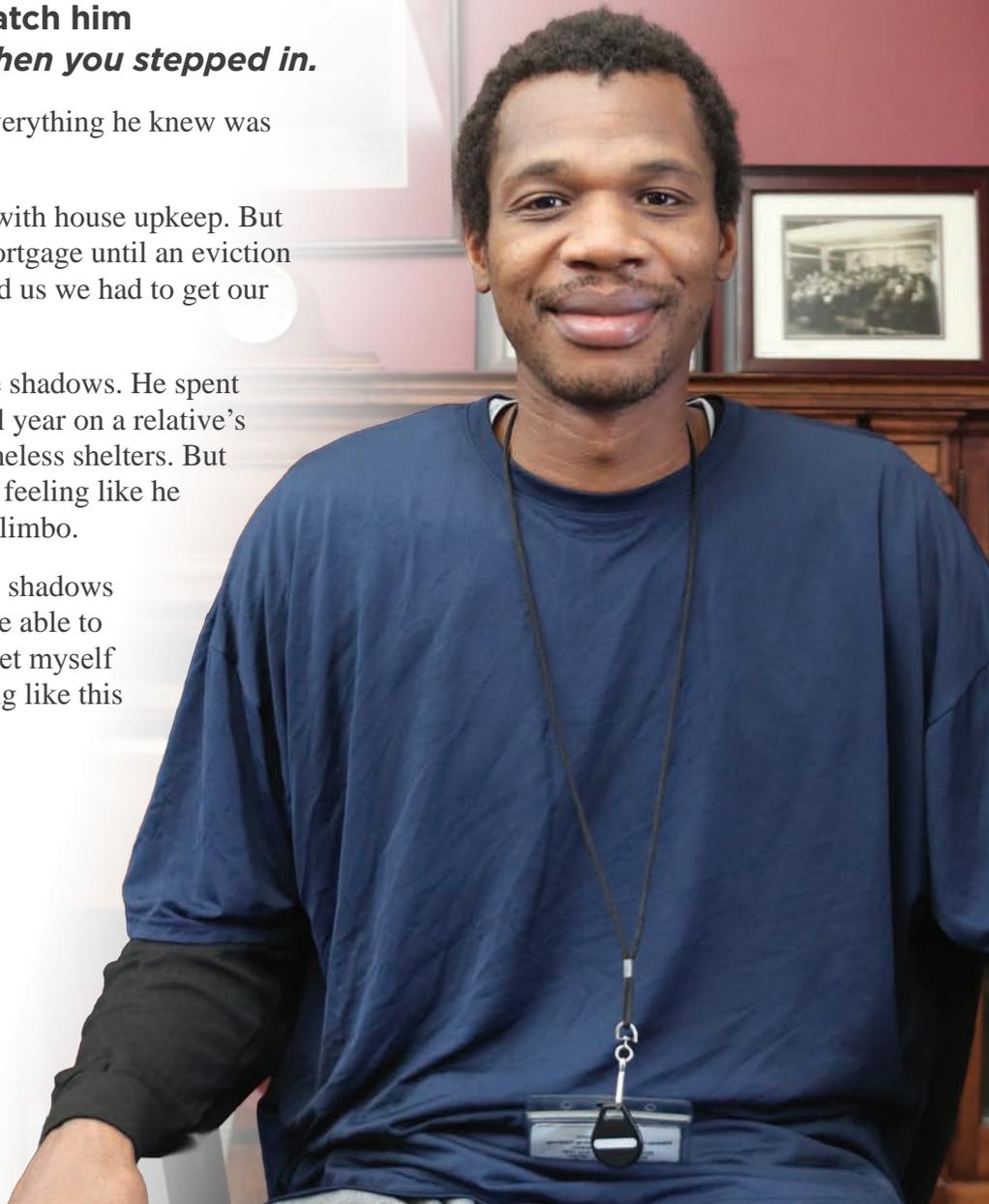
But Darrell knew he couldn't stay in the shadows forever. "I realized, nobody's going to be able to help me forever. I had to find a way to get myself together. I'd never been through anything like this where I was at my wit's end," he says.

Darrell wanted his life to change. So he knocked on our door.

CONFIDENT AND BRAVE

Today, Darrell has been a guest at the Mission for a year, and you can see the transformation on his face. He's in the Restoration and Transformation program, taking the next step in his

Continued inside ▶



Your gift today will restore TWIC

YOU CHANGED DARRELL'S LIFE (Continued from Page 1)

journey to self-sufficiency. Thanks to you, he's no longer just surviving, he's growing.

