

MISSION NEWS

YOU CAN USE

RESCUE MISSION OF TRENTON
Rebuilding Lives - Making Miracles Happen

The Rescue Mission of Trenton is the agency in the City of Trenton that serves the truly needy men and women who have no place to turn for shelter, food, and clothing. The Mission offers a safe, clean, warm refuge for the homeless, the hungry, the transient, and the addicted. We provide services and counseling to encourage individuals to reach their greatest potential. The Rescue Mission creates an environment where one can live with dignity, build self-esteem, and experience love, responsibility, and hope.

Vince's Place: Licensed by the State of New Jersey Department of Human Services as a Residential Addictions Treatment Facility. Provides long term, halfway house, and extended care level of service with a full range of addictions treatment and life skills treatment.

Outpatient Program: Licensed Outpatient and Intensive Outpatient substance abuse treatment for men and women. Provides individual assessment, group counseling sessions, and addiction education.

Permanent Housing: The Mission operates 3 specialty supportive housing units – Robinson Place, a licensed Rooming and Boarding House, Brimmer House, a free standing 2-unit house, and 15 units of permanent supportive housing at 505 Perry Street.

Weekend Soup Kitchen

Emergency clothing and furniture

Emergency Shelter: Shelter for single men and women. Licensed by the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Transitional Housing

Work Readiness: Individuals are provided training in GED preparation, basic literacy, writing skills, job seeking skills, and computer and word processing skills.

Socially Beneficial Recycling/Industrial Salvage: Donated materials are collected by route trucks and processed and sold through the Carroll Street Store and warehouse.

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September 2015

Fall

Join the Rescue Mission this fall as we break the World Record for most items of clothing collected for recycle/donation!

As part of the Trenton Rescue Mission's centennial celebration, we'll be highlighting our stellar "recycling production machine" that is the **Socially Responsible Recycling Program**.

Not only has this program developed a unique way to recycle material donations and provide residents with onsite job training, but SRR also generates approximately 11% of the



SRR Team Member working with sorting donations

Mission's annual revenue. The Rescue Mission family is galvanizing county wide efforts to shatter the current **GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS®** for units of clothing collected. The challenge for this collection of over 154,000 units of clothing will occur during the period October 15th to November 15th, 2015. The existing **GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS®** for items of clothing collected for donation/recycling is 153,240 units. "To collect over 150,000 discreet clothing items (between October 15th and November 15th) is a big job that can only be accomplished with the broad support of the religious community, civic organizations and the community-at-large. We need their help in securing additional collection box locations (metal outdoor bins and cardboard indoor bins). We have 125 of them in place as of now and looking to site more boxes by October 15th (see attached map)," indicates Mission Board Member Leslee Geltzer, who is spearheading the effort.

The Trenton Rescue Mission's **GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS®**-Breaking Effort, is being co-chaired by Governor Chris Christie, County Executive Brian Hughes, Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman, NJBIA (New Jersey Business & Industry Association) President Michelle Siekerka and Trenton Mayor Eric Jackson, and will culminate into a final push at the New Jersey National Guard Armory located on Eggerts Crossing Road in Lawrenceville on November 14th and November 15th (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM). We welcome the public to bring used clothing to the Armory on either of these days and receive a tax receipt for donating as well as a goody bag, compliments of the Mission.

"Breaking the **GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS®** will increase the exposure of our Socially Responsible Recycling program and help us collect more clothing in the future. This will help reduce the waste stream and generate additional funds for the Mission's programs for those who are truly needy in our community. This is a win-win situation. The theme of the Mission 100th anniversary celebration is 'Rebuilding Lives and Making Miracles Happen'. On November 15th we are not looking for a miracle, just a record-breaking effort," exclaims Mary Gay-Abbott-Young, the Mission's CEO.

The Mission is asking those in the environmental community, public and private

(cont'd on page 2)

Join the Rescue Mission this fall as we break the World Record for most items of clothing collected for recycle/donation! (cont'd from page 1)



schools, small businesses and large corporations whom are willing to conduct clothing drives during the targeted period, to please do so! Please reach out to Chandler Mumolie, the Mission's Private Development Associate who is coordinating in-house efforts; chandlerm@rmtrenton.org or at (609) 695-1436 x 300

About The Mission Store

The Mission currently salvages and resells furniture, household items and clothing. Much of the merchandise collected is sold in the Mission's retail store located at 100 Carroll Street in Trenton. What is not sold in the store, or given away to those who are homeless, is recycled.

The Mission Store, which sells used clothing by the pound, is the largest retail clothing store in Trenton. At the present time, clothing sells for \$1.50 per pound. At this per-pound price, \$7.50 will translate into 2 children's blouses, 2 shirts, 2 pairs of shorts and 2 pairs of long pants. The prices are extremely low in recognition of the high number of low- and moderate-income people who shop at The Mission store.

