



City Mission Appreciates Community Support for Fall Campaign And Conveys Need for Larger Facility

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BUFFALO, NEW YORK— Today, the Buffalo City Mission announces its gratitude to the entire community of Western New York for helping to raise \$2.23 Million toward the 2015 “One Mission, One Hope Fall Campaign.” Through the community’s generosity, the Mission was able to provide over 188,000 meals and 82,000 nights of safe sleep for Buffalo’s poor and homeless. These critical funds will help sustain programs and services for the region’s homeless. Thank you!

“Each fall, we ask the community’s help to support the essential work that the Mission provides such as preventative, emergency, and transitional programming for men, women, and children. The Mission serves thousands of people who come through our doors seeking help,” said Stuart Harper, Executive Director and CEO of the Buffalo City Mission. For homelessness does not discriminate, it affects people from all walks of life, gender and age. The Mission is the area’s largest homeless shelter and will welcome every broken soul at the point of entry to help begin the process of restoration through a hot meal, warm bed, and with a future goal of permanent housing.”

“According to the Annual Report on Homelessness for 2014, over 6,126 lives were touched by homelessness and 71.7% of homeless in Erie County are men,” said Harper. “Even though the economy showed signs of improvement in 2015, the need for homeless services is still great. Roughly, less than one percent of the homeless population represents the chronically homeless. Which is a really small population considered with the fact, that 99.5% represent the overall homeless population who need programs and services.”

While the Mission runs at capacity every night with an overflow of cots distributed to adhere to the Executive Order for Code Blue, there just isn’t enough space. While chronic homeless was down compared to last year, according to HAWNY, the Mission already sheltered nearly 700 people alone this month due to Code Blue.

Currently in all of Buffalo, there are only 128 emergency beds available for men, with 92 of those beds at the Mission. To offset the influx of homeless individuals, the Mission foresees the need to expand to a much larger facility to provide over 184 emergency beds and 68 permanent supportive housing units to help provide a pathway toward a stable life where homeless men have the opportunity to build a better tomorrow.

“Homelessness in the Western New York area has not been eliminated. The Mission runs 365 days a year and the need remains great said, Harper.” Together we can make a difference. It takes a community to restore a life; this is *your* Mission!”

About the Buffalo City Mission

The Buffalo City Mission, founded in 1917, is a nonprofit organization that provides preventative, emergency and transitional programs to thousands of people who are homeless and impoverished. The Mission includes Women and Children’s Shelter (Cornerstone Manor); the Men’s Community Center; and our Dick Road thrift store to best serve our community. For more information, please visit www.buffalocitymission.org or call (716) 854-8181.

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