

AN UPDATE FOR YOU FROM THE MARKET STREET MISSION

Locations in Morristown, Asbury Park, Newton and Paterson



"If I hadn't come to the Mission, I don't know if I would still be alive. I'm grateful I'm here."

As a child, Peter went through some traumatic experiences that came to define his sense of self-worth. As a teenager, he began drinking with friends, and he noticed that alcohol distracted him from his painful thoughts.

"It was a release," he says. "It helped me forget the things that happened and the choices I'd made."

But the relief was short-lived, and a vicious cycle of addiction and guilt took over his life for decades.

"I went to the hospital with pancreatitis, and they said if I ever drank again, I would die. I had lost my job at that point, and home alone in my dark apartment, I didn't see things getting any better. So, I drank again," he says.

His body began shutting down, and his will to live waned. "When I saw myself in the mirror, I thought I didn't want to be here anymore. But then I thought, 'No, I do want to be here. I don't want to die."

That same day, his neighbor, who was a graduate of the Mission's Life Change Addiction Recovery Program, noticed that Peter was in desperate need of help – and he explained how the Mission could change his life.

"That was the turning point," Peter says. Help showed up the moment he needed it most.

Though he was nervous, Peter joined our addiction recovery program. As he surrounded himself with other men who had been changed by God's grace, he learned that he wasn't alone in his struggles.

Over time, counseling helped him heal from the pain of his past and removed its power to define him. Instead, through Bible studies and mentorship, he learned to find his worth in Jesus.

MY BIGGEST CHALLENGE WAS BELIEVING I HAD ANY KIND OF VALUE, BUT IN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST, I REALIZE I'M NOT A MISTAKE.

Thanks to your prayers and support, Peter successfully completed our addiction recovery program, and he is celebrating new life through God's grace. He looks forward to going back to school and using his life to point other people to the life-changing love of God.

Your gifts are bearing fruit in the lives of people like Peter. Now, his heart is full of hope this fall... thanks to your kindness! "Since coming to the Mission, I have hope – and I get to see the sign of that hope, the cross, every day. There are lives changing in this building right now, and it's incredible."



Hearts and lives are full... thanks to YOU!





A Message from SCOTT TAYLOR

As the seasons change, I'm reminded of Jesus' words to His disciples: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." As one of

our most devoted "workers," your support and care for our homeless, hungry neighbors is a powerful source of hope. For the people who come to us for help. For our staff... and for me personally!

This month, you have a special opportunity to make a difference for our struggling neighbors. <u>September is Hunger Action Month – and we're inviting you to provide 30 meals over 30 days for our hungry guests</u>. It's a meaningful way you can be a force for change here in New Jersey.

In September alone, we're preparing to serve 12,750

meals – and more in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Your support will help provide these life-changing meals that fill bellies with nourishment... and fill lives with hope.

Just read how your generous gifts are bearing fruit in Peter's life, whose story is on Page 3. He is looking forward to a more hope-filled future – because of the dedication of "workers" like you!

Thank you for investing in the lives of more people like Peter during Hunger Action Month and throughout the fall season!

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Scott Taylor

Chief Development Officer



Lace up those running shoes and join us on Saturday, October 25, in Ocean Grove for our newly rebranded 5K Race for Recovery on the Boardwalk. Formerly known as the Jersey Shore Rescue Mission 5K Race & Family Walk, the 5K Race for Recovery on the Boardwalk will still feature a 5K run, 2-mile family walk and kids fun run, plus a virtual option to join.

Participants can race to support Mission services such as our Life Change Addiction Recovery Program, as well as meals and shelter. For more info and to sign up, visit **MarketStreet.org/5K.**





SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT: HUNGER ACTION MONTH





12,750
Meals Needed by Sept. 30!



September is Hunger Action Month! Join our community in this month-long movement to fight hunger... and TAKE ACTION to help even more hungry neighbors we'll welcome this fall.



Sign up to serve a meal



Donate canned goods



Provide groceries



Invite others to join you

For just \$2.82, YOU can provide a nourishing meal to end someone's hunger.
Send your gift today OR online at MarketStreet.org.





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Have you heard? We've expanded to Paterson!



Exciting news! The Market Street Mission has expanded to Paterson. The Good Shepherd Mission of Paterson is now a part of the Market Street Mission family! This new Market Street Mission - Good Shepherd location is our fourth Mission site in New Jersey.

Our new location will offer overnight shelter, meals and other emergency services for men struggling with homelessness. Men can also continue their journey in our Life Change Addiction Recovery Program, which includes individual and group counseling, educational and career development, life skills classes and other resources to help them achieve true, sustained sobriety.

Learn more about our work in Paterson to bring hope and healing to more neighbors in need. Visit **MarketStreet.org/Paterson.**

JOIN US IN GELEBRATING HEALING & HOPE!



The road to recovery is a long and difficult one, filled with obstacles. But millions of Americans have successfully made the journey from dependence and despair to freedom and hope.

This month we join thousands of other recovery programs around the country to celebrate National Recovery Month! We applaud the hard work and dedication of the courageous men who have transformed their lives in our Life Change Addiction Recovery Program, recognized as one of America's Best Addiction Treatment Centers.

As we recognize their incredible progress and the gift of God's healing in their lives, we are more committed than ever to help reach those still trapped in the cycle of addiction.

Thank you for coming alongside these neighbors and for your continued support of the men who will come to our doors in search of recovery!

To see the faces and hear the stories of neighbors who've found healing and hope at the Market Street Mission, visit

MarketStreet.org/Video.





Support our COAT GIVEAWAY EVENTS!

Help your neighbors in need stay warm in the winter months! The Market Street Mission is collecting winter coats, hats, gloves and scarves during the month of October to support our free Coat Giveaway events in Morristown (November 1) and Asbury Park (November 15). To donate, you can drop items off at either of our Thrift Store locations in October. For more info,

visit MarketStreet.org/events.