Salvaging and recycling is a long-time tradition at the Mission, beginning in the 1930s when the Mission secured contracts with local property owners to demolish vacant buildings. The materials salvaged were trucked to the

Mission where the wood was sawed and chopped into lengths suitable for sale as firewood. Just as new Vince's Place residents of today must put in time at the outset of their stay at the Mission through various vocational experiences, ranging from cleaning floors to making beds or washing dishes, back then residents were expected to put time in at the woodpile.

The recycling tradition continued in the 1950's when Mission trucks traversed the city picking up paper, which was sold to commercial recycling companies.

Nowadays a significant portion of the clothing that the Mission salvages is from deposits in metal bins that are strategically situated throughout Mercer County at local businesses, corporations, churches, libraries, schools, and nonprofit organizations and from clothing collection drives conducted by entities that are supportive of our programs for the hungry, the transient and the addicted. "While the Mission continues to make at-home pick-ups, we are hoping to eventually phase out this aspect of our operation, as it very costly to maintain our gas-guzzling fleet of trucks and inconsistent with our goal of reducing our carbon footprint and impact on the environment," indicates Barrett Young, the Mission's COO.

A Day Center for the Homeless

The City of Trenton and County of Mercer has created a Coordinated Entry and Assessment System (CEASe) whose mission is to provide an organized process to ensure that individuals who become homeless in Mercer County can move to permanent housing as quickly as possible.

A key portion of the new system is the CEAS Center, which was opened in April of 2015, next door to the Mission's Perry Street Supportive Permanent Housing Project. Operated by the City of Trenton's Department of Health and Human Services, the Center is designed to serve as one-stop entry point for homeless individuals. It is a collaborative effort between the City of Trenton, Mercer County, the Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness and a host various other nonprofits in the area.

Another component of the CEAS System is the Day Center. This day refuge has been operated for the past year by the Rescue Mission in the basement level of 98 Carroll Street, replacing the previous Drop-In Center which was based at another location for many years.

According to Mary Gay Abbott-Young, the Mission's CEO, "the primary purpose of the Day Center is provide a clean and safe place for the city's homeless population to go to avoid exposure to the elements, both extreme cold and extreme heat; and to provide a space that can serve as a respite from the dangers of the streets. The homeless are both physically and emotionally very vulnerable to victimization and illness. We will endeavor to create an environment where they will be treated with dignity and respect and love."

The Day Center, which is opened seven days a week from 8:00 am to 4:00 PM, serves breakfast, lunch (provided by the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen) and dinner daily. Emergency Shelter Aides, experienced in dealing with the



Clients of the Day Center have access to full bathroom and laundry facilities, quiet space, and lockers to store their belongings. From the outset, the Day Center was envisioned as more than just a “holding area” where the homeless can congregate and kill some time. Aimee Maier, the Missions Support Services Manager, aims to maintain the center as a secure environment where the homeless can take advantage of needed services to assist them in dealing with issues caused by or contributing to their current situation. During the course of the year, enrichment and outreach Day Center activities have included: yoga, art classes, musical groups, and informational sessions on wide range of health, dietary and recovery topics.

demands of the homeless clientele, are on duty at all times. The on-premise staff is supplemented by various outside not-for-profit and government agencies that provide a plethora of daily on-site services for the clients on hand. These support providers include: Oaks Integrated Care (a new agency resulting from the merge of Twin Oaks Community Services and Greater Trenton Behavioral Health Care), Catholic Charities, Family Guidance, Horizon (Blue Cross Blue Shield) and the Mercer County Board of Social Services. If needed, clients are referred to supporting nonprofits that provide legal and other ancillary services.



Rescue Mission Day Shelter At-A-Glance

- During the first year, the Day Center Program served 798 unduplicated clients (615 men and 174 females).
- The ages of the clients spanned the gap from 18-85.
- A significant portion of the clients served had chronic health conditions (22%), mental health issues (26%), physical disabilities (21%), developmental disabilities (7%) and/or substance abuse issues (29%).

I WANT TO SUPPORT THE MISSION ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Here's another chance to give if you did not respond to our year-end annual appeal.

We need your help.

\$35 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

Name/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Please send check and coupon to: **Rescue Mission of Trenton**, P.O. Box 790, Trenton, NJ 08605-0790

RECAP: 100th Anniversary Celebration



To celebrate its 100th anniversary, The Mission organized a special fundraising event including the annual mini golf course set up spanning the entire third floor of the old cracker factory at The Mission headquarters on Carroll Street. The 100 Years Celebration featured Eric LeGrand, a former Rutgers football player who was paralyzed in 2010, to speak about overcoming adversity.



