



## WE CAN HELP CHANGE LIVES THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD — THANKS TO YOU

**Our dedication to sharing the Gospel Message daily** to the lost is what sets us apart from most organizations. Another aspect that sets us apart is you; we are funded by faithful donors that care about the lost souls of the homeless.

Accepting government funding would limit our ability to proclaim the Word, and we are committed to staying true to PGM's purpose.

That said, we always want to make sure we are using our resources, God's resources, faithfully donated by you, as responsibly and efficiently as possible. As the Mission

grew in age and wisdom, we noticed that we had occasionally become a warehouse for the homeless rather than a vehicle toward developing our guests into fully functioning followers of Christ. Therefore, we decided to limit the time someone stays here. Within thirty days each person had to show progress by looking for housing, employment, or by joining one of our programs. The policy encouraged many people who had been here for extended periods of time to make important decisions toward progress.

Martin is one such individual.



# I FEEL LIKE AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PERSON

After he was unable to come up with rent, Martin lost his room at the men's hotel and came to PGM for shelter in the '90s. In 2016, over twenty years later, Martin was still staying here. Occasionally, Martin attempted to leave and live independently but was unable to do so successfully.

"I don't think I ever tried to apply myself enough and join a program or get an education to learn a new trade," Martin recalls. "As I reached my fifties, it felt like I was too old to start a new career. Looking back, if I had done something, I could have started a new successful life by now."

Having to start over felt like a daunting task, and Martin felt like he couldn't come above water.

Over 20 years later and still in the same boat, it would seem to most that something was not right. "It looked like I was in deep waters and I was just trying to stay alive and stay afloat."

**"I could have started a new successful life by now."**

When we implemented the 30-Day policy, however, Martin joined and eventually graduated the New Life Bible Program. "I was able to get more structure and discipline and obedience to the Word. I feel like an entirely different person. My life is centered upon Jesus Christ and the Word, and I wouldn't have it any other way."

Because of your donations,

Martin was able to enter the New Life Bible Discipleship program and not only acquire structure and new habits but also grow close to God. Martin shared his favorite Bible verse with me: “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11.1). For Martin, this communicates that as abstract as faith is, it is also tremendously real and concrete.

After graduating the New Life Program, Martin went to career-building classes, and after three months he was hired as a

maintenance worker. He is a prime example of the power of a Christ-based program and God’s blessings when we are gracious and responsible with His provisions.

Because of your faithful support, people like Martin see their lives transformed by the Christ-based resources found here at Pacific Garden Mission. Because of you, in June, 404 homeless people received aid and Gospel services daily, 332 people professed faith in Christ, and 36,620 plates of food were served. Your compassion means so much — thank you.

**“My life is centered upon Jesus Christ and the Word, and I wouldn’t have it any other way.”**







## **JULY 4TH** **SUMMERTIME** **GOSPEL STREET** **PICNIC!**

Many came to our annual July 4th Summertime Gospel Street Picnic. Having a safe and wholesome place to celebrate was not only appreciated by the surrounding homeless, but also allowed our Bible program students a day to relax and have fun. Sponsored by many of your donations, we were able to share a powerful Gospel Message to those we normally wouldn't reach. We would like to thank those who contributed to this event for creating another opportunity to witness to the lost.

**"FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST: FOR IT IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION TO EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVETH; TO THE JEW FIRST, AND ALSO TO THE GREEK." - ROMANS 1:16**

### **Pacific Garden Mission's budget is completely donor-funded.**

We receive no government funding. We are eternally grateful for the individuals, businesses, churches, and foundations that make it possible for PGM to serve thousands of homeless men, women, and children each year.

When you support us financially, you're not only giving *to* the Mission, but *through* the Mission to people who need your help the most. In June, your support made a true difference.

Learn more by visiting Pacific Garden Mission, where lives have been transformed since 1877.





## A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

# GOD'S PROVISION FOR US

There is much discussion today regarding how to deal with the homeless population. At Pacific Garden Mission, we have been ministering to the homeless for almost 141 years. Decades have come and gone, faces have changed, but one thing remains: the homeless are still with us. In the Old Testament, God told His nation how to treat the poor: "And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the LORD your God" (Leviticus 19:9-10). The corners of the field and the leftover grapes were to be left for the poor to come and harvest. Though the nation made this provision for them, God obliged the poor to do something to get it. In the New Testament, He tells us, "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat" (Thessalonians 3:10). We see in scripture the need to care for the poor balanced with the

responsibility to enable the poor to provide for themselves, and we honor this teaching at Pacific Garden Mission. Those who come to us for help and hope do not stay here indefinitely. After an initial 30-day stay, we require our guests to meet with a counselor and share their plans for personal and spiritual

## **"Thank you for loving the poor . . ."**

growth. Those who are suffering from drug addiction, for instance, and want to continue to reside here join our New Day program, which facilitates recovery through the Gospel's inspiration. After his 30-day stay expired at the Mission, a man we call "Big Charles" met with a counselor, to whom he eventually revealed his heroin addiction. Because of this, Big Charles joined the New Day program, graduated, and is now working. Your support makes stories like Big Charles' possible; we do not just want to warehouse humanity, we want to see humanity transformed by the power of the Gospel. Thank you for loving the poor and helping to make their transformation possible.



## BECAUSE OF YOU LIGHT SHINES IN DARKNESS

Stephen Welch,  
Director of Development

**The needs of those who walk through our doors** are vast and sometimes overwhelming. When we finally get through assessing each person's cry for help, we are able to speak to their souls about what really matters. In every case there is a reason for their heartfelt dilemma. No matter how complex the problem, we know there is hope and that there is a solution — we know that Jesus Christ is the answer.

As we reflect on what really makes a place like Pacific Garden Mission work, we know it is Jesus Christ and the people who serve those in need — people like you and me. Though we face many challenges in a city in darkness,

we not only see the Light but we know the Light and those who love Him — friends like you. We thank God for Jesus Christ and partners like you who support His amazing ministry that changes lives for all eternity.

We are blessed to know that many of you help us every day as we offer life's answers through faith in Jesus Christ, through any season of life, so that our guests become fully functioning followers of Christ.

Thanks to your faithful partnership, we know that God ministers through us to reach the lost with the Gospel of Christ.

**Thank you for investing in His Kingdom.**



### "I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHENS ME."

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

When we open our hearts to Christ, our burdens fall away. Once we take in the Gospel's message, through the Word, anything is possible.

**GIVE NOW at [pgm.org](http://pgm.org)**

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