


*The*  
**UNION  
MISSION**

# MISSIONNETWORK

*Food, Clothing, Shelter ... and so much more!*

JULY 2019

A photograph of a woman with reddish-brown hair and blue eyes, smiling warmly. She is holding a baby with dark hair and blue eyes. The baby is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt with white polka dots. The woman is wearing a dark, textured sweater. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**You gave a  
young mom a  
new start!**

*Details on page 2*

**INSIDE:** From Hopeless to Hope! | You Helped Him So He Could Help Others  
Relief from the Heat | How Not to Outlive Your Retirement



# You Gave a Young Mom a New Start

Kaylie dropped out of school in the 10th grade. She babysat, worked in fast food, as a clerk at Roses and at a Waffle House. She had her first child when she was 20, a daughter now 10. They lived with her mother, a family friend, and her sister's husband and children until 2018 when she moved in with her boyfriend. Then he got sent to jail, and she lost custody of her daughter.

She went back to her mother's, but there was a problem with the lease and they lost their home. "Then all nine of us became homeless at the same time." Her sister's family got their own place, but her mother stayed with the family friend in a mechanic shop office while they waited for permanent housing. But, Kaylie was nine months pregnant and needed

a better place to stay, so she came to The Union Mission. Her daughter, Myra was born in January. "Sometimes you just have to deal with what God gives you to handle. I've been previously homeless with my mom and my sister when I was a teenager. We lived in motels and at a family shelter before it closed down. The Mission provided baby clothes, a crib, food, all our basic essential needs."

*"If it wasn't for  
the Mission  
I'd probably be out  
on the streets."*



While they wait for her mother's housing, Kaylie is taking parenting and budgeting classes, saving money and working on her G.E.D. She also applied for Supplemental Security Income because, "I suffer from depression and it's hard to keep a job."

If it wasn't for the Mission I'd probably be out on the streets or in the mechanic shop which isn't good for my baby, but I would have done what I had to do. I want to go back to school, find a part time job, and get back custody of my daughter. The staff is really nice and really helpful and that's been really wonderful."

## You can provide Relief from the Heat



The summer is a tough time for those on the streets. Many suffer from dehydration, heat stroke and illness from eating spoiled food. Weather in the 90's and above, the relentless sun beating down and the high humidity so prevalent in our Hampton Roads community, is life threatening to those who are homeless. With nowhere to turn, desperate men, women and children seek relief in the shelters of The Union Mission.

**While more people need help, donations to charity tend to decline in the summer months and we are challenged to meet the needs of all who come.**

**Will you consider giving an extra gift this summer?**

Visit [www.unionmissionministries.org](http://www.unionmissionministries.org).

## You Helped Him so He Could Help Others

Darrell Anderson lived and worked in Roanoke, but wanted to do more with his life, so he started a hot sauce company. "I wanted to expand it and my mentors told me to go to a shelter, because you can network with the guys, find out what's going on, who's hiring, who's not. And then find a good church and ministry for spiritual balance. That was my plan." Building his business took time and he couldn't find adequate work so he turned to The Union Mission. "Being here gave me time to think about the direction I wanted my life

to go. I knew that he who is without a plan, plans to fail. Sometimes in life you need a pit stop to gather yourself, rest your brain and mind to get a sense of direction."

Today his business is flourishing and he hires men from the Mission. "There's a lot of men out there who are hurting. I could not listen to stories of men who couldn't find work and not try to help. Then 50-60 years later they say, I could have done this. I could have done that, etc. The Mission helped me when I needed it and now I am giving back."



*"The Mission helped me  
when I needed it and  
now I am giving back."*

# From Hopeless to Hope Because You Gave!



Bennie grew up in foster care. "My mother had asthma real bad and couldn't take care of us." He dropped out of school in the 10th grade and worked various labor jobs until he got married in 1995.

Three years into the marriage, he found out his wife was having an affair with his uncle. She denied it, but one day he came home and found them together. "I lost it and picked up a knife to get to my uncle, but she got in the way, and I accidently stabbed her. My uncle ran off and I called the police and paramedics." They couldn't save her.

In shock and unable to talk, Bennie was taken to a mental hospital. "They kept me in a closed room with no windows. They were trying to keep me from killing myself." They prescribed medication and transferred him to prison where he served a 21 year sentence. When he got out all family relationships had been broken.

With nowhere to go, he turned to the Mission. "They gave me food, a bed, clothes, and referred me to the Damascus Program. The Program helped me accept Christ, changed my

*"The Program helped me accept Christ, changed my life and taught me how to seek God. Now I feel more secure, and very humble."*

life and taught me how to seek God. Now I feel more secure, and very humble. After receiving my salvation in Christ I feel like a person again, like a human being again."

Bennie prayed every day to be reunited with his children whom he had not seen in twenty years. On Good Friday, he reconnected with them and found out he is a grandfather. Six months later, Bennie proudly held up his graduation certificate from the Damascus Program.

His past no longer dictates his future. Today he is at peace and thanks God and the Mission for the hope he now has. "If it had not been for The Union Mission and the grace of God, I'm not sure what my life would look like. I want to look for a job to support myself and grow in my relationship with my children."

