

# Lifeline

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

## I will never quit . . . and I will always remember your compassion

**M**y name is Katrina. There are lots of reasons why people are homeless. For many, it may be drug use or an addiction to alcohol. For me, it was simply because I was evicted from my home. For a while I stayed with my sister and then with a friend. But after a while I got tired of bouncing around, especially with my four little ones with me. Being constantly on the move was not a good thing for them. They needed stability. One thing I learned during that ordeal, however, is that I'm a strong woman. I don't give up. Whatever people may say to me, I keep my own counsel. I also do not take my blessings for granted, especially for what I'm receiving here at Inner City Mission. I'm so grateful for the food, the clothing and the roof over our heads. I'm not much of a religious person, but I enjoy the spiritual atmosphere here at the Mission. I enjoy our Bible studies and what I'm learning during those sessions.

### I am thankful beyond words

I'm also grateful to you for what you give to the Mission, both your tangible resources and your

selfless acts of service. All the guests here see your compassion, and I want you to know I, for one, am thankful beyond words. Every day I remind myself that while I'm at the Mission, my life does not end here. I want to go to school, provide for my children, and use my God-given intelligence to make a better future for all of us. Today I am happy, and I plan to stay that way in the days ahead. Thank you again for all your love and support . . . not only as we approach the Easter season, but every day of the year.

Your friend,

*Katrina*



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God bless you for  
being a friend . . .  
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*Thank you for giving us a place  
when we had nowhere to go*

*Photo has been changed to protect  
the privacy of our guest*

**"Today I am happy, and I plan to  
stay that way in the days ahead."**



## MEET DONNA LOMELINO



Hello Friends!  
I work as the Human Resource Director and Stability Coach for Inner City Mission. I came to ICM in 2008 as a resident, homeless, burdened by my past, and as

immersed in chaos as anyone else coming through our doors. A terrible tragedy in my life brought me to the Lord, and the Lord led me to Inner City Mission.

With the guidance of ICM staff, I completed the *Stability for Life* program and enrolled in Lincoln Christian University. In May of 2013, I graduated with a bachelor's degree and began working for ICM. Now I give back by helping create an atmosphere that allows for healing and change. As Human Resource Director, my primary role is to help the homeless develop their potential and find all that God has in store for them. As Stability Coach, I encourage and guide them in their journey through the *Stability for Life* program.

I am thankful to speak to our residents as someone who has experienced some of the same heartache and pain they struggle with. But all praise goes to God, because now I can offer the same hope I received.

## Straight from Scott's Heart

Dear Friend of Inner City Mission,

The antidote to living like a zombie is to accept the power of the resurrected Lord and the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, many of those who come through our doors say that they really *were* the walking dead — like zombies wandering about in a haze, not knowing who they were or *where* they were . . . scaring themselves and frightening others by their behavior. But when our friends step out of their graves of despair and into the light of God's Son, a new life begins. For too long those graves had grabbed onto them. Many did not want to change; others did not know *how* to change. But when our counselors at Inner City Mission share the miraculous message of the resurrection with them, they are never the same. Their lives go from chaos and confusion to *joy and contentment*. But it's not necessarily an overnight process.

### Often, the healing of body and spirit takes time

I spoke with a woman the other day who had gone through a traumatic event in early childhood. That experience had controlled her life. But when she finally embraced the gospel and its power, she slowly began to break free. Today, she has the privilege of looking forward to living the life God had planned for her all along. When you and I sing the song "*Up From the Grave He arose*," we need to be reminded that because He lives, we, too, shall live. That's the power of Easter for our guests and it's the wonderful message for you as well as you continue to reach out to those in need. God bless you for your ongoing, faithful support of God's work here in Springfield. Our friends may never meet you, but they will always remember someone cares. See you next time, good Lord willing.

Your servant,

Scott Payne, A Minister to the Homeless



"Our friends may never meet you, but they will always remember someone cares."



## God bless you for being a friend of the Mission . . . and for celebrating Resurrection Day with our guests

When it comes to the ministry of Inner City Mission, our guests learn two things: that a loving God is their *ultimate supporter*, and that the Mission staff is here to provide the ongoing encouragement needed as our friends learn to walk in the ways of the Lord. To our guests, it's often surprising how quickly God turns their lives around. But after all, *this is what resurrection power is all about*.

### Your gifts mean more to our guests than you might imagine

The good news is your prayers, influence and financial support are what give us the opportunity to minister to the whole person — body, soul and spirit. Your involvement in this ministry is doing more good than you could ever imagine.

With God's help and your continued generosity, the Lord always provides for our needs. To send your special Easter donation today, please use the enclosed remit slip. You may also give your special gift on our secure website, [www.innercitymission.net](http://www.innercitymission.net). Thank you for partnering with us in caring for homeless people during the Easter season and throughout the year. Our entire staff thanks you for your kindness to so many in need.

