

Heart of Bloomington

Your heart for our city... in action

Summer 2020

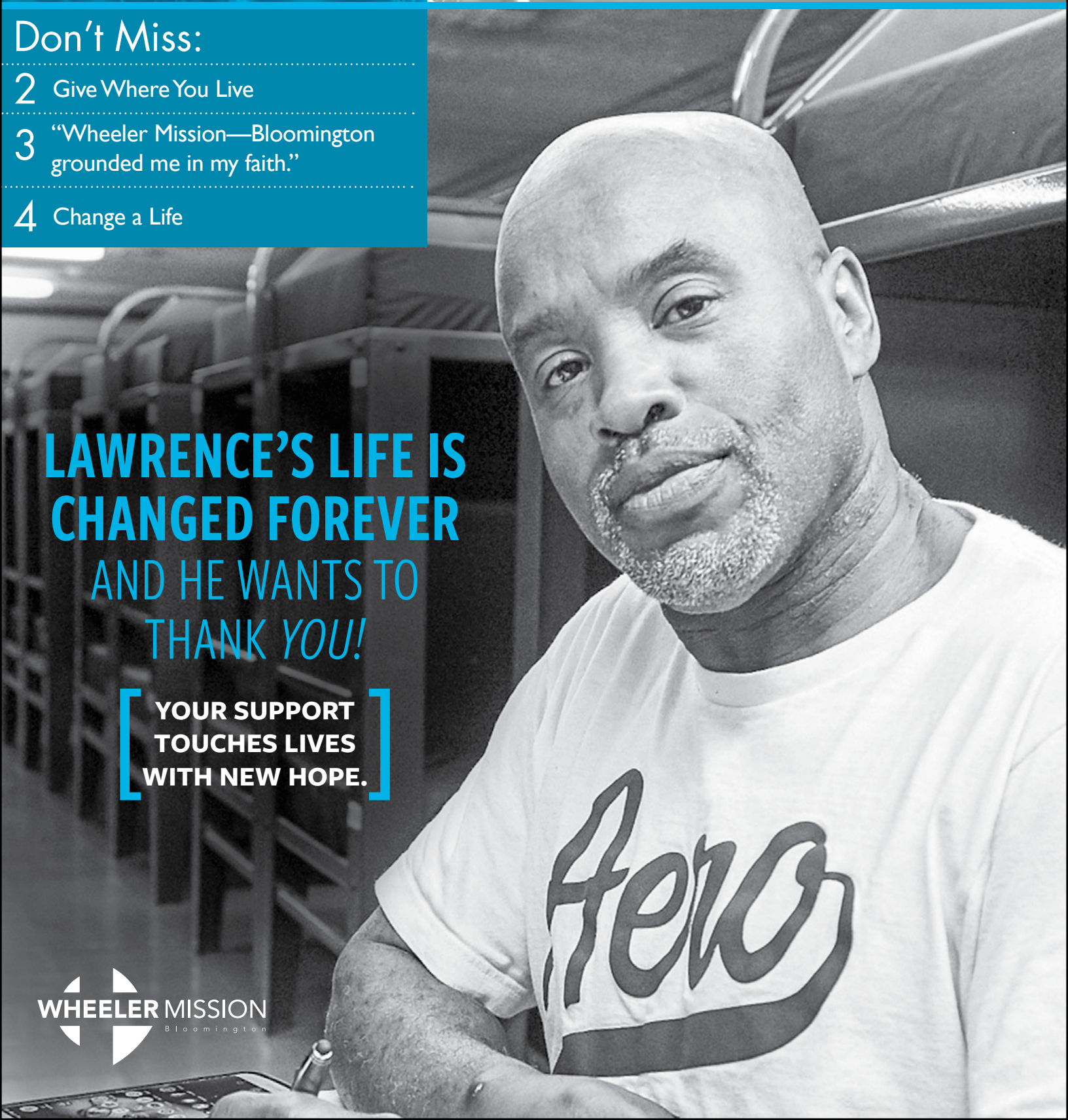
A NEWSLETTER OF WHEELER MISSION—BLOOMINGTON

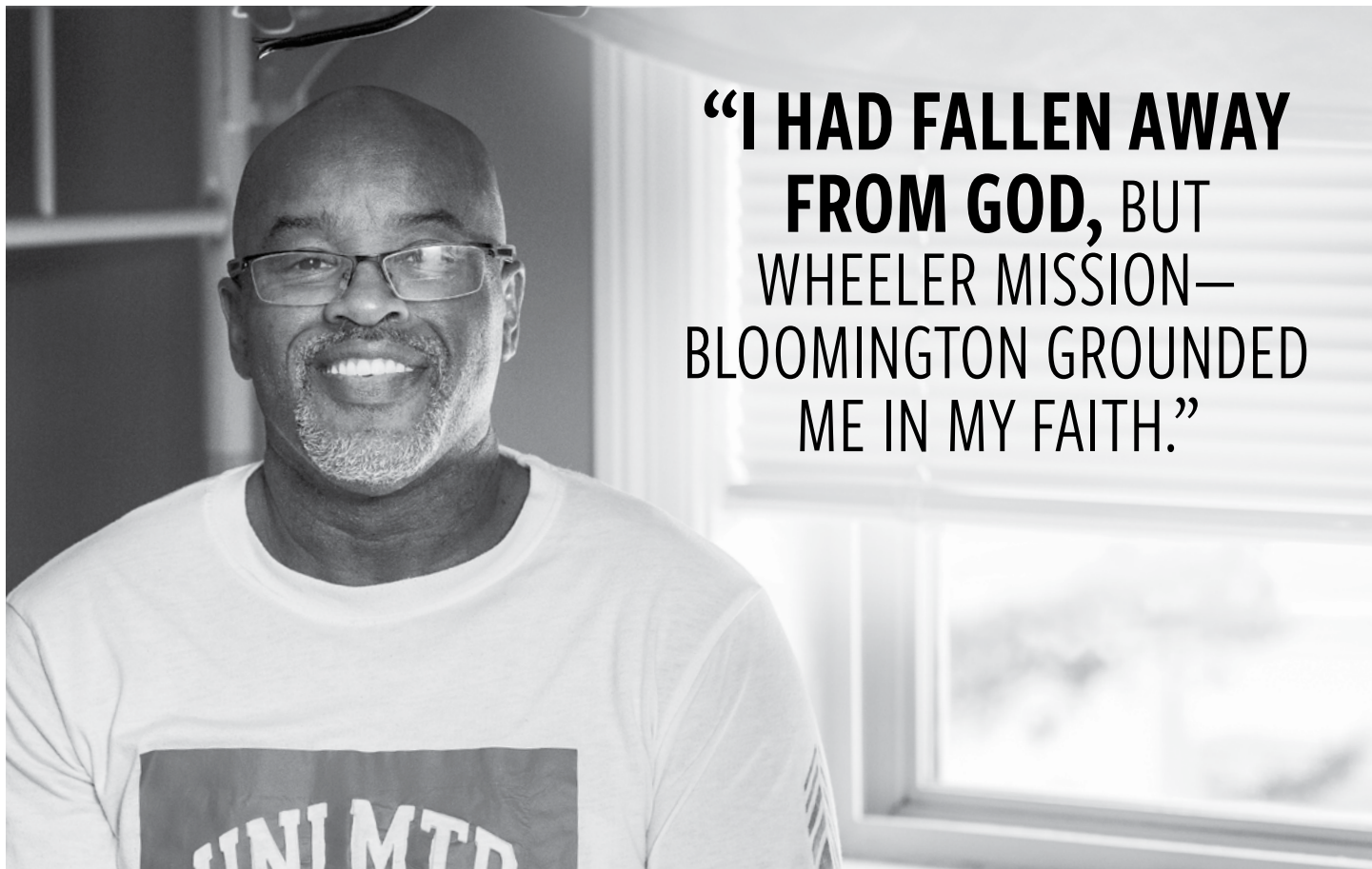
Don't Miss:

- 2 Give Where You Live
- 3 "Wheeler Mission—Bloomington grounded me in my faith."
- 4 Change a Life

**LAWRENCE'S LIFE IS
CHANGED FOREVER
AND HE WANTS TO
THANK YOU!**

**YOUR SUPPORT
TOUCHES LIVES
WITH NEW HOPE.**





“I HAD FALLEN AWAY FROM GOD, BUT WHEELER MISSION—BLOOMINGTON GROUNDED ME IN MY FAITH.”

Lawrence lay awake under the concrete bridge, his blanket pulled tight around him, cold and miserable, regretting how far he’d run from the Lord. “My mother raised eight kids alone, but she took us to church every Sunday,” he says. “I grew up believing in God.”

But when his family moved from the suburbs to the city, Lawrence fell in with a bad crowd and, at 15, started using drugs. For over two decades, he struggled with addiction, destroying his marriage, landing him in trouble with the law and, finally, leaving him homeless.

