

HIS *hands*

Reaching Hearts • Changing Lives

Focusing ON THE Future

Your support helps young
people get on the right
track...and stay there!

Paving a PATHWAY OF HOPE



Rev. Richard Trickel
Chief Executive Officer

dear friend,

Every day at The City Mission, men and women struggle to overcome the consequences of poor decisions. Whatever their decisions—to abuse drugs or alcohol, drop out of school or turn to crime—chances are they came early in life.

Our Pathways program helps young men and women make positive choices that will lead them towards productive, stable lives. With your support, the help of Pathways staff and volunteers—and the grace of God—our hope is that none of these young people will need our help 10 or 20 years down the line!

You probably know that Pathways has programs for kids from first grade all the way through high school—and even beyond! But I don't think there's anything more rewarding than to see one of our Teen Club members go on to college with a Pathways scholarship.

That's why I'm so pleased to share Jasmine's story with you in this issue of *His Hands*. She's a terrific example of someone who started out in Pathways as a youngster and grew into a dedicated, hard-working young woman—and a Pathways scholar. Because you help make this program available, Jasmine is going to be a bright light in our community. And she's not alone.

Dozens of high school students in Pathways find personal encouragement, help with their studies, and skills to help them resist drugs and drinking. And even if the school year is coming to an end, they're looking ahead to even greater success in the fall.

There are so many ways you help young people at The City Mission, and you'll see them in the following pages. Of course, you also provide a second chance for those men and women who weren't fortunate enough to have solid Christian guidance in their youth—or who, like Rashaunda on page 8, let their faith die out.

Thank you for helping our neighbors in need to rekindle the flame of Christ in their hearts. Your generosity and prayers provide a pathway to a brighter tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Rev Richard Trickel

Show me
your ways,
O Lord,
teach me
your paths.

Psalm 25:4

You Put Jasmine on the PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

"People from my neighborhood don't go on to college," says Jasmine. "Most of them drop out and take the easy road. I wanted something different!"

Now a college freshman on a Pathways scholarship, Jasmine is living proof that hope, perseverance, and a little help from friends like you go a long way towards helping young people reach their goals.

Jasmine's drive towards a better life started early. In the seventh grade, she asked her mother if she could join the Pathways Pre-Teen Club. Asked about her first visit, Jasmine says, "I just felt welcome!" She enjoyed the praise and worship, especially the testimonies. "It was real," she says. "I think that's what helped me grow in my relationship with God."

Encouraged by her friends and mentors in Pathways, Jasmine stayed with the program throughout her high school years, even volunteering as a student leader at Pathways summer camp. "I had a lot of help during the time I was getting ready for college," she tells us. "That's what makes me want to give back...the program is just a good thing!"

Pathways was definitely a good thing for Jasmine. Like most teens, she had plenty of peer pressure and other distractions. However, she says, "People (in Pathways) keep you on the right track." Also, as Jasmine saw family and friends struggling in their lives, she came to a life-changing decision: "I wanted something better for myself. I know it's going to be hard, but I just have to work for it."

Jasmine's hard work in high school earned her excellent grades and a Pathways college scholarship. Today, she's majoring in journalism. And her friends in Pathways are still here to cheer her on. "Reverend Brown calls me, and that shows me that he cares about what I'm doing," she says. "I'm motivated to do well."

Ultimately, Jasmine hopes to use her time and talents to start a magazine and a summer camp program to motivate other young people. "I want to get involved. I remember the impact The City Mission had on me. I don't think I would be where I am today without Pathways."

Further down the line, Jasmine would love to become a Pathways counselor and help more young people get on the road to success. "Even if I don't (become a counselor)," she tells us, "I know I at least want to come back and help."

Your gifts and prayers give so many of Cleveland's young girls and boys a chance to succeed like Jasmine. Thank you for helping to build a better future in our community!



