


URM TODAY

Fall 2017

Changing the Future of the Homeless... One Life at a Time

NEWSLETTER FROM THE UNION RESCUE MISSION



// There used to be a time when I'd look in the mirror and say, **'Erico, you're never going to make it.'** //

Today, through your gifts and prayers, he has a bright future and a heart of thanksgiving!

READ HIS INSPIRING STORY ON PAGE 3.

2800 N. Hillside • Wichita, KS 67219-4702 • (316) 687-4673 • urmwichita.org

Don't miss...

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"Being in the kitchen has always been my dream," Erico says...

But with no money for a formal education, he was honing his culinary skills as best he could in fast food restaurants or wherever he found work as a cook. So when he learned that the Union Rescue Mission had a culinary job-training program, he jumped at the chance to take part.

Soon, under the tutelage of our Mission chefs, "I wasn't just making burgers and hot dogs anymore," he explains. ***"I was cooking new dishes like Mexican lasagna and beef stroganoff for the first time, and the guys here were telling me I was doing a good job."***

And with the continued encouragement of our staff and guests, he says his life has changed dramatically. "I've been in a position where I was ready to give up, to throw in the towel," he shares. "But with God's help, the Mission pulled me out of that hole."

Erico completed our culinary program with flying

// JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE IS HOMELESS DOESN'T MEAN THEY CAN'T GET A THREE-STAR DISH! //

colors, and now he's a chef in our kitchen, embracing the opportunity to feed homeless and hungry people spiritually, as well as physically. ***"If I just say, 'Have a good day' or 'God bless you,' that really brightens their day,"*** he explains. "And it makes my day better too!"

While Erico doesn't plan to leave the Mission anytime soon, his goal is to someday star in a TV cooking show or own a food truck or restaurant. "I'm on a mission to make my life successful for myself and anyone else I can help!" he says.

Today, with a heart of thanksgiving for friends like you who helped change his life and make his dreams come true, he shares these words: ***"If you were here with me, you'd see how your donations, your volunteering – whatever you do for the Mission – benefits us in such amazing ways. This place is such a blessing to me."***

YOUR COMPASSION CAN CONTINUE BEYOND YOUR LIFETIME

Because you demonstrate a deep commitment to those whose needs are greater than your own, you may be looking for opportunities to continue to have a positive impact beyond your lifetime. You can conveniently share your compassion for years to come by remembering the Union Rescue Mission of Wichita in your will or estate plan.

To learn more about leaving your legacy, contact our Director of Development, Terre Johnson.

☎ (316) 687-4673, ext. 131 ✉ terre@urmwichita.org



A Heart of Thanksgiving

Our guests may never meet you, but their hearts are filled with joy and thanksgiving for the care and opportunities you provide every day!



23,391
MEALS



10,736
NIGHTS OF SHELTER



THOUSANDS OF HOURS
OF TRAINING, COUNSELING & PRAYER

OPEN YOUR HEART THIS THANKSGIVING

FOOD. SHELTER. GUIDANCE. HOPE.
GOD'S LIFE-TRANSFORMING LOVE.

Your 2017 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign
gift will bring a harvest of joy to people in need.



Give now using the enclosed
reply card and envelope.



Give online anytime at
urmwichita.org.

THANK YOU
FOR BEING GENEROUS!

A MESSAGE FROM DENNY



Your heart of Thanksgiving... brings a harvest of joy!

The human need for food is fundamental and has remained the center of our ministry outreach for more than 60 years. **But the people who turn to the Union Rescue Mission hunger for more than a meal.** Their emptiness extends to all areas of their lives.

Their spirits are tired of searching for something to believe in. They lack the training to change their dead-end paths. Friends and loved ones have long since turned their backs. They come to us hungry, homeless, broken and alone – and through your kind compassion, we fill their plates with hope... and their hearts with thanksgiving.

From faith-based counseling to life-skills courses to job-readiness training, **your gifts and prayers empower hurting individuals** to overcome troubled circumstances and rebuild lives that are stable, meaningful and a blessing to their communities.

As we look forward to serving our less-fortunate neighbors this holiday season, **I pray you will continue to demonstrate your heart of thanksgiving.** Your ongoing partnership will bring a harvest of joy to men, women and children who are longing for hope. God bless you for your gift today and throughout the months ahead.

Dennis H. Bender, APR
Executive Director

IT'S TIME FOR THANKSGIVING!



23,391 meals
for hungry men

365 food boxes
for struggling families, seniors
and others in desperate need

Here's how you can help your hurting neighbors this Thanksgiving season:

Add our shopping list to yours!

- ☐ Turkeys and hams
- ☐ Stuffing
- ☐ Potatoes and yams
- ☐ Canned vegetables
- ☐ Bacon
- ☐ Eggs
- ☐ Butter
- ☐ Pies
- ☐ Whipped cream
- ☐ Canned cranberry sauce

Please drop off your donations at the Mission, 2800 N. Hillside in Wichita, Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All items need to be received by Monday, November 20.

DON'T HAVE TIME TO SHOP?

Donate now! ☎ (316) 687-4673 🌐 urmwichita.org



CONNECT WITH US

🌐 urmwichita.org



Individuals, families, church groups – all are needed to volunteer now through Thanksgiving! To learn more, contact Tracey at...

☎ (316) 687-4673 ✉ volunteer@urmwichita.org