

Gratitude Report



fiscal years
2020
2021

"Being here made such a difference in my life. It's definitely been a blessing!"

"I'm actually doing so much better than I was before. Now I believe that I really can be successful!"

"The Union Mission gave me a better understanding as to what life is about."



Their Journey to Hope begins with You!

Dear friends,

These past two years have been filled with uncertainty, but despite all the changes, we have been able to count on two things: the goodness of God and the loyalty of our donors. Your faithful support has been a true blessing not only to us, but to the thousands of people we have been able to help together during the unexpected COVID pandemic. Even though safety concerns have limited the number of guests we could shelter, clothe, and feed, nothing has stopped us from sharing the unlimited love of God with each man, woman, and child who came to us.

As you know, the first to fall on hard times are often the last to recover. Job insecurity, debilitating traumas, and a lack of affordable housing have meant that many of our emergency shelter guests have needed to stay with us longer. That has given us an opportunity to provide more in-depth assistance and to focus on improving their physical and mental health with new programs and resources. It also has given us more time to share the Gospel and to encourage them to find eternal hope in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The numbers in this report help give a snapshot of the ministry's successes, but each of these souls is so much more than a statistic. As you read their stories, please remember how much your financial support has helped them build a bright new future. They thank you for your generosity—and so do we! May God bless you as you have blessed others!

John Gray
&
James R. Herndon



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*Serving the Hampton Roads
community since 1892*

Success by the Numbers

in fiscal year 2020-2021



51,301

NIGHTS OF
LODGING

21,455

NIGHTS OF RECLAIM AND
SRO RESIDENT HOUSING

200+

HOMELESS MEN, WOMEN
& CHILDREN SHELTERED
NIGHTLY

★ **330** ★

MOVED INTO
AFFORDABLE,
PERMANENT HOUSING



189,941

CAFETERIA MEALS SERVED
THIS FISCAL YEAR

15,828

MEALS SERVED MONTHLY
TO SHELTER GUESTS

12,414

ITEMS OF CLOTHING DISTRIBUTED
TO SHELTER GUESTS



5,984

HOURS OF CHAPEL &
BIBLE STUDIES

9,514

CASE MANAGEMENT AND
COUNSELING SESSIONS

99

U.S. VETERANS SERVED
78 Men / 28 Women

940

HRT BUS PASSES GIVEN
TO GUESTS FOR WORK
OR APPOINTMENTS

2,839

WELLNESS PROGRAM
ENCOUNTERS for 567
SHELTER GUESTS AND
RESIDENTS

★ **112** ★

GUESTS FOUND
FULL- OR PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT

\$43

AVERAGE DAILY COST OF CARE PER GUEST



722

UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS
HOUSED, FED,
AND CLOTHED IN
EMERGENCY SHELTER
519 Men

115 Single Women
27 Mothers / 61 Children

90 DAYS

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY
IN EMERGENCY SHELTER
For Both Men and Women

130 DAYS

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY
IN EMERGENCY SHELTER
For Women with Children

548

HOMELESS PEOPLE IN
HOTELS FED THROUGH THE
UNION MISSION'S
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

1,200

NIGHTS OF COVID SAFETY
QUARANTINES REQUIRED

264

SHELTER GUESTS COVID-VACCINATED

2,405

ANCHORS OF HOPE MONTHLY SUSTAINERS

Every Union Mission Guest's Story can

Washington

Not long after Washington arrived from Ohio in early 2020, he suffered chills, chest congestion, and a loss of appetite, then muscle weakness, dizziness, and fever. His symptoms appeared just as coronavirus was spreading across the country.



Our Bashford Men's Shelter and Wellness Program staff took him immediately to the ER for coronavirus testing. Since his case was "presumptive positive," Washington was housed in a separate building dedicated for possible COVID-19 cases. Six staffers who had been in direct contact with him also self-quarantined for everyone's safety.

His tests confirmed "just a nasty bad flu, but I still could have died." Washington stayed in quarantine for 21 days so he wouldn't infect others. Flu medicines, prayer, and our Wellness Program team helped him recover fully. "There's nowhere else in the world I would want to be through this than at The Union Mission, because of the love and care I received here."