*Go deeper into Jasmine's story!
Watch her interview video at
www.thecitymission.org/jasmine*

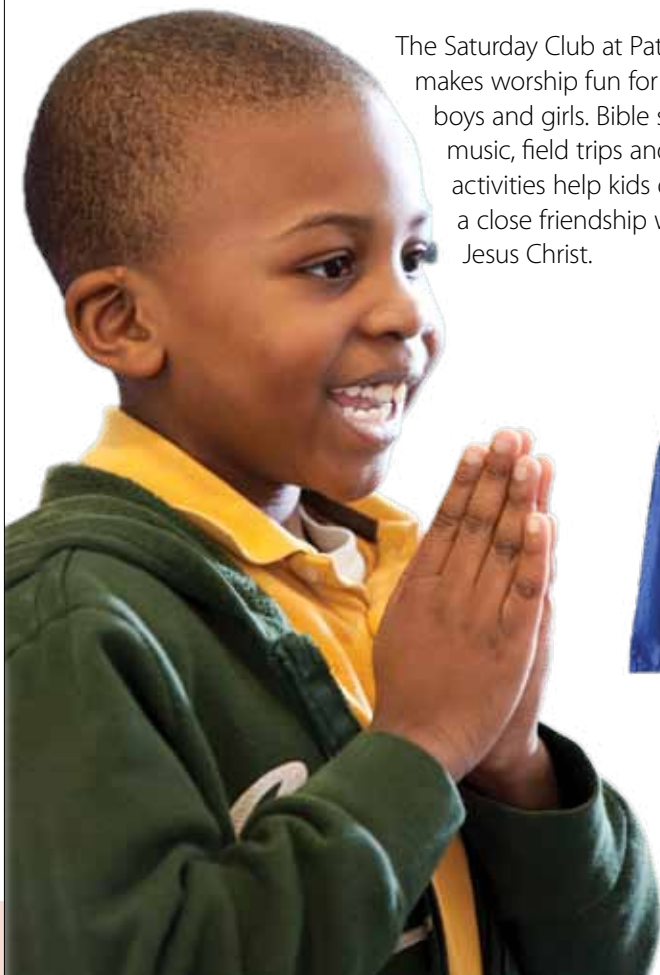
You Help Provide Blessings for **EVE**

From small children who need a safe place to go after school...to teens seeking guidance at a critical time in their lives...to adults working to overcome poverty, abuse and addiction... your partnership with The City Mission touches all their lives in a very special way. Thank you for reaching out to our neighbors in need. As you bless them with your generosity, know that they bless you in their prayers!



Our first annual Pathways Family Outreach Services' College and Career Connection Fair was a huge success. The Fair featured local colleges and gave young men and women a great start at planning for bright, productive futures.

The Saturday Club at Pathways makes worship fun for young boys and girls. Bible study, music, field trips and other activities help kids develop a close friendship with Jesus Christ.



You can see the pride of accomplishment shining through the faces of our Crossroads and Laura's Home program graduates! Graduation day is a day they'll always remember with joy and thankfulness.

EVERYBODY!



ABOVE:
Pathways kids have plenty to smile about! Summer day camp is filled with fun and faith for boys and girls in grades 1 through 8. Bible lessons, music and dance, field trips and mentoring keep kids focused and safe all summer long.

RIGHT:
Pathways' Drug-Free Basketball League for boys 13–18 shows them how to be winners not only on the court, but in life. Pre-game huddle meetings promote life principles and character...and the games themselves? Pure fun!



Get Involved!

There are so many ways to use your time and talent at The City Mission! Here are just a few ideas—see what God would have you do for the less fortunate in Cleveland.

Laura's Home Women's Crisis Center

1. Meal Provider
2. Child Care Assistant
3. Facilities Assistant
4. Family Activities
5. Clothing Room Assistant
6. Crisis Center Improvement Projects

Pathways Family Outreach

1. Administrative Assistant
2. Summer Day Camp Program Assistant

Crossroads Men's Crisis Center

1. Hairstylist
2. Crisis Center Improvement Projects

Please visit www.thecitymission.org/volunteer for a full list of current volunteer positions, or to learn more about how you can bless the men, women and children at The City Mission. Got questions? Email us at getinvolved@thecitymission.org.

memorial & in honor of gifts

If you would like to give a gift in memory of a loved one who has passed away, or in honor of a special occasion, please mail your gift and the name of the person(s) being remembered or honored to:

The City Mission • 5310 Carnegie Ave. • Cleveland, OH 44103

We will let your honoree or the family of the deceased know of your gift with a special card.