"In the beginning I was stuck to the headboard, barely able to turn my head right and left, now I'm shaking, dancing all around - so things are coming back," said LeGrand.

The event also recognized the astounding life-change of James Morris, through the Mission, over the time span of less than a year. Last summer he was an addict, homeless and dealing with mental problems. He's now a housekeeping supervisor, got his GED and is taking a class at Penn. "The Rescue Mission helped me in areas I couldn't help myself and it gave me hope and ever since then I haven't looked back," said Morris.

Last year alone, the Mission provided 57,000 bed nights in a shelter and as CEO Mary Gay Abbott Young and her staff here celebrate a century of helping to rebuild lives, they know their work is far from over.

"The need is still there, the need is huge. The faces change of who comes in here every day - it's not only just the homeless alcoholic, it's now the middle class suburban heroin addicts," said Delia Dandridge, Board of Director's president.



The theme of the celebration - 'Rebuilding lives - making miracles happen' and for a century that's just what the rescue mission has done.



Adam Shanks' Annual Golf Tournament: A Letter from David Shanks



Dad always believed in two things: people and possibilities. Those two words, together with his mantra, "What's right is right," I believe, [shaped during his lifetime], along with his continued dedication and commitment,

contributed to the longevity of The Rescue Mission of Trenton.

For 100 years, the Rescue Mission of Trenton has been accomplishing miracles, rebuilding lives one person at a time. That was the single most important element that my dad recognized as so necessary in this amazing place that he supported, and helped to survive, during its toughest of times. This building, and all that flows from it, is a place of hope in a world that desperately needs it.

Dad realized that the Rescue Mission of Trenton could be a place of miracles, hope and second chances - and Adam Shanks believed in all three. He believed The Rescue Mission of Trenton was a lifeline in a world where support

services were so desperately needed to give people a leg up at difficult times.

As I said earlier, his imperative to us as a family was always "What's right is right." There was no blurring of lines for him as to what commitment, responsibility and "do unto" others meant. It was to be seen and done in the everyday experience of life. The Rescue Mission of Trenton was the perfect meeting place for his core beliefs and their natural result in the real world.

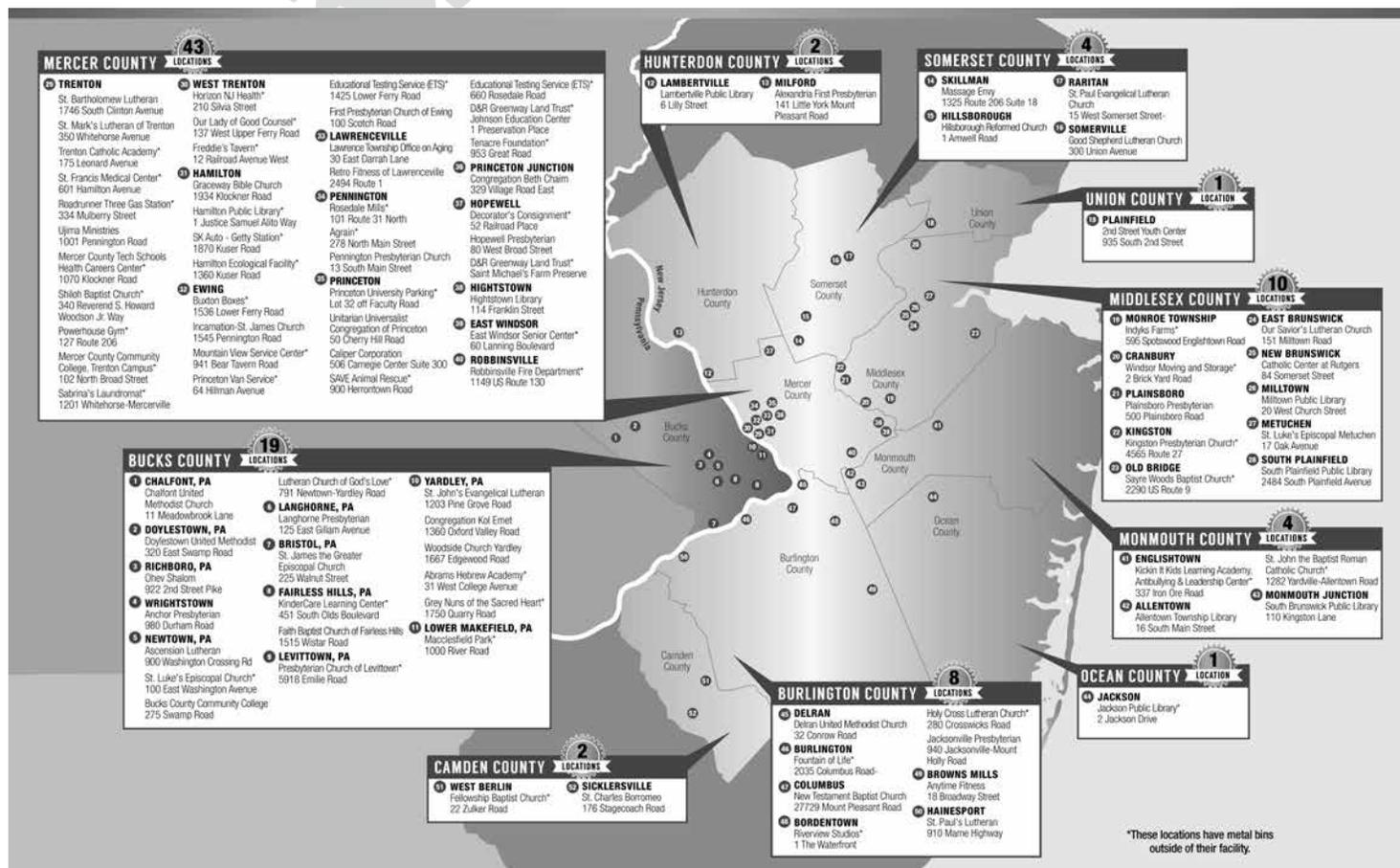
So Dad, take a good look around at what is possible, where hope lives and thrives, through the belief and commitment of so many that followed your example.