Timothy

A Petersburg mental hospital discharged Tim to The Union Mission a few months after he'd checked himself in for treatment. Despondent about his finances, suicide had seemed like his only solution—until God reminded Tim that his life was in His hands.



Counseling and medication lifted Tim's depression, but then his health problems caught up with him. First he had pneumonia, then a heart attack required a stent. Our Wellness Team helped him navigate his recuperation.

"I had no money, no benefits, and I couldn't work. Oh my goodness, I had to trust the Lord!" Tim says. "I admit it was hard to do sometimes, but He sure brought me through."

Since then, Tim's been approved for SSDI disability and food assistance, and he's joined our RECLAIM Transitional Housing Program, where he has his own handicap-accessible rental room in the Bashford Men's Shelter. He still uses a walker because of sciatica and spine pain from years of landscaping and heavy labor, but he's able to exercise at a nearby gym. Best of all, Tim is saving up money to get his own apartment and be independent again. "You have to do what God is asking you to do, but if you are willing, there are endless opportunities. I am eternally grateful for The Union Mission!"

Connie

It's no wonder Connie battled chronic depression and suicidal thoughts for decades. As a child she was molested by her sadistic oldest brother, an occultist who threatened to kill her in the night. For eight years she hid her secret terror, and his suicide did little to stop the hurt festering inside. "I felt like God had sort of betrayed me."



As an adult, Connie suffered numerous bodily ailments and emotional anguish. And though she graduated with honors and excelled at every job she held, the abuse affected her for years. Her first marriage ended in divorce, and her severe depression deepened to the point of disability, despite kindly psychiatric care and heavy medication.

When her second husband left after 25 years, she lost her home and declared bankruptcy. Here at our Women's Shelter, Connie was able to maintain her physical health and medications for her mental health, but more than that, her spiritual faith was restored.

"I was so angry with God for a long time," but the staff took the time to listen, pray with her, and help her choose forgiveness and find solace. "It's been so uplifting to be here. I've learned so much about how I need to walk with Jesus," Connie says. "I am thankful I became homeless because I found this place—and they brought me back to God!"

Sam

"Cocaine: that one was the problem for me," says Sam. After decades of abuse, he'd been clean for about a year before he came to The Union Mission, but temptation was everywhere. "But when I came here, that choice was a LOT easier: to be in a place that is drug-free, no alcohol, with time to think. That's all I needed."



After six months in emergency shelter, Sam joined the RECLAIM program to continue his transition toward a better life. "I never gave myself this kind of opportunity earlier. I'm serious about me now!"

Sam has participated in just about every chapel service and every class offered at the Bashford Men's Shelter. In Sentara/Optima Health's HEAL Program, he learned to read food labels at the grocery store and got a nudge to make his first doctor's appointment in 30 years. And the American Heart Association's Simple Cooking with Heart class is teaching him how to prepare cardio-friendly meals.

"When you've gotta come here, you're in a bad place," Sam says, but he appreciates the fresh start. "If you want to help yourself or be helped, this is the place to be!"

Your support makes our ministry possible!

end with a *Better Future.*

Shon

Shon's "brittle bone disease" is incredibly rare and incurable. "I've broken every bone in my body except my neck and my back, by the grace of God." He has metal reinforcements where his ankle, jaw, and chin fractured, but many other of his other breaks healed on their own. For years Shon worked in construction, then moved to hospitality jobs. He never considered filing for disability, but "now that I'm older, I'm in pain!"

When the pandemic hit, Shon lost his job and eventually came to The Union Mission. "I went without healthcare for a long time," but our Wellness Team remedied that. Shon had regular appointments with a physician and a geneticist at Eastern Virginia Medical School. Wellness picked up his prescriptions and gave him protein drinks and vitamin supplements to strengthen his bones. "They've had my back 100%!"

"To be honest, I just really started any type of treatment since I've been at the Mission. I have Medicaid now. I've applied for SSDI Disability and I'm told that I have a strong case. My medical care is much better now! Things are starting to look really good now that I'm here at the Mission!"



Khalil

Khalil's childhood "just had more downs than ups." His father was paralyzed, his family was fractured, and he was often left alone to fend for himself. "It was really a tough time for me. I didn't have anybody. I was just trying to survive."

