



GOOD NEIGHBORS

Restoring lives together in Western New York



**THANK
YOU FOR
LOVING YOUR
NEIGHBORS
LIKE EVERETT**

and giving him
hope for the future!



SUMMER 2023

For more information: (716) 854-8181, ext. 429 • buffalocitymission.org

When Everett was a little boy, he was in a tragic car accident that left him emotionally scarred. “Nobody in my family was seriously hurt, but someone in the other vehicle died, and it instilled in me a fear of everything,” he says. “It dominated my life.”

When he was in high school, Everett began numbing his fear with drugs, and over the years, his dependence grew. “Eventually, drugs controlled my life. I couldn’t hold a job or pay rent and I ended up homeless.”

Then, one night, in a run down, abandoned building, Everett came face-to-face with his mortality. “Every time I used that night, I felt like I was

about to die, but I couldn’t stop,” he says. “I prayed, ‘God, help me. I don’t want to die.’”

Everett’s prayer was answered that night. It was the last time he ever used, and in the days to follow, God led him to our Men’s Community Center, where he found safe shelter, nutritious meals – everything he needed to grow physically strong.

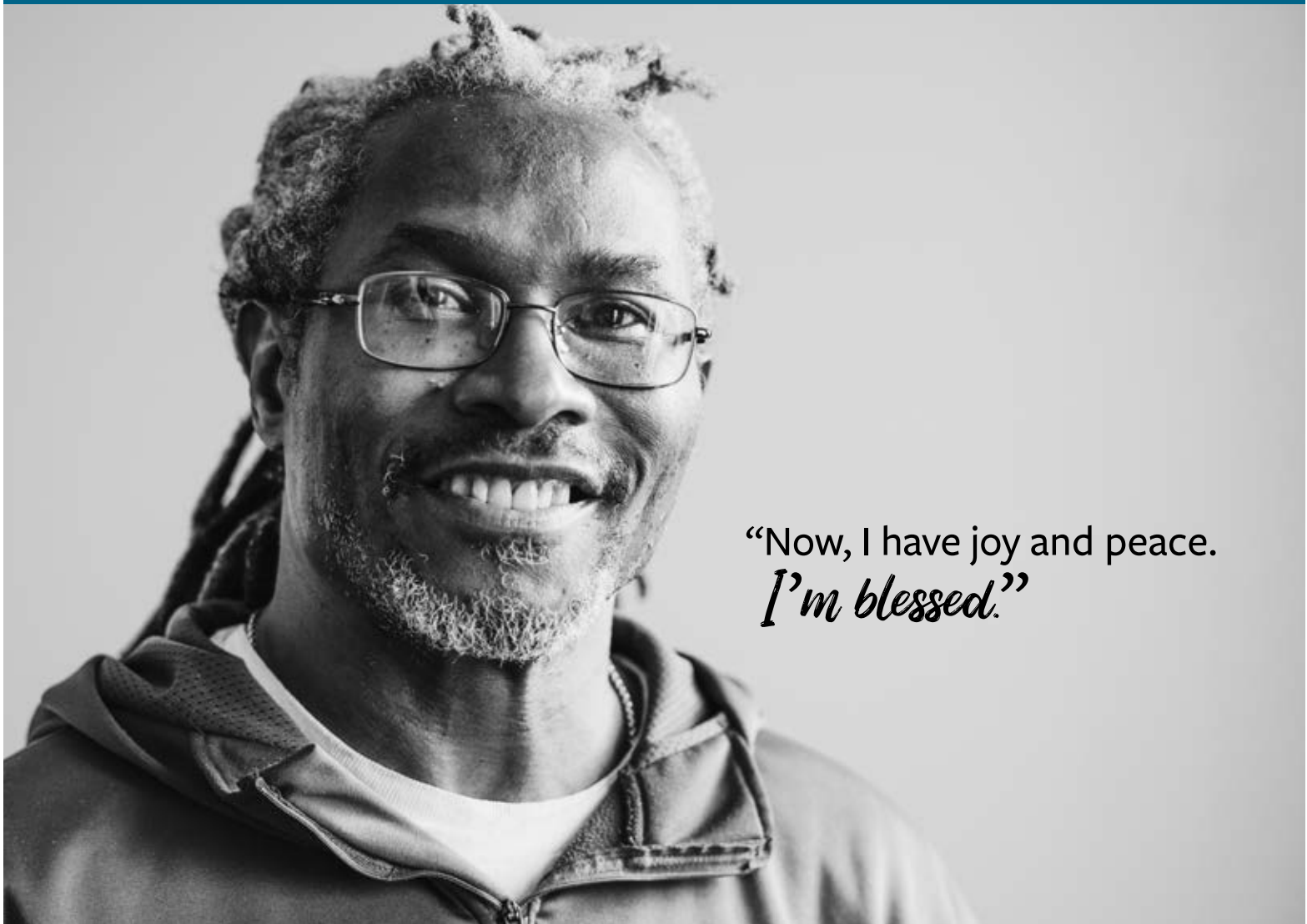
But he wanted more. He wanted to change his life, so he entered our Transitional Housing Program, where his relationship with the Lord has grown strong. “My whole life is dependent on Him now. Without Him I’m nothing. I’m lost.”