“I was sleeping under bridges or porches or whatever I could find,” he says. “I always prayed for God to be patient with me, but I was miserable because I knew He had something better for me.”

Then Lawrence discovered our Foundations Program, and through support groups, chapel services, and counseling, he found his way back to the Lord. **“Now I’m rooted in my faith. I have a spiritual foundation,”** he says.

“EVERYTHING THAT GOES ON HERE IS ABOUT JESUS CHRIST.”

Through life-skills classes and hands-on work training, Lawrence also accessed the resources and developed the skills to find and maintain employment. **“Because of Wheeler Mission—Bloomington, I was able to get a good job with one of the top employers here in Bloomington.”**

Now a graduate of our program, Lawrence has his own apartment and comes back to share his testimony with those who are where he once was. “God delivered me from drugs and homelessness and I tell them, ‘If He did it for me, He can do it for you.’”

Because you gave from your heart to help Lawrence, his life has been changed by your goodness and God’s love forever! “I had fallen away from God, but Wheeler Mission—Bloomington grounded me in my faith and set me up for success. It changed my life.”

A Message from
RICK ALVIS

**Give Where You Live
to Meet Our Summer
Challenge**

These past few months have been unsettling for everyone – and most especially for our neighbors in need. Hunger, homelessness, poverty. These hardships can seem even more daunting in the current environment. In times like these, caring for hundreds of hurting individuals presents a challenge that's greater than ever.

Summer is always hard, but this year we're being stretched to the limit. The meals we serve during June, July, and August cost \$45,702 alone. On top of that are expenses for crisis-related assistance. And there's no decline in the need for recovery programming, adult education, and practical guidance that empower our guests to change their lives.

We need your help to meet our summer challenge!

During this critical time, I pray you'll continue to remember our neighbors experiencing homelessness. They need your encouragement, prayers, and compassion now more than ever.

Please *give where you live* to ensure we can care for every individual who turns to Wheeler Mission—Bloomington for hope and a new beginning, now and in the months ahead. Your partnership brings comfort to so many, especially in times like these.



Rick Alvis
President/CEO

**Through the 3 SUMMER MONTHS,
your gifts will provide**



22,081
meals



countless hours of
counseling & case
management



11,122
beds

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

- ✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- 📄 Give online anytime at **WheelerMission.org**.

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

GIVE  LIVE
92-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN



**Let Your LEGACY
Live On**

If you're like many Americans, you have no current will or estate plan. Being unprepared could mean losing control of what happens to your assets.

Make sure your resources are passed on to the people and causes you believe in. We'd love to help you! Contact us today for helpful, current advice and guidance in planning your legacy and gaining peace of mind.

Contact **Steve Kerr** ☎ (812) 727-6300 ✉ SteveKerr@WheelerMission.org
📄 wheelermission.org/planned-giving/

How can **YOU** change a life this **SUMMER?**

When struggling people turn to Wheeler Mission—Bloomington for help, we provide for their physical needs so they can move out of survival mode and begin to focus on getting back on their feet. You can help our hurting guests by providing necessities to see them through their challenging days and give them hope for the days to come.

Bottled water can help people endure hot summer days out on the streets. **Brand new underwear** can help someone feel clean, confident, and able to believe that change is possible. A **new pillow** can provide rest and comfort for someone who needs a safe place to sleep.

Throughout the summer, will you consider donating the necessities that will give our hurting neighbors the strength and support they need to rebuild their lives?

Thank you for your compassion!

Needed Items

Bottled water	New men's underwear
Towels and washcloths	Baseball caps
New pillows	Shoes/sandals/shower shoes - all sizes
Men's pajamas	Lip balm

Pledge to Give Monthly at This Critical Time

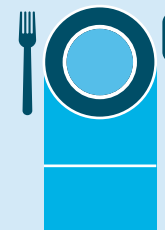
Our **Circle of Hope** monthly giving partners provide the funds we rely on to feed, shelter, and care for our most vulnerable neighbors. Their giving is consistent every month... and that's especially crucial considering the recent COVID-19 crisis.

Giving monthly is the best way to ensure we can meet emergencies head-on today, as well as confront the challenges that will endanger those in need tomorrow.

Please prayerfully consider joining this vital group! Your monthly commitment will secure an ongoing foundation of support for struggling individuals and families who need assistance with daily essentials, as well as tools to rebuild their lives.

SIGN UP NOW!

Visit **WheelerMission.org** or complete the back of the enclosed reply form.



Your monthly gift of \$30 provides **14** meals and care



Over a year, your \$30 monthly gift brings **168** meals and care