"I'm learning how to be more responsible," says Darrell. "People here encourage one another so we can be confident and brave about this world."

Thank you for lifting Darrell out of homelessness

Every morning, Darrell digs into the Word of God alongside other men. He's already earned a Kitchen Aide certificate and is currently preparing for job interviews and learning soft-skills. He's planning for a steady job and a "nice, small, comfortable apartment" where he can live out his purpose, and, maybe in the future, start a family.

"Anybody who can help is a hero to me." —Darrell

As for you and other friends in this work, Darrell doesn't see you as a distant donor now. He sees you as a hero.

"Anybody who can help is a hero to me," says Darrell. "Once a hero, always a hero to me."

Your gifts provide the transformational tools Darrell needs to move from surviving on the streets to thriving in a stable life.

Because of you, a young man who was once at his "wit's end" is now "confident and brave" enough to face the future. Thank you!



Once homeless with no way forward, Darrell is regaining independence and hope. . . thanks to you!

E as many lives!

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Summer camp:
Where kids facing poverty discover joy. . . and Jesus

Every child should have the nostalgic summer camp experience. . . sleeping in a cabin, zip-lining through the trees and sitting around a fire with friends. But for so many families in the DMV, affording camp is out of the question.

That's why every year, Camp Bennett hosts youth ages 8 to 13 for a week of fun and faith. For many campers, this is their first time away from the city and experiencing the beauty of nature. It could also be their first time experiencing God's love.

You can give a boy or girl an experience they'll hold on to forever. Just \$75 provides a day at camp for a child. And \$375 sponsors one child for an *entire week*. To give a kid the camp experience, go to cambennett.org.



You give JOY to the brokenhearted



JOE METTIMANO
President & CEO

From the outside looking in, it's easy to assume our work is just about lifting people out of survival mode.

Yes, a warm bed, bag of groceries or set of clothes means everything to someone in crisis. We must meet those immediate needs.

But your generosity goes further: transforming the whole person.

I love how joy is an essential part of the journey out of poverty. For our guests, rediscovering joy is transformational.

You see it when a man in our workforce development program realizes he has the tools to build a new life. Or when a family finds not just groceries at Mission: NOVA, but a community who will stick by them.

Your partnership brings joy to the brokenhearted, strengthening people to rise above the poverty that once defined their lives.

The DMV has significant needs. But because of your faithful support, we continue to see lives transformed into Godly, productive members of society.

Thank you for helping men, women and children find their strength again in the joy of the Lord.

Every \$3.21 doubles in impact to change more lives

A limited-time \$50,000 Challenge Grant will instantly DOUBLE the impact of your gift today.

More hungry families will receive food. . . more men facing homelessness will find tools for self-sufficiency. . . and more people across the DMV will live with dignity and purpose.

A \$3.21 meal opens the door to restorative services that work to break the cycle of poverty. Will you give the best gift you can knowing every dollar will *double* in impact?

Your compassion meets a person in the middle of their crisis. Whether homelessness, addiction, an eviction notice, a job loss or hunger, you'll provide the care someone needs to make it through.

Every dollar you give will stay in the DC area and go twice as far!

Every \$3.21 will reach not ONE but TWO people!



The generosity you didn't know you could afford

Do you have stocks you've managed or property you've maintained? Up to 90% of wealth is held in valuables like these. And you can turn them into a legacy of changed lives.

Let's define appreciated assets:

- 1 What are they?** Sometimes called non-cash assets, they're any item of increasing value: artwork, collectibles, crypto, stocks, real estate and more.
- 2 Why give with them?** When you transfer appreciated assets to a ministry before the sale, you can help reduce or eliminate capital gains tax. You may also receive a tax deduction.
- 3 How can they make a difference?** Giving appreciated assets to the Mission, either now or in your estate, will impact communities in need across the DMV. Plus, your generosity can inspire others.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "One Man's Trash Turns Out to Be Treasure!" by contacting Megan Schmoll at **202-745-7118, ext. 219**, or mschmoll@missiondc.org.

Your gift of hot meals, vital care and Gospel hope will transform lives!

3 WAYS TO DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

- 1 GIVE BY MAIL** by sending your gift and reply form in the enclosed envelope.
- 2 GIVE ONLINE** by visiting missiondc.org/MayNewsletter26
- 3 SCAN HERE** with your mobile device.

