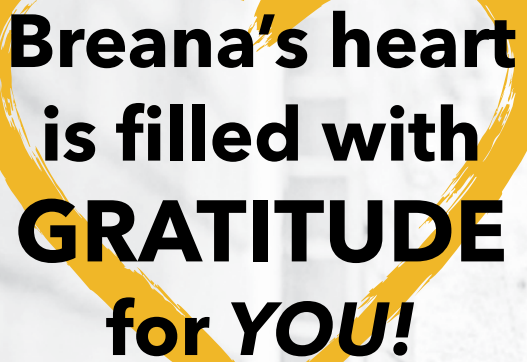


# INSIDE STORY



A NEWSLETTER OF WHEELER MISSION | FALL 2020



**Breana's heart  
is filled with  
GRATITUDE  
for YOU!**

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**Inside:** Read how your  
compassion and support  
changes lives.



# “NOW I HAVE A PURPOSE IN LIFE. I’VE BEEN RESTORED.”



**B**reana grew up longing to be loved. “My parents’ addictions left me feeling abandoned and heartbroken as a child,” she says. “I came to believe I wasn’t worthy of love.”

When she was 13, Breana began numbing her pain with drugs, and by the time she was 16, she was staying away from home for months at a time, living with friends, staying on the streets, or sleeping in abandoned cars. Her parents didn’t come to find her.

For nearly a decade, she continued struggling with addiction, costing her jobs and eventually landing her in prison. It was there, at her lowest point, that she had an encounter with Christ that changed her forever.

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“I finally experienced  
the love that I had  
truly longed for.”

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After her release, Breana relapsed, but she couldn’t forget the Lord’s love. “I wanted that relationship back. That made me want to change,” she says. “I just didn’t know how.”

It was then she entered our Higher Ground addiction recovery program, and through chapel services, Bible studies, and Christian counseling, she grew strong in her faith and found healing for her heart. **“I got to truly know God and He showed me that I’m worthy of love,”** she says. “Now when feelings of rejection or abandonment come, I’m able to speak truth over them.”

Breana graduated from the program, completed Wheeler Mission’s EQUIP internship, and moved into her own place. She’s now the Supervisor of Restored Creations, our social enterprise that markets handcrafted items by women in our Center for Women and Children. Meanwhile, she’s earning a bachelor’s degree in business management, with plans to someday open an aftercare facility for women in recovery.

**This Thanksgiving season – and all through the year – your kind generosity fills hearts with hope and gratitude, and transforms lives through God’s love!** “I was lost, but now I have a purpose in life. Because of the Lord and Wheeler Mission, I’ve been restored.”

A MESSAGE FROM  
RICK ALVIS

*You fill my heart  
with Thanksgiving.*

The COVID-19 pandemic has made this year challenging for all of us. No one is immune to the stress of uncertainty or the fear of the unknown. After the economic hardships from COVID-19, far too many of our neighbors are feeling the harsh reality of losing their livelihoods – their ability to provide for themselves or their families. They join scores of others already turning to Wheeler Mission for food, shelter, and life-restoring guidance.

***Yet, through it all, my heart is filled with gratitude – for God’s faithfulness, the goodness of mankind, and your dedication to serving our neighbors in desperate need.***

As more struggling people reach out to us this fall, I know you’ll be there for them. You are among the heroes who put others’ needs above your own. You join us on the front lines of compassion and kindness, loving your neighbors when they need it most. Now, as we anticipate an increased need for food and care throughout the fall, my greatest hope is that you’ll continue your amazing support this Thanksgiving season.

Regardless of the season or the challenges around us, remembering our blessings brings us comfort, peace, and joy. This Thanksgiving, as we gather with our loved ones, I pray each of us finds strength in God, one another, and our own grateful hearts.



