

GOOD NEIGHBORS

Restoring lives together in Western New York



THANK YOU
FOR GIVING MIKE
*the gift of stability
this Christmas!*



Holiday 2026

DON'T MISS...

2 Share the gift of hope!

3 "I stopped just surviving... and started rebuilding."

4 Give Relief from the Bitter Cold

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

Sharing the gift of hope this *Christmas*

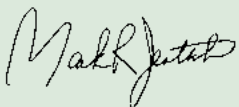
On the night of His birth, Jesus' family was turned away because there was "no room at the inn." I find it so profound to think that they experienced the same fear and uncertainty our guests face when they have nowhere else to turn.

Here at Buffalo City Mission, we are committed to welcoming and caring for every hurting person who comes through our doors. Yet many of our guests have endured years of homelessness, poverty and hardship that have left them feeling forgotten and alone.

During the holidays, friends like you help share God's compassion and remind them they are seen and deeply valued. Your gifts to provide hot meals, safe shelter and stabilization become meaningful expressions of God's love and care in their lives. Above all, you give the gift of hope and a second chance during these dark winter months.

This Christmas, I invite you to share love and grace with neighbors in need – like Mike, whose story you'll find on the next page. Through your generosity, you'll open a door when so many others are closed to them – and let them know that there is room for them here.

Thank you, and may God bless you throughout Christmas and into the New Year.



Mark Jentsch
Chief Executive Officer



You Can End the Year Strong!

\$100,000 GOAL

This holiday season, weary neighbors face dark, cold nights. They're at risk of losing hope completely. They long for a helping hand and the chance for a brighter future.

YOU can give them food, shelter and life-changing care to transform their lives!

Your tax-deductible donation before December 31 will help meet our \$100,000 goal. Respond today to offer more people *help* now... and *peace* and *hope* in the new year!



- ✉ Return your special year-end gift in the reply card today.
- 📄 Give online at **buffalocityission.org**.

Give a meal. Share the gift of *hope!*

For our neighbors experiencing homelessness or hunger, Christmas can feel more lonely than joyful... **but YOU can share the gift of HOPE.**

Just \$2.40 provides a nourishing Christmas meal – and opens the door to independence and a fresh start this holiday season.



**\$2.40
for 1 hot meal**



**SHARES
HELP & HOPE**



**That leads
to new life!**

Please send your Christmas gift today!

“I stopped just
surviving...
and started
rebuilding.”



When Mike thinks about the day he came to the Mission, he remembers running out of options.

After serving in the Army, Mike moved to Buffalo to be closer to his young son. He had interviews lined up and enough savings for a few weeks. But when he wasn't able to find a job quickly, he began to run out of money.

Mike faced a critical decision: leave Buffalo to look for jobs elsewhere, or stay local so he could be part of his son's life. **He chose his son.** “Whatever happens, I wanted to make it work here,” he says.

At risk of experiencing homelessness in the middle of winter, **Mike came to Buffalo City Mission during Code Blue.** He was grateful just to have a warm place to sleep and was surprised to receive even more.

“I never expected breakfast, lunch and dinner too,” he says. “That was above and beyond.”

A few weeks later, everything changed when he learned about our Veterans Program.

At the Mission, Mike connected with housing, mentors and other people who understood his journey. We provided access to the resources to help

him get back on his feet, but it was Mike who put in the hard work to regain stability and independence.

“The Mission gives you the tools,” he says, “but you’ve got to pick them up and run with them.”



“I could see the light at the end of the tunnel. It was far away, but it was there.”



Now, he is confident that he can provide for both himself and his son. He has an apartment of his own, with space for his son to have his own room. He is also in workforce development and hopes to volunteer with other veterans one day.

This Christmas, Mike is experiencing God's grace at work in his life. Thank you for sharing the gift of hope with him! “You can't grow if you're struggling to survive. Survival was taken off my shoulders, so I could grow. I'm eternally grateful.”

Give Relief from the Bitter Cold

You know the reality of winter here in Western New York.

Heavy snow. Bitter winds off Lake Erie. Temperatures that are often below freezing. With unsheltered neighbors at risk of hypothermia and other cold-related illnesses, lives will be at risk this holiday season.

Your compassion helps make sure no one has to face our coldest months alone. You can provide relief for at-risk neighbors at Buffalo City Mission:

- **Safe shelter**, including extra emergency shelter beds during imminent weather
- **Hot food** offers comfort and nourishment to warm weary bodies
- **Winter clothes** like coats, clothing and boots are in high demand

Because winter brings such great need, we rely on caring friends like you more than ever. It's easy for you to help. [Purchase essential needs from our Amazon wish list to have items delivered directly to the Mission.](#)

Scan the QR code or visit buffalocitymission.org/give-items to view our most urgently needed items.



YOUR YEAR OF *Impact*

Thanks to your kindness and generosity, in 2026, you gave more than just meals and shelter... you gave healing and hope to our neighbors in need.

See what you made possible!



187,198
meals served



75,028
nights of shelter provided



84
veterans served

Thank you for supporting our life-changing programs to help more people get back on their feet this year!