# FROM THE STREETS TO A HOME

2018 - 2019 ANNUAL REPORT





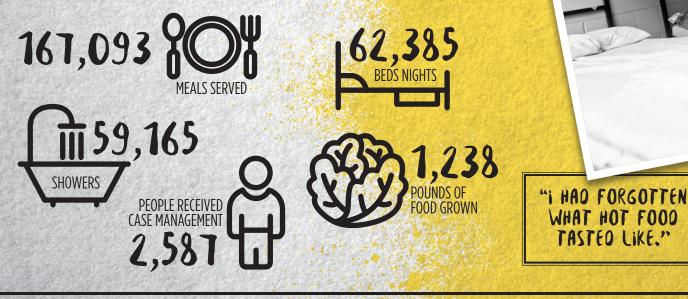
"FOR I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO EAT. I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO DRINK. I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU INVITED ME IN. I NEEDED CLOTHES AND YOU CLOTHED ME. I WAS SICK AND YOU LOOKED AFTER ME. I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME TO VISIT ME."

> JESUS MATTHEW 25:35-36



## EMERGENCY SHELTER, MEALS, & SHOWERS

For those experiencing homelessness right here in Philly - when they don't know where their next meal is going to come from, Sunday Breakfast is here to meet that need. We are the only provider of 3 meals a day, 365 days a year for those who are most vulnerable. We provide shelter and food for the homeless and hungry. A shower and a fresh change of clothes are given to help restore a sense of dignity. A warm bed to sleep in gives safety from the hard streets. Christian compassion and care always welcomes our guests. Meeting these basic needs brings hope that maybe tomorrow will be better. And it is one step closer to experiencing God's love more alive in their life.





## LEGAL SUPPORT

Once a month, through the generosity of the Homeless Advocacy Project (HAP), we are able to host a legal clinic to help our guests with legal issues requiring a lawyer. As we are the lowest barrier shelter in the city where no ID is needed - many of our guests need assistance which HAP is able to provide them.



From helping them get an ID to securing their social security or veteran benefits - these are critical pieces to help meet immediate needs. In some cases, they are able to help clear up past legal issues to restore their life.



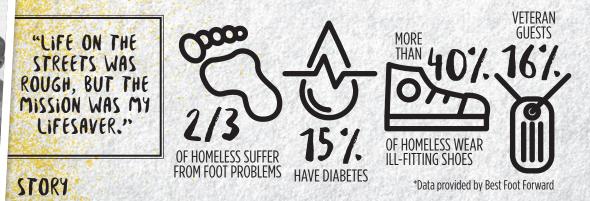
LEGAL SERVICES TO END HOMELESSNESS

**HOMELESS ADVOCACY PROJECT** (HAP) exists to meet the legal and advocacy needs of homeless individuals and families in Philadelphia. With a legal staff of 9 and a corps of 350 volunteer lawyers, paralegals, and law students, HAP engages in direct outreach to homeless individuals in need of legal services.

#### "WITH NO 10, SUNDAY BREAKFAST WAS THE ONLY PLACE WHO WOULD TAKE ME IN."

# FOOT (LINIC

Men and women experiencing homelessness are particularly at risk for foot health ailments as they spend many hours each day standing and walking in poor-fitting shoes, often in bad weather. In partnership with Best Foot Forward Philly, we host a foot clinic twice a month. These clinics provide a restorative experience where our guests receive a health evaluation, foot soaks, a clean pair of socks, and education on foot care and other health services.



"I was staying at the Mission for a couple of nights when I heard about the foot clinic. I was a little nervous to go, but my feet had been hurting for a long time. My shoes were not very good, and I was walking a lot. When I went in to see the foot people, they were really nice to me, they showed me respect. The foot soak was great, and then they cleaned my feet, took care of a sore I had and then gave me new socks. It was so nice to have someone help me and not be afraid."

Frank (SBRM Emergency Shelter Guest)

#### GIFTS IN KIND

Imagine wearing the same pair of socks every day for a week. You have no way of washing them, and your shoes have holes in the soles that let water seep in when it rains. As you trudge mile after mile searching for a safe place to rest, to eat meals, and to find the help that you desperately need, your feet blister and bleed. This is the daily reality for our homeless guests. Their feet take a beating every day and are often their only reliable form of transportation. That is why the socks, shoes, clothing, and toiletries which the Mission distributes every day are so vital. These items transform lives. And they build hope that God loves and cares for their needs.