With God’s guidance, case

management, recovery services and life skills classes, Everett has found emotional healing, as well. He’s finally free from fear and addiction, and after graduating from the program, he plans to spend his days serving the Lord. “I just want to do God’s will for the rest of my life.”

Everett is thankful for the way you have answered God’s calling to love your neighbor as yourself – and have helped him learn how to love himself. “I was lost, but the Mission gave me a clean, safe place to live, and the time and support I needed to build a spiritual foundation for the rest of my life. Now I’m found.”

“I was lost, *but now I’m found.*”



“Now, I have joy and peace.
I’m blessed.”

A meal for \$2.40 is an easy way to **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!**



A Message from AUBREY CALHOUN

Thank you for loving your neighbors as yourself

We all need a helping hand from time to time. No one makes it through life without a little care and compassion along the way. That's what loving your neighbors is all about, right?

And yet, you and I know that God's Word has a way of challenging us to go further... of stretching our faithfulness beyond what we thought possible. The Lord makes the impossible POSSIBLE at the Mission, thanks to the generosity of friends like YOU.

Now, as the summer months approach, I hope we can count on you during our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign.

Time and time again in Scripture, we're told not just to "love your neighbor" but to "love your neighbor as yourself." That's a big difference! It's making the needs of others a priority equal with your own from the beginning.

I'm so grateful for friends like you who give in this way to help men, women and children in Western New York who are hurting and homeless. And I ask for your continued support through the summer, when the weather can be dangerous for people who live outside.

Thank you for offering a helping hand to your neighbors most in need – and for continuing to love them **as yourself**.



Aubrey Calhoun
Executive Director

YOUR LOVE will transform lives this summer!

Your gift today provides:



29,259 meals



14,809 beds



hundreds of
hygiene items



life-transforming
decisions for Christ



countless hours of education
and job skills training

**DON'T FORGET OUR NEIGHBORS
THIS SUMMER... SHOW YOU CARE
WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY!**

**LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR**
92-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Give now!



The Cost of Care

The effects of inflation can be felt across the nation. Rising gasoline prices, energy bills and the cost of groceries and other essentials have left many families struggling to make ends meet.

We're even feeling it here at Buffalo City Mission.

- Costs to care for our guests have skyrocketed.
- More and more people are in need of our assistance.
- Donations have been declining, since many of our supporters are also struggling with increased expenses.

If your family is struggling to make ends meet and need assistance, go to our Get Help Now page at buffalocitymission.org/what-we-do/get-help-now. We would also like to pray for you. Submit your prayer request at buffalocitymission.org/prayer.

But if you're able, **will you prayerfully consider going above and beyond your usual giving at this critical time?** With God's grace and the support of generous friends like you, we'll be able to continue meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of every man, woman and child who comes through our doors. **Thank you!**



Help your neighbors **BEAT THE HEAT** this summer!

You know how hot it can get in Western New York in summertime... now imagine being out on the streets in this heat. **Our homeless neighbors are at risk of heat stroke, dehydration or even death – especially those who are most vulnerable**, like seniors or moms with small children.

But this summer, YOU can help! You can show our hurting neighbors they haven't been forgotten by providing them with essentials such as:



**Cool water to drink
& nourishing meals**



**Refreshing showers
& safe shelter**



**Clean clothing and
shoes**



**Sunscreen &
hygiene items**

In addition to these basics, you'll welcome them to the Mission and help them move forward with medical services, faith-based guidance, job skills training and more – everything they need for independent, more stable lives!

To see how you can help meet our neighbors' most urgent summer needs, visit buffalocitymission.org/amazon.

You're helping care for bodies and minds



Men and women come to the Mission with a variety of challenges. For some, that means

a warm meal and safe place to rest. Some are desperate for medical services.

But many struggle with mental illness and trauma from their past – issues that are often exacerbated by the summer heat. Studies have shown that extreme heat can increase fatigue, depression and even suicidal thoughts.

That's why – in addition to helping people heal physically – we also help them heal psychologically. **We offer Christ-centered guidance, referrals to community partners and other resources for long-term recovery.**

It's just another way your gifts and prayers help address the complex issues of poverty and homelessness in Western New York. Thank you for your support!

Want to learn about other life-changing services you help provide? Read about our programs at buffalocitymission.org today!