After his release from jail for a probation violation, Khalil called The Union Mission for help, but COVID had temporarily shut down our intakes. For weeks he slept at the Oceanfront on city benches and in cheap hotels with the earnings from his two jobs. But by summer he became part of our David Development Program. The personalized support network helps young men ages 18-30 address the causes of their homelessness before it becomes chronic.

Khalil participated in The FatherHOOD Initiative, focused on strengthening young men's relationship with their loving Father God and practical advice for overcoming difficulty. "It was a lifesaver!" he says. Mentors shared what they'd gone through and how they apply the Bible to life's challenges. Khalil came to recognize his best traits and to see himself as God sees him.

"Not every day do you meet people who have answers for you, have faith in you, respect you, love you...not for anything in return, just for you, because they want to see you succeed."

"The Mission gave me another chance! And ever since then, life has had more ups than downs."



Dena...and her 5 girls

Imagine being seven months pregnant and finding yourself homeless—with your four daughters, ages 3 to 13. That's what happened to Dena after a custody battle.

Her family arrived at our Women and Children's Shelter around Thanksgiving, hoping for the respite and resources they needed to build a better future. The shelter staff rallied around the family with lots of love and practical care. The older girls attended school online. The Bible studies and nightly devotions energized Dena's faith and encouraged her kids. "God took care of all our needs at the shelter!" Dena says. "It was a huge relief!"



Though they weren't expecting a big holiday, a wonderful new gift arrived right before Christmas when Dena delivered a beautiful new baby girl, Destiny LaFaith. Her other daughters—Carson, Melodie, Tacoreya, and Rahteaona—also were showered with wonderful Christmas presents from kind-hearted donors.

After four months, Dena's family moved from their brightly decorated room to a beautiful townhome in Chesapeake, but they admit to being a little homesick for the Mission. "I'm missing this place," Dena says. "I confess that we got a little spoiled here. And all the staff...they became family to us. We didn't want to leave. We really felt the unconditional love."



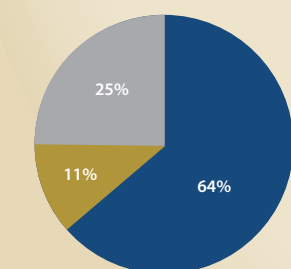
Financial Statements

The Union Mission's audited financial statements for fiscal years ending June 30, 2020 and 2021 are summarized below. As indicated, the Mission's major source of income is from individual contributions.

Public Support & Revenues	2020	2021
Contributions	\$5,824,197	\$7,857,458
Donated Goods	\$ 995,536	\$1,003,048
Other Income and Grants	\$2,322,015	\$2,161,376
Noncash Grant PPP Loan Forgiveness		\$ 711,900
TOTAL	\$9,141,748	\$11,733,782
Expenses		
Program Services	\$7,075,353	\$7,005,819
Fundraising	\$1,399,035	\$1,482,804
Management and General	\$ 753,363	\$ 863,956
TOTAL	\$9,227,751	\$9,352,579
Net Assets, End of Year	\$39,293,190	\$41,674,393

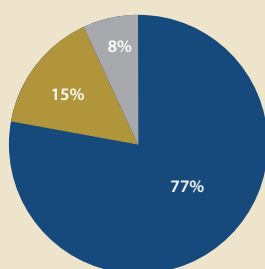
2020

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUES



■ Contributions
■ Donated Goods
■ Other Income & Grants

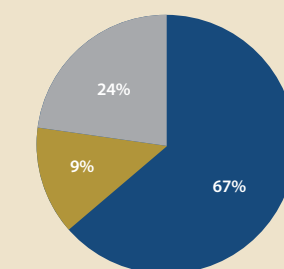
EXPENSES



■ Program Services
■ Fundraising
■ Management & General

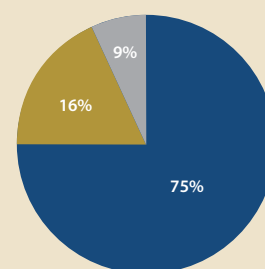
2021

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUES



■ Contributions
■ Donated Goods
■ Other Income & Grants
(including loan)

EXPENSES



■ Program Services
■ Fundraising
■ Management & General

The Union Mission is a 501 (c) (3) religious nonprofit charitable organization. See unionmissionministries.org/learn/financials for full copies of The Union Mission's audited financial statement and IRS Forms 990.