## HOMELESS SERVICES

#### CASE MANAGEMENT

This past year, comprehensive case management was initiated to help guide our homeless guests and residents as they move towards sustainable living. This includes helping them to obtain vital records, employment, housing services, substance abuse counseling, mental and behavioral health referrals, prison re-entry support, medical benefits, veteran services, and educational opportunities. Because everyone's needs are unique, individual stability plans are created to track progress on simple, achievable goals. Placing our guests in transitional living programs with our partners is a common outcome.

## COMPUTER LAB

Computer literacy is always needed by our guests. Computers are available in our learning center to ensure that basic computer skills are developed to help them succeed as they move towards finding jobs and reintegrating into our community.

## MEDICAL (LINIC

JeffHOPE is a student-run free clinic that operates every Tuesday evening under the guidance of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital's Department of Family and Community Medicine. Common health issues facing our guests served at this clinic include hypertension, chronic pain, mental illness, nicotine addiction, and all manner of skin and respiratory infections. Many do not have insurance, and have not been to a doctor for some time, so significant effort from our clinic is focused on connecting our guests back into professional medical care.





"WITHOUT SUNDAY BREAKFAST, I WOULON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD HAVE BECOME. THEY TOOK ME IN AND WALKED ALONGSIDE ME THROUGH EVERYTHING."

#### SPIRITUAL CARE

Jesus's words in Matthew 25 demonstrate to us that everything we do to holistically meet physical needs is a spiritual act of ministering to Jesus Himself. Yet, our approach also intentionally addresses the spiritual formation and care of all of our guests. This why we offer Bible studies, prayer, chapel speakers before meals, and pastoral counseling conducted by qualified, trained staff and volunteers.

#### THE ARTS

We have learned that involving the arts into recovery can be transformative. Through partnerships with Curtis Institute for Music and the Asian Arts Initiative we are able to provide our guests with access to classical music and art classes.

#### WOMEN

Sister Lana - a key volunteer of over 8 years - ministers to roughly 40 women each month through meals, medical clinics, clothing, toiletries, and even showers. Our Homeless Services team additionally works with the women whom we serve to connect them to resources, shelters, and other services to help move them from the streets to a home.





#### NEXT LEVEL MEN'S PROGRAM

The NEXT LEVEL Program is a one-year transitional housing program available to emergency shelter guests that are seeking stability, spiritual development, and long-term success. The goal of the program is for homeless men to reach the NEXT LEVEL in their life, equipping them with the practical and spiritual life skills that they need to be self-sufficient individuals.

The NEXT LEVEL Program is individualized to meet the unique needs of each participant. Case management, participation in a church community, commitment to vocational and educational growth are all central components. All participants also commit to contribute their time and talents to assist in the Mission's ministry through assigned and scheduled chores and/or assignments

"I AM LEARNING MORE ABOUT WHO GOD IS AT SUNDAY BREAKFAST - THAT WAS WHAT I FELT WAS MISSING IN MY LIFE."





## SUCCESS STORY

Jesse is a quiet 71-year-old man who spent two decades in homelessness without a place to call home. He had lost all faith and trust in systematic services and programs - until he met John one day on the streets. John, a tall man with a huge heart, moved to Philadelphia three years ago after his wife of 13 years passed away. John found himself homeless in Logan Square Park, after the home where he was staying was condemned and he had nowhere to go. But, after finding the Mission and experiencing love and care, John approached Jesse on the streets, asking him "to have faith and trust him to come to the Mission." Three days after Jesse began sleeping in the Mission's emergency shelter, both he and John met with Erin, our Homeless Services Director, to ask for help. Through the Mission's new case management model, Jesse and John, who both loved God deeply,



developed their stability strategy with the staff, which included helping them to find an affordable apartment within their combined financial means. Erin connected them to Philadelphia's housing resources and helped them to obtain their first month's rent and security deposit.