## Staff Needs

*Experience preferred*

APPLY ONLINE AT  
[www.unionmissionministries.org](http://www.unionmissionministries.org)

*Some positions require days, evenings, and weekends.*

Send resume to Kathy Vaughan at  
[kathy@ummnorva.org](mailto:kathy@ummnorva.org)

### Men's Shelter

**Evening Manager –**

Full-time: male only

**Overnight Manager –**

Full-time / Part-time: male only

**Cook – Full-time**

### Women & Children's Shelter

**Day Shift Supervisor –**

Part-time: female only

**Evening Supervisor –**

Full-time / Part-time: female only

### Women's Shelter

**Day Shift Supervisor –**

Part-time: female only

**Overnight Supervisor –**

Full-time: female only

### Development

**Digital Marketing Specialist –**

Full-time

### Thrift Store

**Store/Production – Full-time**

**Truck Driver – Full-time**



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**For more information about The Union Mission programs,  
visit [www.unionmissionministries.org/learn](http://www.unionmissionministries.org/learn).**





Give and it will be  
given to you!



REV. JOHN W. GRAY, JR.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The summer is a busy time for The Union Mission Ministries with Camp Hope Haven in full swing, and the men's and women's shelters overflowing with homeless people trying to escape the extreme summer heat. It is also a challenging time as people vacation and thoughts turn away from charitable giving, but you can help us meet the challenges. Will you prayerfully consider an extra gift that will make a lasting impact in the lives of our hurting neighbors? Luke 6:38 says, *"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."* Thank you for your prayers and your support.

With warmest regards,

  
Rev. John W. Gray, Jr.  
Executive Director

## Change a Child's Life Today!

**For \$150 you can give a child  
a fun-filled week of camp.**

**T**here's just one month to go at Camp Hope Haven. Boys and girls are learning to swim, riding a horse for the first time, playing games and sports and learning that Jesus loves them. But more children are still waiting, hoping someone will sponsor them for a week of camp this summer. It's not too late to change a child's life. Camp ends the first week of August.



**Give to change a life today at  
[unionmissionministries.org/camp](http://unionmissionministries.org/camp)**

**Dear Rev. Gray, I want to make a lasting impact for hurting neighbors!**

**I've enclosed:** ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to commit to a **monthly gift** of \$\_\_\_\_\_. My first gift is enclosed.

**Method of Payment:** ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ CCV Code \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your check payable to **The Union Mission**. To make an online donation go to [donate.unionmissionministries.org](http://donate.unionmissionministries.org)*



Please complete this slip and return it to The Union Mission with your generous gift. Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send a receipt for your records.

07-2019

# How *Not* to Outlive Your Retirement

A teenager lost a contact lens while playing basketball in his driveway. After a brief, fruitless search, he gave up. His mother took up the cause and within minutes found the lens. “How did you do that?” he asked. “We weren’t looking for the same thing,” she explained. “You were looking for a small piece of plastic. I was looking for \$150.” (Excerpt taken from the Reader’s Digest)

Experience gives you a different perspective about money, doesn’t it? When you’re the parent of a small child, saving for a family vacation to Disney World may take years. Or when you’re facing the fixed income of retirement, you may feel growing concern that you haven’t saved enough. But just as you can now look back and see God’s hand of provision

throughout your life, you can trust He is in control of your future too. As the Psalmist said, *“I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread.”*

Many people have found peace of mind while living on a fixed income through Charitable Gift Annuities. CGAs are a great way to support a cause or organization you care about like The Union Mission and receive the benefit of a financial payout in return for as long as you live. In other words, CGAs allow retirement savers to blend their passions with pension-like financial security — basically having your cake and eating it too!

CGAs are one of the most popular giving tools because they help donors:

- Receive a reliable, fixed income until death
- Gain tax advantages (with a possible income tax deduction at the time of the donation, and another at income tax time).
- Bless an organization during and after their lifetime, with a higher payout rate when compared with CDs, treasury bonds, or money market accounts.
- Experience peace of mind through a tool that’s easy to use and simple to execute.
- Feel confident they’re supporting good work and impacting lives.

Don’t live with anxiety over outliving your retirement; start by structuring a plan that’s right for your future.

## PLEASE CONSIDER INCLUDING THE UNION MISSION MINISTRIES IN YOUR WILL

For more information contact Helen Hayes Sommer at (757) 627-8686, ext. 504 or [hsommer@ummnorva.org](mailto:hsommer@ummnorva.org)

Go to [www.christianwill.org/umm](http://www.christianwill.org/umm) to bless your family with a God-honoring will.

### Comments / Change of Address:

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EMAIL 

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PHONE 

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No person is denied service based on race, creed, gender, disability, or national origin.

Photos are representative of actual mission clients.

If you would like to donate food or other supplies, or volunteer your time, please call (757) 627-8686. Thank you!

In the event contributions exceed expenses, extra funds will be used to feed, shelter, and care for the hungry and homeless throughout the year.

Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 919-807-2214 or 888-830-4989 for NC residents.

### THE UNION MISSION MINISTRIES

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