Good NEIGHBORS
THIS IS YOUR CITY. THIS IS YOUR MISSION.
Buffalo City Mission
Restoring Lives Since 1917
SUMMER 2020

Ralph's life is changed forever

and he wants to thank YOU!

Your support touches lives with new hope.

For more information: (716) 854-8181, ext. 429 • buffalocitymission.org

Don't miss...

2 Give Where You Live
2 Our Summer Six
3 "They are lovely people here"

> **They are lovely people here.**

Ralph's world went up in smoke one day... literally. First, Ralph was driving down the road when a teenage boy made an illegal left turn and totaled both vehicles. Then, when Ralph was about to leave the hospital to go home after the accident, he got a shocking call from his roommate.

"He was calling to tell me an electrical fire broke out in the house, and it was a total loss," Ralph said. "In just one day, all at once, I lost my car and my house."

With no vehicle and no place to live, Ralph moved in with his son. But it wasn't a permanent solution for Ralph – he craved stability and knew he needed a safe place to stay while he worked to start over again after losing everything.

That's when his son suggested that Ralph seek out the Mission.

The day he came to Buffalo City Mission, everything changed for Ralph.

"I came to the Mission because I had nowhere else to go," he says, "But the place has been very helpful."

In our care, Ralph is rebuilding his life. Because he struggles with multiple health challenges, the Mission helps him with his doctor's appointments and even with obtaining medical insurance.

"I'm going to look for housing for myself as soon as I'm healthy again."

Ralph is grateful the Mission has provided a temporary home for him to rest and recover while he figures out his next steps.

> At the Mission, they take in a variety of different people in need. Everybody!

"The people are all very helpful and the staff here has been wonderful," he said. "They are lovely people."

Because you gave from your heart to help Ralph, his life has been changed by your goodness and God's love forever! "I'll stay here with these great people until I'm ready. My Case Manager is also looking for a place for me, which is wonderful."

A Message from STUART L. HARPER

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 $397,440 alone. On top of that are expenses for crisis-related assistance such as cleansing showers, personal hygiene items, access to medical care, and sanitizing products. And there's no decline in the need for faith-based recovery and practical guidance that empowers 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 homeless and struggling neighbors. 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 Buffalo City Mission during these uncertain times. Your partnership brings comfort to so many, especially in times like these.

Stuart L. Harper
Executive Director

Through the 3 MONTHS of Summer your gift today helps provide...

28,947 meals

18,095 beds

8,748 items of clothing

life-transforming decisions for Christ

countless hours of job skill training and education

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 **buffalocitymission.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

PLEASE HELP WITH OUR SUMMER 6

Our "Summer Six" are essential items in high demand for our Mission guests all season long. Please deliver your donations to 100 E. Tupper St., Buffalo, NY, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Those in our care will be deeply grateful for whatever you can share this summer!

1. Bottled water
2. Men's short and t-shirt sets
3. Razors
4. Hand sanitizer
5. Condiments: ketchup, mustard, relish
6. Fresh produce

Special Thanks to Citi Buffalo

When Buffalo City Mission launched the Mission Possible Food-Drive Challenge in 2016, **it was a natural fit to partner with Citi, Buffalo.** Their employees had already put in hundreds of hours volunteering in our Thrift Store and kitchen for Global Community Day.

Citi was excited about our Mission Possible Food-Drive Challenge, and upon hearing about the program they quickly signed up as our inaugural sponsor, with a sponsorship of $10,000. Mission Possible invites area schools, church youth groups and student organizations to compete against one another to collect canned goods for those in need in our community. It is also a way to raise awareness and funds to help our homeless neighbors.

"The Mission Possible Food-Drive Challenge is a unique program that truly engages our next generation. Students learn the importance of giving back to the community, building tools for a professional future and coming together as a community to alleviate hunger in Western New York."

– Robin Wolfgang, Citi Communications Officer

In addition to their continued sponsorship of the Mission Possible program since 2016, Citi employees support Buffalo City Mission by working in our thrift store, sorting donated food, computer training, reading to children at our Cornerstone Manor and mentoring individuals.

"Citi takes its commitment to the community seriously and we strive to enable progress in all that we do," Wolfgang says, "whether that's through our core business activities, partnerships with organizations that align with our values or providing philanthropic support."

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the more than 1,800 employees at Citi, Buffalo! We are so grateful for your continued partnership, and the compassion in action you have shown for our struggling neighbors.

BUFFALO CITY MISSION
MISSION POSSIBLE
FOOD DRIVE CHALLENGE