

# Heart of Bloomington

*Your heart for our city...in action*

Summer 2019

A NEWSLETTER OF WHEELER MISSION - BLOOMINGTON

## Don't Miss:

2 A Challenge Here at Home

3 "I've learned to love."

4 Our Summer Six

## From Fear and Loneliness to the Power of

## *God's Love*

Because friends like you  
*give where you live*, Eric  
and others like him are  
rebuilding their lives.



GIVE  LIVE  
92-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

A Message from  
RICK ALVIS

## Help Meet the Challenge Here at Home

While many in Bloomington are enjoying summer rest and relaxation, those who are homeless have no escape from their physical discomfort, mental anguish, and spiritual despair without our help and yours.

**So here's the challenge:** As temperatures soar and needs increase, our donations typically decline. Yet the meals we will serve throughout June, July, and August cost nearly \$45,702 alone!

I'm so grateful for your partnership – and during this critical time, I pray you will continue to stand alongside us. Please *give where you live* through our summer campaign, which is underway now.

Your generous gift will provide nutritious food, cool shelter, addiction recovery, and faith-based guidance to people in our local community who have lost all hope. Your ongoing support will relieve burdens and rebuild lives right here at home.

God bless you for remembering those who are hurting this summer. Your compassion lets them know they're not alone.



Rick Alvis  
President/CEO

# Through the 3 MONTHS of Summer, your gifts will provide



20,312 meals



10,156 nights  
of shelter



hundreds of  
clothing items



heartfelt &  
life-transforming  
decisions for  
Christ



countless hours  
of counseling &  
education

**Give Where You Live!  
Our 92-Day Summer  
Campaign is underway now.**



✉ Send your gift today.

📄 Give online at **WheelerMission.org**.



*This time of year, gifts typically drop off, so we need your help now more than ever!*

