



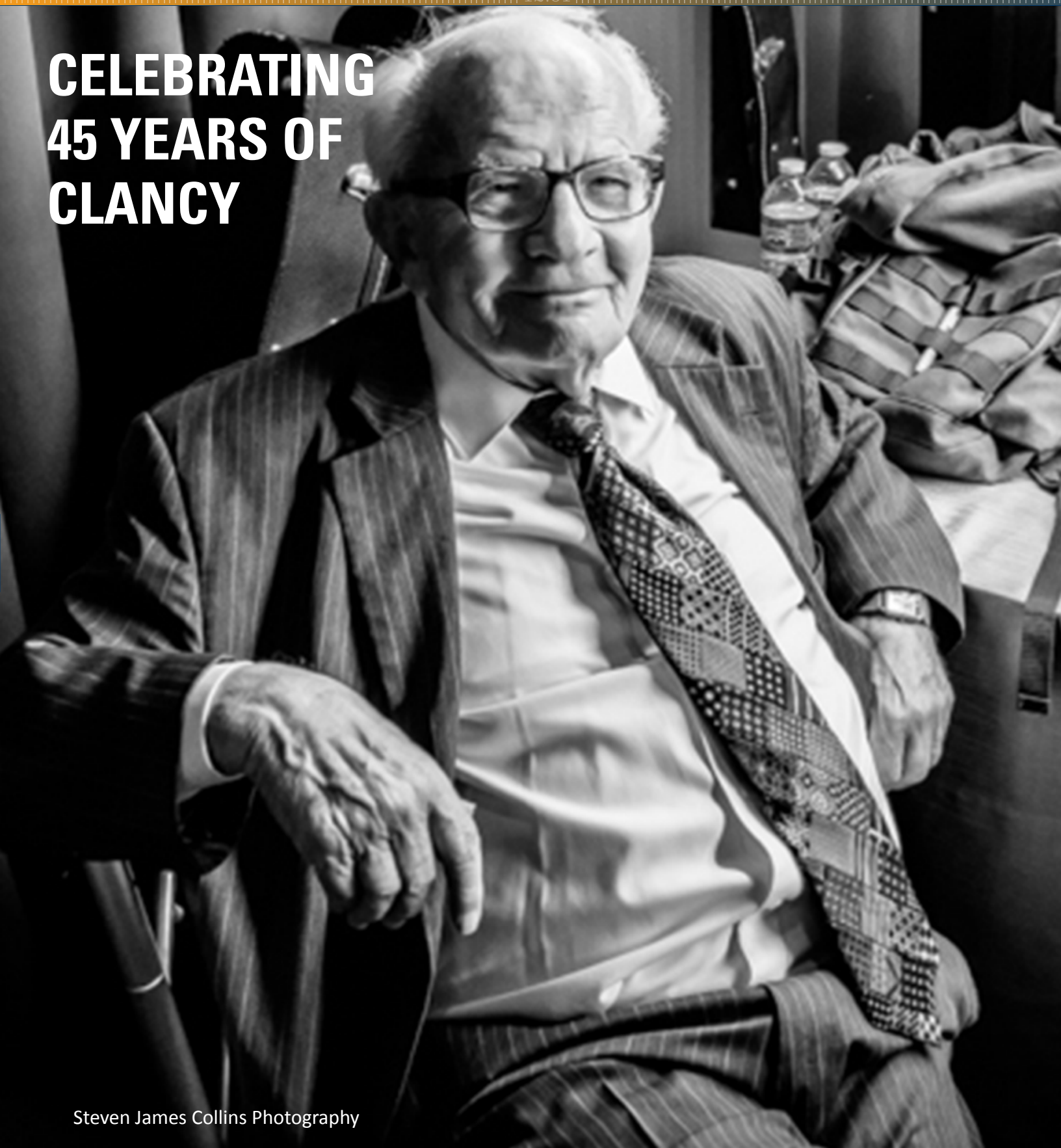
The Midnight Journey

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDNIGHT MISSION

Spring 2019

12:01

CELEBRATING 45 YEARS OF CLANCY



Steven James Collins Photography



The Midnight Mission is all about giving people second chances. There is no truer testament to this ideal than our very own Clancy Imislund. On February 1 of this year, Clancy celebrated 45 years of service to The Midnight Mission. In 1974, he was recruited to lead The Midnight. A recovering alcoholic himself, Clancy brought a level of empathy and understanding that is difficult to match. For the next thirty years, he led The Midnight Mission through the dramatic changes taking place on Skid Row. Today, he continues to serve as our Managing Director.