With tears in their eyes, Mr. Jesse and John both shared how they felt when the Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission staff helped them move into their 2-Bedroom Apartment. "They wouldn't let us stay in the shelter forever, and they didn't give up on us." Mr. Jesse and John already possessed some needed life skills to live independently, but they just needed persistent encouragement and support from Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission to learn how to leverage their resources and to navigate the system.

Six-months after moving in, Mr. Jesse and John are still in their apartment. They are enjoying their independence and mutual safety, and they have found a church in their neighborhood, where they continue to experience a community to encourage them.

#### VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the driving force behind our work and how we care for our guests. Every time that a volunteer shows up, our guests witness that people care and love them. Volunteering is a valuable asset to our efforts. We are grateful for their dedication and commitment to serve alongside us and our guests.

"I believe that 'There, but for the grace of God, go I.' I have been given so much that not to 'give back' is unthinkable. The guests at SBRM have so little and deserve more. The goodness and kindness of the staff and volunteers at Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission restore my soul - they all make me want to be a better person."

Carmella Ruffino Gipprich (Kitchen and Admin Volunteer)





## FROM THE STREETS TO A HOME: A LETTER FROM THE (EO

Reflecting on my first year at Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission, God has been moving this ministry back to the basics. Jesus's admonition to help the hungry, the thirsty, those needing clothing, the sick, and the imprisoned is a clear call to how we are to serve Him. Your partnership keeps our doors open to Philadelphia's hungry, homeless, and hurting. We've witnessed transformation in lives bringing them from the street, to the Mission, and ultimately to a home. You are lifting people up who feel rejected by society, and you are the change-makers for every person we serve. I have joined with you to ensure that every person who comes to the Mission finds God's love, hope, and lasting stability in their lives. It starts by turning our



hearts towards those who have been ignored and pushed into the dark alleyways and underpasses. These are the people who need us; these are the people who need God; ultimately, they are God's beloved children. *"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me," Jesus said.* Everyday, I sit in our dining room and eat lunch with our guests. What I've learned more than anything is that many seek us out because of our Christian legacy and reputation out on the streets. Yet, the issues and needs of each person are deeply complex, demanding us to seek partners to help them to discover recovery and to find stability. In doing so, Sunday Breakfast becomes stronger in our ministry outcomes. Therefore, in the past year, we have expanded our partnerships to better serve our guests. Look throughout this Annual Report to see the impact of these partnerships. For our guests, Sunday Breakfast then serves as a stepping stone to sustainable living and renewed faith in God and in others. It is my prayer that you too will join me in serving men and women who experience homelessness in this next year and bring them from the streets to a home.

> With Partnership In Christ, Rev. Jeremy Montgomery, MBA/MA President / CEO

## 5-STAR, 21ST-CENTURY VISION

Our ongoing vision is to grow in excellence and continue to elevate this Mission to be a 21st-Century, 5-star Ministry. What does 5-star Ministry look like? The Ritz-Carlton! The Bible demands that the treatment and care of our guests should be as excellent as a 5-star hotel. In doing so, we honor Jesus Himself with our 5-star service for every person who walks into our doors.

And 21st-Century simply recognizes that the causes and solutions to homelessness have changed since the Mission here in Philadelphia was founded over 142 years ago in the 19th Century. How we are called to serve in the 21st- Century involves new technology, creative collaborations, and multi-pronged strategies.

To bring people from the streets to a home involves more than just the giving of material things. It is about taking care of the whole human being: the social, emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual aspects. We offer all solutions to meet their lack of material things while helping them to repair their broken relationships.

Looks can be deceiving, and every aspect of each human being must be considered – otherwise, we could be doing more harm than good. Many come to the Mission already believing in Jesus as their Savior. So, as we provide homeless services, we are empowering and inspiring our guests to throw off the shame, guilt, fear, and hopelessness that bears a heavy burden upon them. Homelessness is often a lack of what makes a person feel human as God's creation. Pride. Self-esteem. Courage. Dignity. Happiness. These are things that money can't buy. We are helping those experiencing homelessness to feel that they are valued, respected, and loved by God and by us.

This multi-faceted approach does not simply relieve our guests' suffering, but it transforms their lives so that they can build a stable future for themselves and find peace at home.







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302 N 13TH STREET PO BOX 297 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19105