IN MEMORY OF:

(January 31 – March 15, 2011)

Our deepest sympathies are with friends who have lost loved ones. A memorial gift to The City Mission is a special way to offer hope to the needy in the name of a friend or family member.

Mr. Arthur Anderson

Mr. & Mrs. Richard F. Schubert

Christopher J. Caito

The Gioitta Family

Veronique Dickey

Ms. Michelle Moy

Susan Falsetta

Lynda, Capiz & Kathy

Lawrence Gore

Rev. & Mrs. Martin Masaglia

Margaret Harcar

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas F. McMullen

Rose Hoeffler

Mr. & Mrs. Gary J. Owen

Matthew Terry Hunt

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas G. Griffith

Norma Klug

L. L. Sommerfeld

Mr. Elwin "Al" Lackman

Mr. & Mrs. Norman G. Hensley

John Merrill

Jim & Ann Fitzpatrick

Patricia C. Miller

Babcox
David & Kim Barto
Ms. Alice M. Beaudry
Ms. Robin A. Donahue
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Nile Ripple

Brad & Regina Zmyslinski

Linda K. Romanik

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Dorothy Seitz

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Mrs. Barbara A. Shumaker

George Varnado

Ron Katz of Ohio Mills Wholesale, Inc.

Frederick G. Windle

Mrs. Joanne T. Hoppert
Mrs. Virginia Merriman
From the Toll Family

IN HONOR OF:

(February 1 – March 8, 2011)

A gift to The City Mission is a great way both to say "I Care" and to remember a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion!

Frank Londrico

Juleen Russell

Fred Thomas' Birthday

Mr. Clarence C. Rogers

Mr. Dominic A. Visconsi, Sr.

Ms. Barbara "Bebe" Weinberger

Carol Yanico's Birthday

Alan & Nordeen Kronika,
Mary O'Heorn, Laurel & Steve Myers

Cheryl Yanico's Birthday

Alan & Nordeen Kronika,
Mary O'Heorn, Laurel & Steve Myers

BE SOCIAL with The City Mission!



You're invited to join the conversation and community with The City Mission: just logon to www.thecitymission.org/be-social and you'll find many ways to connect with us and other friends of the Mission. "Like" us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, subscribe to YouTube. Don't be shy: post your comments, ask questions, and be a vital part of this vibrant, caring community.

Please join us in prayer

Laura's Home Women's Crisis Center

- Please pray that our clients will persevere in prayer and grow strong in the spirit throughout the program.
- Pray for safe, affordable housing and rewarding jobs for those moving forward from Laura's Home.
- Pray that our Case Workers will continue to be inspired to lead our clients toward fulfilled lives in Christ.
- Pray for the women to break the cycle of homelessness for themselves and their children.
- Pray that the families will be strengthened and grow in faith during their stay here.
- Pray that women and children will have all the resources they need to build stable, productive lives.

Inmate Outreach Services

- Thank the Lord for our dedicated volunteers who reach out with the hands of Christ to incarcerated men and women.
- Pray for the prison chaplains as they minister to those who most need Christ in their lives.
- Pray that our weekly ministries at Cuyahoga County Jail will continue to change hearts and minds.
- Pray for the families of those who are incarcerated, that the ties of love will remain strong until they reunite.
- Pray for the men and women who are transitioning from prison to new lives in Crossroads and Laura's Home.

Pathways Family Outreach Services

- Pray that the young people will learn to lean upon Christ to help them through their challenges and temptations.
- Pray that families in our communities will stay committed to one another and to Christ.
- Pray for our Pathways staff as they guide and mentor boys and girls toward brighter futures.
- Pray for the continued success and growth of our programs.
- Pray for the young men and women in the Pathways scholarship program as they prepare for college this fall.