He is the heart and soul of The Midnight Mission, and was even heralded as The King of Skid Row by The LA Times in 1998. People all over the world know his name. He has so many Facebook friends we were forced to upgrade his account to a "fan page".

But, in 1958 Clancy wasn't the beloved face of our organization. In fact, he was escorted from the premises after causing a disturbance at breakfast. In that moment, no one had even the slightest idea that one day Clancy would return and become The Midnight Mission's greatest treasure or that he would be presented with The Midnight Mission's most prestigious honor, the Golden Heart Award.

He has dedicated most of his life to making our organization the best that it can be. Among his many accomplishments, Clancy was responsible for bringing the 12-step philosophy to The Midnight, establishing our organization as one of the first providers of addiction treatment in Skid Row. He is always available to offer words of encouragement and wisdom. Whether he's hosting his friends each week for lunch or passing out certificates

at our monthly All House meetings where we celebrate milestones in recovery, everyone at The Midnight Mission loves Clancy.

There are no words to describe how fortunate we are to have him as not only a member of our community, but the backbone of it. **We salute and thank Clancy for his endless dedication and service to The Midnight, the people we serve each day and to people in recovery worldwide.**

With sincere gratitude,

G. Michael Arnold
President & CEO



Alumni Check In - Susie & Shane

If you were to ask anyone at The Midnight Mission, “Do you know Susie?”, chances are they’ll say yes. Susie Siverts isn’t just a Midnight Mission volunteer; she is THE Midnight Mission volunteer. For over 6 years she has dedicated her time, effort and delicious baked goods to our organization with a smile and an open-heart. But before Susie called The Midnight Mission her home away from home, she saw it as only one thing – her last hope to save her son’s life.

Shane had just been released from prison and it was time for him to enter a drug-treatment program. Susie had been sober herself for nearly 30 years and had known Clancy Imislund, The Midnight Mission’s Managing Director, for many years. She was a member of a 12 step group founded by Clancy. But, Shane’s probation officer wanted Shane to try a different treatment program instead of coming to The Midnight Mission. When Susie told Clancy that, he responded in his loving yet brusque

Clancy way “Call me when he gets drunk again,” and promptly hung up the phone. Sure enough, Shane did just that and finally entered The Midnight Mission’s Healthy Living Program and, before long, was on his way toward sustained sobriety.

Prior to his time in prison, there was a period of THREE YEARS where Susie had no idea where Shane was or if he was alive or dead. With no sense of direction and no way to find him, there was nothing she could do but wait. When they were finally reunited, Shane’s drug-use had caused irreversible brain damage. All throughout his prison sentence, and in the weeks immediately after, they searched for a suitable program in which to enroll him. Susie knew there was one thing that had always helped her son thrive, even when he was a child: structure. The Midnight Mission’s Healthy Living Program offered that and was the perfect place for Shane. From the moment Susie dropped Shane off, she knew

that they had made the right choice. They were greeted by David Prentice, then an Advocate, and currently our Associate Director of Philanthropy. Susie and David were friends, so she knew her son was in good hands. The Midnight Mission was able to give Shane more than a bridge to sobriety and self-sufficiency; it gave him the structure he needed to succeed and friendships with fellow Midnight Mission Alumni, founded on mutual-support and camaraderie.

According to Susie, **The Midnight Mission saved her son’s life.** And it is for that reason she feels she can’t give enough back to our organization. She volunteers for every holiday and special event, consistently brings in new volunteers to join our community, and spreads hope and good cheer throughout the TMM. “I look at everyone here, guests and program participants, and know that they’re no different from me. I was them not too long ago. Some of them just need a warm hug and a friend. That’s what I want to be.”