Rick Alvis  
President/CEO

# 82,412

## MEALS NEEDED BY THANKSGIVING

### Join our 2020 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN!

Please help us now to prepare for the thousands of meals we’ll serve to our struggling neighbors throughout the Thanksgiving season. Your generosity will not only provide nourishing food for hungry people, but also opportunities for lives to be restored through Christ’s love:

***faith-based counseling • life-skills classes  
vocational training • and more!***

Your giving spirit can mean a new beginning for hurting individuals and families right here in our community. Share your heart of thanksgiving by giving your **2020 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today.**



Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.



Give online anytime at [WheelerMission.org](http://WheelerMission.org).



***Our hearts are filled with Thanksgiving for your faithful support!***

### SEE HOW YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE AN IMPACT!



**\$2.03**  
for 1 hot meal



**\$7.50**  
for 1 night of safe shelter

**CAN LEAD TO**



**Practical guidance  
and God’s  
life-changing LOVE**

**READ BREANA'S STORY TO LEARN MORE!**

### Your HEART OF THANKSGIVING Changing Lives Tomorrow & Beyond



You clearly care about those in need. You’ve demonstrated your compassion time and time again. Would you like to continue touching the lives of those who are hurting and experiencing homelessness beyond your lifetime? When you remember Wheeler Mission in your will or estate plans, you ensure that your spirit of compassion continues tomorrow and beyond.

For more information, call Steve Kerr at **(317) 635-3575**  
or email [SteveKerr@WheelerMission.org](mailto:SteveKerr@WheelerMission.org).

**Thank you!**

# Winter Wear NEEDED!

As winter approaches and temperatures drop, we don our warm coats, scarves, hats, and gloves to protect us against frigid days.

But many who struggle with poverty, hunger, and homelessness don't have the clothing that will keep them warm during the harsh winter months. For these men, women, and children, frigid temperatures can be life threatening.

**You can help keep them safe by donating new or gently-used coats, sweatshirts, sweatpants, pajamas, scarves, hats, gloves, and other cold weather wear!**

Your donations may be all that stands between someone in need and the bitter cold of our Indiana winters.

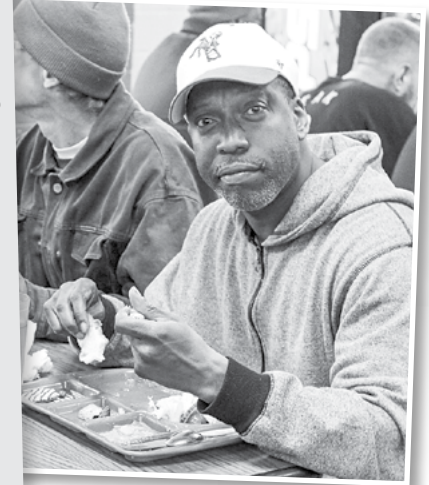
Drop off your donations between **8 a.m. and 11 p.m. at our Men's Residential Center at 245 N. Delaware St in Indianapolis or our Center for Men at 215 S. Westplex Ave in Bloomington.**

*Thank you for your compassion!*

# Our Thanksgiving Needs List

Please consider shopping or hosting a food drive for these items we need to feed our hungry guests throughout the Thanksgiving season.

70 turkeys  
20 boneless hams  
20 #10 cans of sweet potatoes or yams, or 4 large cases (200 lbs)  
100 individual boxes of Stove Top stuffing  
10 gallons of turkey gravy  
White granulated sugar  
50 2-lb. boxes of Velveeta cheese  
100 lb. boxes of elbow macaroni  
20 lbs. of butter  
50 #10 cans of green beans  
50 #10 cans of corn  
12 #10 cans of cranberry sauce



Drop off your donations at our Men's Residential Center located at 245 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis, IN 46204, or one of our other ministry locations.

In Bloomington, donations can be dropped off at our Center for Men located at 215 S. Westplex Ave.

*Thank you for helping!*

*Thank you,  
Cal Nelson, for a  
lifetime of service!*



Our Executive Vice President of Men's Programming, Cal Nelson, has retired after 28 years of selfless service here at Wheeler Mission!

We're deeply grateful for his compassion and dedication that have helped bring healing and hope to countless people in need.

Well done, faithful servant, and happy retirement. You will be missed!