Crossroads Men's Crisis Center

- Pray that the men in Crossroads can move past their addictions, traumas and poor choices to reclaim productive lives in Christ.
- Pray for our staff, as they daily serve our clients with the compassion of Christ.
- Pray that the resources needed to lead our clients towards sobriety and stability will continue to be available.
- Pray for all those who serve men in crisis through their gifts of time, talent and treasure.

You Can Help Open Doors of Employment

By George Mason

The time-worn employment maxim claims, "It's not *what* you know, it's *who* you know." But the motto of The City Mission's jobseekers is, "It's not *who* you know, it's *whose* you *are*."



Employment hurdles for the Mission's clients are high; prison time, addictions, separation from family, and living on the street complicate the search, discouraging even the heartiest of souls. But that is the very point where reliance on the Lord's plan must come into play—Joyceann is proof.

Joyceann came to Laura's Home from an unhealthy, drug-laced environment. Here she found hope, safety, and an opportunity to know and serve Christ. Her successful search for employment shows the fruit of her newfound faith in God: "I started working in January with a day here, two days there, but I looked to God and trusted Him. I had faith and obeyed His word and it seems when I stopped worrying and leaned on God, the job found me! Now I have a permanent position and I just can't stop talking about how God is blessing me."

God's word says He has a plan for our lives. For believers, one marvelous aspect is that He often involves us in His plan for others. If helping clients with employment needs moves your heart, here are practical ways to help:

- Pray for our clients' perseverance and employment doors to open.
- Become an employment mentor for clients.
- Are there openings where you work? Let's talk.

George Mason is TCM's Learning Center Supervisor and is responsible for helping clients become job-ready. To learn more or help, reach him at 216-920-4133 or gmason@thecitymission.org.

A Miracle Worth Waiting For

Rashaunda needed a miracle. Although she grew up in a family of believers, Rashaunda says, "I let my faith die."

As a teenager, she turned to a lifestyle of "men, money and manipulation" that left her homeless with three children at the tender age of 21.

In July of 2009, Rashaunda's cousin referred her to Laura's Home at The City Mission. When she heard it described as a "program", Rashaunda thought, "Programs are for addicts!" Looking back, she admits, "I was in denial. I wasn't addicted to dope, but I was

addicted to lying, deceiving, stealing, fornication... I was a mean, nasty person."

After less than six months in Laura's Home, Rashaunda was restless. She was waiting for a miracle, but "nothing was moving fast enough for me." On a cold November day, Rashaunda packed her bags, took her children, and left.

They spent most of the winter keeping warm on buses. Rashaunda tried to find help from family and friends, but she had burned all her bridges and couldn't get along with anyone.

Desperate to try for her miracle again, Rashaunda and her children returned to Laura's Home in August 2010. This time, she's

not running before her miracle can happen. "I'm here for my babies because they deserve a better life. Everything that they've got to offer (at Laura's Home), I'm soaking it up."

One thing Rashaunda soaks up is Scripture! "I read the Bible a lot," she says, "and now I can comprehend it. I'm not battling the flesh, I'm battling the spirit. Certain things I used to do, I stay away from."

The other women in Laura's Home support and inspire Rashaunda. "If you sit and listen to all the women here, everybody's got a story. Everybody here plays a part in everybody's life. I can say something good about every woman who comes through that door. We work together as a community."

Now in the six month of the program, Rashaunda looks ahead with newfound hope. "I'm only 23. I've still got time to go back to school and get a bachelor's degree by the time I'm 30." She has visions of working with children, possibly as a social worker.

Rashaunda tells friends of The City Mission that their gifts are well spent. "It's more than just meals and clothes. It's love, wisdom, experience, hope. [Here] we have what we need, and more—so we're blessed."

Thank you for blessing the women and Children in Laura's Home—a place where miracles do come to those who wait.



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5310 Carnegie Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44103
(216) 431-3510

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*Providing Help and Hope to
All People Through the Transforming
Power of God's Love*

