



Scott Payne
 714 N. 7th St.
 P.O. Box 8148
 Springfield, IL 62791-8148

When the hungry, lonely and those in despair need your gift of love, you are always there to meet their physical and spiritual needs.
 Thank you for helping those who live with homelessness
find their way home...

CR RT
 Mrs. John Sample
 Street Address
 City, ST Zip



Mid-Summer Newsletter enclosed

My Mid-Summer Gift

YES, Scott ... you can count on my continued support of Inner City Mission as *together* we provide help and hope for those who live in homelessness this summer. Here's my donation of:

- \$XX.XX** to provide **XX meals** and other assistance
- \$XX.XX** to provide **XX meals** and other assistance
- \$XX.XX** to provide **XX meals** and other assistance
- \$_____** to provide as many meals and as much care as possible

Your mid-summer gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.

CR RT
Mrs. John Sample
Street Address
Second Address
City, ST Zip
[Barcode]

Inner City Mission
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Lifeline

A Ministry Publication of Inner City Mission of Springfield, Inc.

From living in the woods ... to the safe shelter of Inner City Mission



Straight from Scott's Heart

My name is Steve and this is a picture of three smiling faces, me, my wife Anita and our daughter Faydra. But we haven't always smiled. In fact, if it weren't for the caring people here at Inner City Mission, I don't know when we would have ever smiled again.

Before we came to the Mission, we would look just about everywhere for places to sleep. And when we found such a place, we were afraid the police would wake us up in the middle of the night and ask us to move.

I was tempted to use my fists to support my family

When things were really rough, we had to go live in the woods. We were homeless and constantly aware that the world is a scary place. But I suppose the worst thing of all was when we started to lose hope. Nothing was working out for us. I was so desperate, I started casing the newspapers looking

"I speak for my entire family when I say thank you for your donations that provide us with counseling, food, clothing ... and for making this safe shelter available to us."

for "fight nights." I'm not supposed to use my martial arts for that kind of fighting, and ultimately, I did not fight. But that's how desperate I was to take care of my family.

If you've ever been so low you've lost hope, then you know the pain I'm talking about. And if you've ever received the help of a place like Inner City Mission, you also know what a blessing it is to know someone really cares.

I speak for my entire family when I say thank you for your donations that provide us with counseling, food, clothing ... and for making this safe shelter available to us. Right now, the Mission is a home away from home for us ... until we again have a home of our own. Thank you for your kindness. We will always remember you and your compassion.

Thank you for giving us a temporary home until we can find a home of our own



The Power of Ongoing Love



Help Keep Hope Alive this Summer



Inner City Mission
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THE POWER OF ONGOING LOVE

The English poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge said it well: "The happiness of life is made up of *minute fractions* — the little, soon-forgotten charities of a kiss or smile, a kind look or heartfelt compliment."

To which we would add ... *and a regular commitment to be a ministry partner with Inner City Mission as we provide spiritual and physical food with all who come through the Mission's doors.*

You may ask, what would Inner City Mission do without your ongoing, heartfelt compassion? Simple answer ... it would be a tremendous challenge to continue to do what God asks us to do to touch the lives of the homeless in our own community.

However, because of your enthusiastic support, we're able to keep our doors open to help meet the needs of the hungry and homeless here in Springfield.

This summer pain, despair and homelessness will not be leaving town to go on vacation. The despair of the men, women and children who've lost their way continues during every season — 24 hours a day. Thank you in advance for your support at this critical time in the Mission's ministry.



Straight from Scott's Heart

Dear Friend of Inner City Mission,

Homelessness is a wretched thing. In fact, most words with "less" in them are not positive words — homeless, careerless, helpless, jobless, friendless, and hopeless ... the words with *less* in them could go on for pages. Honestly, *less* is the operative word when it comes to the homeless.



"The great thing about the Gospel is its easy access: not one of us needs to clean up before we approach the Father."

So, how can we help those with *less*? Jesus told the woman at the well in John 4:13-14, "Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman had every reason to want living water.

Everyone is unique and in need of the love of Christ

Every day we encounter a woman at the well. She's someone you could easily overlook if you passed by her on the street. Yet, she is unique and needs the love of Christ just like you and me. And like the woman in the Bible — her *less* soon becomes *more* when she partakes of the living water.

How about you? When you feel broken, do you allow God to fill you with His living water? The great thing about the Gospel is its easy access: not one of us needs to clean up before we approach the Father. We simply need to admit our need for a Savior ... so the real joy can begin ... and so our *less* can be *more* for eternity.

Thank you for putting Inner City Mission on your prayer and giving list this summer. God bless you and your family.

See you next time, good Lord willing.

Your servant,


Scott Payne
A Minister to the Homeless

You've helped us touch the fragile lives of so many during the past few months ... and now we invite you to help keep hope alive for the homeless this summer

During the past several months, you've helped Inner City Mission provide clean clothing, safe shelter and a compassionate, listening ear for scores of our guests.

You've helped us do this 24 hours a day, seven days a week. *Thank you!* Even greater news is that during these months, many have begun to understand there's another way to live — *God's way* — one that removes them from the chaos of homelessness and fills their hearts with hope and new opportunities.



"As we help our residents see value in themselves, sooner or later they begin seeing value in others"

The needs of the homeless continue this summer

Now, we're in the middle of summer, when we continue to encourage our guests to remember that a grateful heart is a healthy heart. As we help our residents see value in themselves, sooner or later they

begin seeing value in others — in their spouses, their children and in their colleagues. That's why at Inner City Mission we do our best to create a home-like atmosphere — one that teaches and fosters healthy relationships with a focus on healthy boundaries. Thank you for playing your key role in these life-changing experiences. *You are the lifeblood of Inner City Mission.*

Right now, to continue your faithful support we encourage you to give a generous gift to help us keep hope alive for our guests during the summer months.

Please use the remit slip enclosed to make your donation. You may also call Inner City Mission at 217-525-3940. Thank you for reaching out to families and individuals who struggle during the summer months and throughout the year.