



**Market Street Mission** **Messenger**

Changing Lives Since 1889

S U M M E R I S S U E 2 0 1 7

*Your gifts meet the greatest challenge:  
inspiring new hope in hurting lives*

# **CARL'S CHALLENGE: OVERCOMING HIS DESTRUCTIVE HABITS**

I had a wife... a child... a home.  
But it wasn't enough.  
I was running the streets.

## **Don't miss**

**pg2** The Greatest Challenge

**pg3** "I had to have faith"

**pg4** Join us for Project Backpack



**“I HAD TO HAVE FAITH. I HAVE TO BELIEVE IN GOD!”**

Carl started drinking at age 17. “I was hanging out with the wrong crowds... wanting to fit in,” he says. **“For some reason, I was drawn to the negativity.”**

Over time, his substance abuse escalated – from alcohol to “weed” to heroin. “But I didn’t realize how out of control my life was going to get,” he

spiraled downhill.

His wife asked him to leave. He lost his job. He was sleeping in his car. “I was broken down. I couldn’t do it anymore. **I asked God, ‘Why can’t I kick this addiction?’**” Carl sought help at a detox center, where a counselor referred him to the Market Street Mission. Here, he joined our

including Christian Finance and Relapse Prevention – and his work-therapy assignment is giving him a sense of purpose. Most importantly, he is growing in his faith and strengthening his walk with the Lord. When he graduates, he hopes to go back to school and then focus on building a career.

“The Market Street Mission

**“THERE WAS ALWAYS SOMETHING MISSING. I JUST DIDN’T KNOW WHAT IT WAS.”**

shares. He began committing crimes and “doing the time.” Eventually, he went to prison for five years.

When he was released, he got married and started a family. “Things seemed to be going right for me,” he recalls. But then he rekindled his destructive habits and his life quickly

faith-based Life Change Program.

Carl had been exposed to Christianity as a child. “But I had never embraced it,” he explains. **“So when my counselor asked me if I was ready to let God change my life, I said, ‘YES!’”**

Carl is excelling in his classes –

saved my life,” Carl says today. **“There’s no doubt in my mind I’d be dead in the street if it wasn’t for this place.”**

WITH YOUR HELP, Carl and others like him are finding God’s hope and healing. Thank you for your generous support.

# THE GREATEST CHALLENGE

## How do you challenge yourself?

Maybe you've trained for a marathon and pushed yourself to run across that finish line. Maybe even a race like our annual 5K is a real test.

Or maybe you've been challenged by family, friends or a pastor to open your heart to someone who's very different than you... or to live out God's love in new and powerful ways.

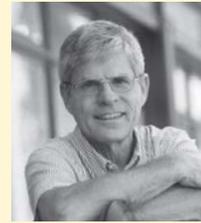
Right now, we're in the middle of a challenge from our Board of Directors and staff to match their generous \$25,000 gift with an additional \$25,000.

But our greatest challenge is a daily one: inspiring new hope in the lives of people struggling with an addiction or abuse, unemployment or homelessness, hunger or hopelessness.

In this issue's cover story, you'll hear Carl's testimony about how our Life Change Program has transformed his life.

His story is powerful because of you. You understand the challenges our neighbors in need face, and we're grateful you share the truly life-changing gifts of meals, shelter and care.

We can meet the challenge of caring for our community's hurting because of you and your faithful support. Thank you for giving to bring new hope to countless lives forever.



*G. David Scott*  
G. David Scott  
Executive Director

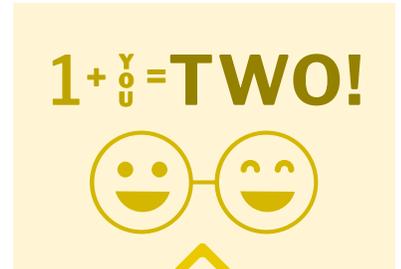
## Challenging?



HIS CHALLENGE



OUR CHALLENGE



YOUR CHALLENGE

Give online at [marketstreet.org](http://marketstreet.org). Give now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.  
**DEADLINE TO GIVE: MAY 31**

Thank you for meeting the greatest challenge: inspiring new hope in hurting lives!



## MATCH IT BY MAY 31!



Right now, because of a generous Matching Challenge, every gift you give will have **double the impact** for those in need.

Or as we like to say,

**1 + Y = TWO!**

By giving, you'll provide hot meals for a hungry child... safe shelter for a homeless man...

counsel for a man battling addiction... care for a family who has suffered abuse... and training to help people prepare for employment.

**This Matching Challenge ends May 31** – so don't wait. Help turn \$25,000 into \$50,000 and double your impact by responding now.

<b>\$50 → \$100</b>
<b>\$100 → \$200</b>
<b>\$150 → \$300</b>
<b>That's how \$25,000 becomes \$50,000 when you give today!</b>

# JOIN US FOR PROJECT BACKPACK

Imagine children starting school this fall without the supplies they need. No pens or pencils. No backpack to carry their books.

This is an all-too-real situation for thousands of kids from low-income families throughout Northern New Jersey.

Now, imagine the look on those children's faces when they receive backpacks filled with everything they need for a successful school year.

Our annual backpack drive has made this a happy reality in years past so we're doing it again. Our goal this year is to fill at least 1,400 backpacks and you can help.

## HERE'S HOW:

- Purchase supplies from the shopping list
- Drop the supplies off at the Mission before July 28

If you're short on time, send a gift in the enclosed envelope and we'll buy and fill a backpack for you. Remember, because of the Matching Challenge, if you make your cash donation before May 31st, your gift will have double the impact.

## PROJECT BACKPACK: THE SHOPPING LIST

- 2-pocket colored folders
- Pencil sharpeners
- Glue sticks
- Highlighters
- Pencil cases
- Spiral notebooks
- 8GB Flash Drives
- Packages of 3" x 5" index cards
- Boxes of mechanical pencils
- 1" binders



You don't have to go far to find people in desperate need of help. They're right here in Northern New Jersey.

**This Memorial Day, our 97-day summer campaign to help our community's homeless and hungry begins.**

**GIVE *where you* LIVE**  
97-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN



**19,800**  
meals



**7,500**  
nights of shelter

**VISIT US ONLINE** to learn more about our outreach, read stories of hope & securely donate anytime!

 [marketstreet.org](http://marketstreet.org)