Planting the Seeds of Hope

Rosario is a 60 year-old, hardworking, God-fearing, family oriented woman. She is also a current participant in our Crisis and Bridge Housing program. Like many of our homeless guests, she doesn't want her current situation to define her as a person. She knows that homelessness is a temporary state and has faith that with hard work and dedication, she will get back on her feet and get her life on track.

Rosario came to The Midnight Mission (TMM) in need of shelter after losing her home. She had spent five years away from LA caring for her ailing parents prior to their deaths. To make matters more difficult, after returning to LA, Rosario faced abuse from

her employer and became depressed. In order to preserve her mental health, she chose to leave that job and search for something new. Unfortunately, handling her depression while searching for a new job was too much. She could no longer afford her apartment and was forced to leave. She became homeless. When Rosario was referred to The Midnight Mission (TMM), she didn't know what to expect. At that point, all she was hoping for was some food and safe place to lay her head at night. But, she was pleasantly surprised to learn about all of the services and programs that TMM offers to anyone in need.

Since joining our Crisis and Bridge Housing program, Rosario has

addressed her depression with the help of our in-house partner, the Chicago School of Psychology. She is also working with the Department of Mental Health for housing referrals. Using the tools available to her at TMM, Rosario is learning how to cope with stress and make different life choices so she is able to create a better future for herself. By addressing these issues, staying dedicated and taking the steps necessary to thrive, Rosario is well on her way to be self-sufficient again. Thanks to supporters like you, The Midnight Mission has helped Rosario plant the seeds to her success.

This is the day...to plant the seeds of hope for someone in need.



Grant Central Station

Our deepest thanks to The Refinery, longtime supporter of The Midnight Mission, for contributing \$20,000 to our life-saving program services for homeless and low income individuals and families.

Hiscox volunteered with The Midnight during L.A. Finance Week last Spring and made a \$15,000 donation in December. Thank you for your generosity!

Soylent matched \$15,000 in gifts during our year-end campaign, helping us increase our impact in the homeless and low income community and supporting us as we provide food, shelter and other essential services to those in need this winter. Thank you, Soylent, for your total \$25,184 in donations over the holidays!

Our friends at PENTA Building Group made a year-end donation of \$5,000, in addition to their incredible \$30,000 donation through their annual golf tournament benefiting The Midnight. Thank you so much for your ongoing partnership with us.

Thank you to Velvet LLC, which provides direct support and clothing donations to The Midnight

each year, for their wonderful \$5,000 gift in December! Albert & Elaine Borchard Foundation has been a partner in the effort to improve the human condition and we are thankful for their grant funds in the amount of \$12,500

The Croul Family Foundation has been a long-time supporter in providing assistance to those who are homeless or economically disadvantaged and we're appreciative of their grant of \$20,000.

The Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation continues to be a generous supporter of services to those who have served our country and we're grateful for their grant of \$50,000

U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management continue to generously provide support through the Callie D. McGrath Foundation grant of \$7,500 and the Walter & Holly Thomson Foundation grant of \$70,000.

Did you know?

52,765

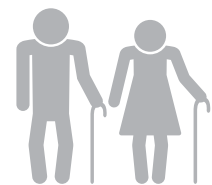
individuals, families and youth are sleeping in cars, tents, on sidewalks, on bus benches, under bushes and in abandoned buildings



Food Insecure Adolescents

26.6%

of children live in a household that has been deemed food insecure in L.A. County



Food Insecure Seniors

(Anon, 2017)

65% more likely to be diabetic

19% more likely to have high blood pressure

57% more likely to have congestive heart failure

66% more likely to have experienced a heart attack

Save the Date!



March 15



April 23



May 11



SMOKEY
ROBINSON
*Invitational
Golf
Tournament*

June 3



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COURTYARD CORNER

California, for all its beautiful weather and sunshine, is not immune to the cold. When the winter months come around, thousands of homeless and near-homeless individuals are left fending for themselves in the cold.

For this reason, we cannot thank the group from Northrop Grumman Corporation enough for bringing brand new, high-quality winter coats to our OC Courtyard. Northrop Grumman had a coat for every single courtyard guest and made sure to size them appropriately. Each night, the OC Courtyard provides shelter to 425 individuals experiencing homelessness.

Thanks to Northrop Grumman, our guests are now able to combat the cold and stay safe through periods of inclement weather.