GUINNESS AT A GLANCE: Help us Reach our Goal! Find The Box Nearest You!

There are over 100 sites for you to drop off your clothing donations to benefit the Rescue Mission, those we serve, and help us bring a world record to Trenton!

RESCUE MISSION OF TRENTON

100 YEARS *Rebuilding Lives -
Making Miracles Happen*



We need your help to accomplish this goal and to raise the funds needed to continue to remake and reshape lives in our community. You can help by:

- Deposit your excess used clothing in one of 47 permanent metal bins or 75 temporary cardboard bins on the map above.
- Save the date! Drop-off your used clothing at the National Guard Armory on Eggerts Crossing Road in Lawrenceville, NJ on November 13 - 14 between 9:00 AM - 8:30 PM or on Sunday November 15 between 9 AM and 1 PM
- Make a donation in the enclosed envelope to support the work of the Mission.

To participate as a collection site or if you have questions about the Mission's world record attempt, please contact Chandler Mumolie at chandlrm@rmtrenton.org or at (609) 695-1436 x 300.



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The Rescue Mission of Trenton is not affiliated with any other organization in the U.S. listed as Rescue Mission. It is a private non-profit organization.

Did You Know... *Did You Know ...*

- ✓ **Operation Clean Sweep** - On Saturday June 13th, The Association of Mid-Atlantic Cleaning Experts hosted their 21st Annual Operation Clean Sweep. The Mission would like to thank members of NJSSA; Scoles Floorshine Industries, The Safety Zone, Norshel Industries, Betco Corporation, Commercial Cleaning & Osprey Sales for their generous help this year, as well as for the donation of supplies.
- ✓ **REINVENTING & REUSING! Upcycling Treasures Donated by Local Girl Scouts** - Isha Patlola and her creative crew from Girl Scout Troop 71289 have been busy not just earning patches, but probably making them! The girl scouts donated to the Mission; t-shirts, backpacks and other useful items that were up-cycled with beading, bedazzling and bling. We are happy that the girls have decided to sustain what began as a project for a Community Service Certificate and now have a blog posting tutorial videos on how to up-cycle/step-by-step: Learn more about their work and how you can do the same, here: www.diyinn.blogspot.com.
- ✓ **Forte Productions** - The Mission received a check for \$2,000, which was 25% of the proceeds from Forte' Dramatic Productions revue of *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris* presented at the West Windsor Senior Center this past April. The Mission salutes Forte Productions for graciously making The Rescue Mission of Trenton the beneficiary of their donation. We especially want to thank principal actress, Stephanie Zimmerman for spearheading this great effort.
- ✓ **Movie Night** - On Tuesday July 8th, The Willing Workers, a group from Trenton's Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, hosted the second annual dinner and movie. It was held on Ewing Street behind the Trenton Rescue Mission and had more than 100 attendees. "I think the benefits of it shows those folks that we're serving that just because they're living in a homeless shelter for the time being, life doesn't have to always be as difficult as it is right now and that they're not forgotten," said Barrett Young, the Rescue Mission's Chief Operating Officer. The spread of food left nothing to be desired and the movie of the night was *Fast and Furious 7*.