2020 Annual Report

Serving in a Year Like No Other

Buffalo City Mission

Restoring Lives Since 1917
YOU are the reason that Buffalo City Mission has been able to continue “Serving in a Year Like No Other.”

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Dear Friend,

2020 was an unprecedented year for our community – both locally and globally – as we responded to the devastating effect of the pandemic. More than ever, we saw the power of neighbors helping neighbors.

Truly, this has been a year like no other. Yet instead of focusing on the challenges, this Annual Report celebrates the incredible good you have done. The lives that have been impacted. The hearts that have been transformed. The families that have been restored.

You are the reason that Buffalo City Mission has been able to continue “Serving in a Year Like No Other.” Your faithful support – whether that’s through your heartfelt prayers, financial gifts, donations of food or other essentials, or hours spent volunteering – have made a real, lasting difference in the lives of our struggling neighbors.

During this difficult year, you helped make some incredible achievements possible at the Mission. We opened the doors to our new Alfiero Family Center of Hope and Promise to shelter and care for even more hurting men, women and children. We met the increased demand for support and services all while following new pandemic-related health & safety guidelines. We shared God’s love with those who were once lost and broken… and He restored their hearts and lives to fulfill His glory and divine plan.

As we look back on what has been done, it’s important to remember that the race is not over. That we must continue to remain a beacon of hope and help for all who are in need here in Buffalo.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Buffalo City Mission and the people we serve. God bless!

Stuart L. Harper
Executive Director

FACTS ABOUT HOMELESSNESS IN THE BUFFALO AREA:

4,897 people experienced homelessness in 2020

582 of our homeless neighbors are veterans

19.2% of the homeless population of Erie county were children under the age of 18

82.96% of homeless family households were led by single women

42.5% of homeless people struggle with mental health illness
When an individual or family walks through our doors, your support provides them with a safe, welcoming environment. A place of healing and hope!

**Rescue Services**

are the first step to building a new life...

- Emergency Shelter & Showers
- Clean Clothing & Laundry Services
- Nourishing Meals
- Medical and Mental Health Services
- Case Management & Referrals
- Chaplaincy & Spiritual Care

**Restoration Services**

work to help people overcome homelessness for good...

- Substance Abuse & Recovery Services
- Life-Skills Training
- Spiritual Growth Support
- Transitional Housing
- Employment & Career Development
- Housing Management Assistance
- Children’s Programs & Camps

Everyone’s journey is different – because everyone’s situation is different. But no matter what our guests need, your generosity ensures we can walk alongside them every step of the way.

“They’re good people at the Mission… here to help. I finally feel like I have a fighting chance.”

– Willester, program resident
Coping with the trauma of abuse, abandonment and her parents’ addiction, Amanda began using drugs as a teenager and “looking for love and affection in places I didn’t belong.”

Over the years, her self-destructive lifestyle only led to greater heartbreak: dysfunctional relationships… separation from her children… and time behind bars.

But incarceration was a blessing in disguise, because while in jail she learned about God. Now longing to build a new life in Christ, she came to Buffalo City Mission upon her release.

In our care, “I’ve learned about the Holy Spirit… about the Bible… and how to pray,” she says. With the guidance and compassion of our counselors, she’s also healing by the grace of God’s love. “I can tell because I’m at peace.”

Through classes and job-skills training, she’s building confidence for her future, and recently completed certification to become a peer advocate. Just as important, she has reconnected with her children.

Today, as she continues her walk with the Lord, “I’m learning to look at myself the way God sees me,” she says, “and not the way I used to see myself.”

It’s amazing all that’s been offered to me here at Buffalo City Mission. It’s been a really big blessing in my life.”
2020 RESCUE SERVICES

Women and Children Served

- 27,929 Meals Provided
- 23,876 Nights of Shelter
  - 200 Received Medical Services
  - 187 Renewed by Spiritual Care

Men Served

- 65,579 Meals Provided
- 35,820 Nights of Shelter
  - 211 Received Medical Services
  - 938 Renewed by Spiritual Care

2020 RESTORATION AND RENEWAL SERVICES

Women and Children Served

- 6 Broke Free from Addiction
- 200 Received Case Management
- 73 Attended Life-Skills Classes
- 35 Entered Transitional Housing

Men Served

- 52 Broke Free from Addiction
- 648 Received Case Management
- 89 Attended Life-Skills Classes
- 41 Entered Transitional Housing

“The Cornerstone Manor shelter for women gave me a place where I could sleep and eat well. I am so thankful God loves me, even in bad situations.”

– Ging Ging, program resident
2020 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Your funds directly support the clients we serve in the most efficient, effective way possible.

2020 FISCAL YEAR REVENUE

- Donations: $7,418,643
- Donated Goods and Services: $1,399,501
- Grants: $1,189,608
- Other Revenue (e.g., Thrift Store sales): -$284,417

Total Operating Revenue: $9,723,335

2020 FISCAL YEAR EXPENSES

- Program: $6,537,316
- Fundraising: $2,348,525
- Administrative: $755,410

Total Operating Expenses: $9,641,251

“...it's like a family here.”

- Darren, program resident
Buffalo City Mission is deeply grateful for the friendship and support of many other organizations throughout Buffalo and Western New York. This collaboration helps us better serve every child, woman and man who comes through our doors in search of a better life.

Anthony Baldi & Associates
Belmont Housing Resources
BestSelf Behavioral Health
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Buffalo Public Library
Catholic Charities
Catholic Health
Cazenovia Recovery Systems, Inc.
Celebrate Recovery
Chick-fil-A
Citi
Conifer Park
DePaul Housing
Erie Community College
Erie County Adult Protection Services
Erie County Medical Center
Erie County, Department of Social Services
Evergreen Health Services
Family Justice Center of Erie County
Fidelis
Five Star Bank
GEICO
Independent Health
Jericho Road Clinics
Kaleida Health
National Fuel
National Grid
Neighborhood Legal Services
NYS Division of Parole Re-entry Services
Restoration Society
Rich Products
Salvation Army
Spectrum Health and Human Services
The Beacon Center
University of Buffalo
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY
Wegmans
WNY Veterans Housing Coalition

If you’re interested in supporting the life-transforming work of Buffalo City Mission, please contact:

Aubrey Calhoun
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“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

– 1 Peter 4:10