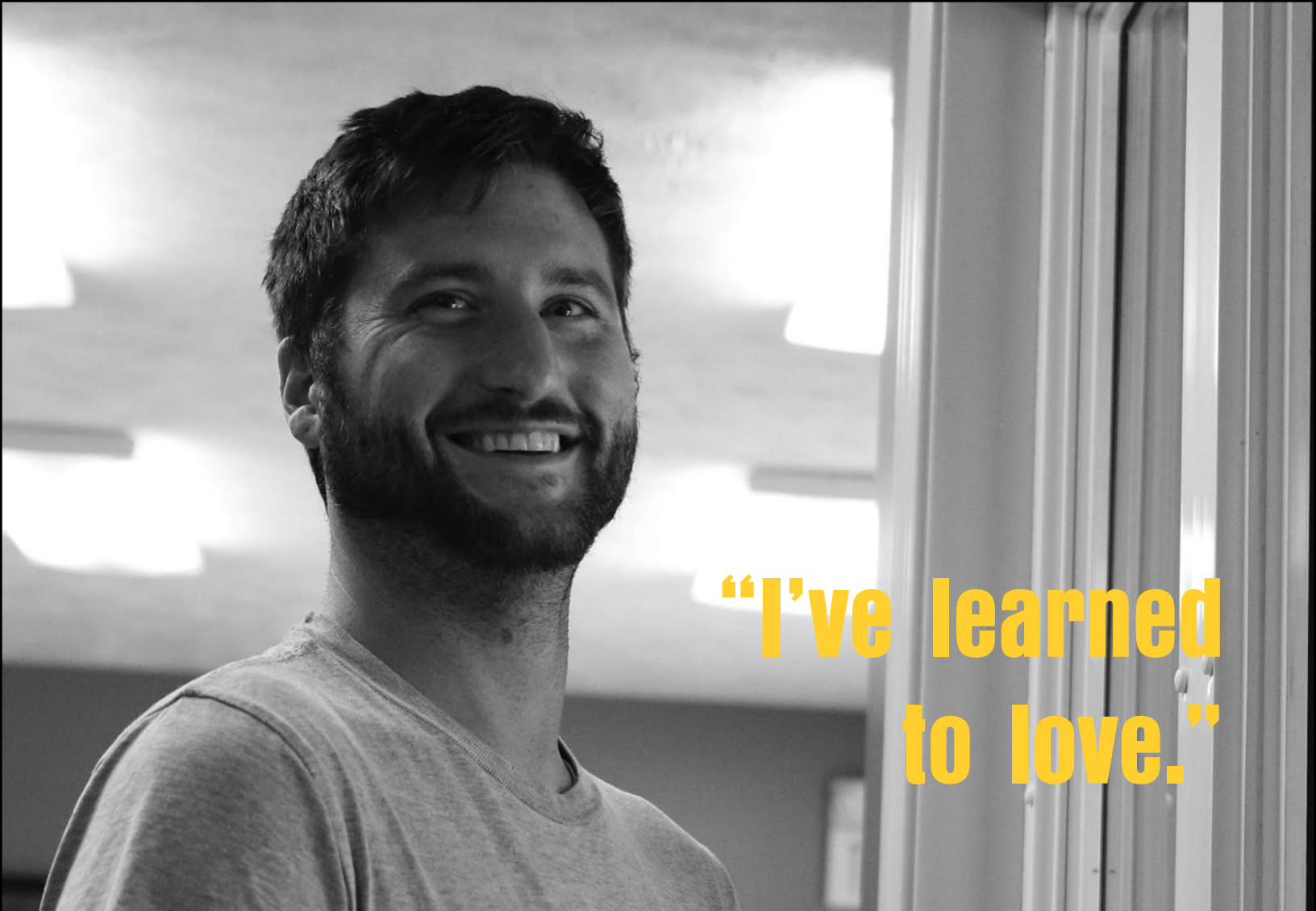
**GIVE *where you* LIVE**

92-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

VISIT **WheelerMission.org** to read stories of hope, learn more about our ministry, and securely donate anytime.

Let's be friends!





**“I’ve learned  
to love.”**

**W**hen Eric was growing up, he struggled with deep sadness and fear. “I had anxiety attacks,” he says. “I always felt like I was going to get hurt or that nothing was going to go right.”

He was just 14 when he started taking medication for depression and anxiety, and the following year began self-medicating with alcohol. “At first it was just at parties, but it grew to something I did all the time,” he says. “I was a functioning addict. I had good jobs, but I never had any real relationships. My addiction consumed my life.”

**“I was completely  
broken.”**

Then, one night, he found himself lying under a van in a parking lot, intoxicated, and he had a moment of clarity. “God showed me what my life was like without Him – the last 12 years wrapped up in a nutshell – and it was chaos.”

It was then that Eric entered our Hebron Addiction

Recovery Program, where Bible studies, faith-based recovery classes, and spiritual counseling have helped him find freedom in Christ. “I believed, but I’d never had an intimate relationship with Him,” he says. “Now, my prayer life is really strong.”

Eric has also healed emotionally at Wheeler Mission and no longer needs medication. “My anxiety is gone,” he says.

He has now graduated and is in our ministry training program here at Wheeler Mission - Bloomington. “I’ve learned to love and care for others,” he says. “Sharing my testimony, helping someone with a place to sleep, a shower or a hot meal, or seeing someone’s face when I hand them a fresh pair of socks is awesome.”

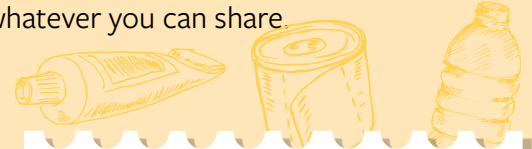
When he completes ministry training, Eric is looking forward to starting a career in addiction counseling, getting his own place, and continuing to grow in his relationship with the Lord.

***And he’s grateful to friends like you for your continuing support of Wheeler Mission - Bloomington.***  
“It gives people the tools to truly change their lives.”



# PLEASE HELP WITH OUR **SUMMER 6**

Our “Summer Six” are items we need all summer long to provide our guests with a comfortable environment and life-changing assistance. Please deliver your donations to 215 S. Westplex Ave. in Bloomington, daily from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. We’re grateful for whatever you can share.



1. Bottled water
2. Alcohol-free hand sanitizer
3. Toothpaste
4. Toilet paper
5. Paper towels
6. High-efficiency laundry soap



## We Need Your Helping Hands

Wheeler Mission - Bloomington offers countless opportunities for volunteers to bless others with their time and talents:

- Food drives
- Office duties
- Tutoring
- Meal service
- Improvement projects
- Sorting donations
- General maintenance
- and more!

For more information or to volunteer, visit [wheelervolunteer.org](http://wheelervolunteer.org) or contact: ☎ (812) 727-6300 ✉ [volunteer@wheelermission.org](mailto:volunteer@wheelermission.org)

## Witness Your Gifts in Action!

*Schedule a tour of Wheeler Mission - Bloomington & see the impact of your compassion!*

Contact Josie: ☎ (812) 332-2452 | ✉ [JosieLevine@WheelerMission.org](mailto:JosieLevine@WheelerMission.org)

## I'll Give Where I Live!

Rick, here's my special summertime gift to provide meals, shelter, care – and hope!

- \$25       \$50
- \$75       \$150
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as much as possible

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ENCLOSED     BILL MY CREDIT CARD



CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Donate now! ☎ (812) 727-6300**  
[WheelerMission.org](http://WheelerMission.org)

Wheeler Mission - Bloomington  
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Bloomington, IN 47402-3297

