

MEDIA RELEASE

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Buffalo City Mission Recaps Next Century Gala: Launches Public Phase of Next Century Capital Campaign

TODAY, the Buffalo City Mission released the results of its Next Century Gala, commemorating 100 years of service to the Buffalo community and launching the public phase of its Next Century Capital Campaign. On Saturday, April 21, the Mission held a gala at Hotel Henry Urban Resort with over 280 influential business professionals, community leaders, and philanthropic investors who believe in second chances and who understand the power of hope.

The gala set the stage to celebrate the many lives changed by the Mission in the past 100 years while looking to the future—the next century—and building support for the Buffalo City Mission's Next Century Capital Campaign to raise \$15 Million for a new Community Center. In total, the Mission was able to raise \$495,150 for the campaign at the fundraiser. Out of the \$15 million dollars needed for the new build, over \$11 million has been raised, committed, or is pending, leaving \$4 million dollars still needed to complete the project. To impact lives in our community, the public can make a tax-deductible gift at **Buffalonextcenturygala.org/donate**.

Since its inception in 1917, the Buffalo City Mission has served hundreds of thousands of residents affected by poverty and homelessness. Today, homelessness is on the rise by 9%, and the Mission operates 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. The need to build a new Community Center—to become one central location where people experiencing homelessness and those on the cusp of stepping into homelessness have on-site access to preventative services including medical care, mental health services, and partner agencies—is imperative. With this access, the City Mission has the opportunity to decrease the percentage of homelessness from rising year-over-year.

"Through a century of helping the poor and impoverished find restoration and hope, the Buffalo City Mission remains the largest and most-trusted organization for those seeking refuge across the Buffalo area. Our goal is not to simply serve the hurting and homeless, but to pull poverty and homelessness out of their lives at its root, and with this new building we are better positioned to do that," said Stuart Harper, CEO and Executive Director of the Buffalo City Mission.

About the Buffalo City Mission

The Buffalo City Mission, founded in 1917, and serving the Buffalo community for over 100 years, is a nonprofit organization that provides preventative, emergency and transitional programs to thousands of people who are homeless and impoverished. The Mission includes Cornerstone Manor (a women's and children's shelter); Men's Community Center; and Dick Road thrift store to serve the Western New York community. For more information, please visit www.buffalocitymission.org or call (716) 854-8181.