

# The MIDNIGHT JOURNEY

How Your  
Gifts  
Make a  
Difference

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDNIGHT MISSION

Winter 2025



## "For the First Time ... I Felt Like I Could Breathe."

Jane is a single mother from Inglewood, raising her son with courage and determination.

We've changed her name for her protection, because what Jane has been through is something no parent – and no person – should have to face.

When Jane's grandmother passed away, it was more than just heartbreaking. It meant a loss of stability. Jane lived with her grandmother, who had also been her main source of support. So when she died, Jane was left with only two days to move out.

Jane and her son spent months moving between relatives and friends, and then, when they had nowhere else to go, her car. *"As a mother, it was heartbreaking to*

**Read the rest of Jane's story inside.**

Just for you...

- CEO's Message
- Dignity, Stability, and Hope
- The Midnight Walk

MidnightMission.org





At The Midnight Mission, there is always a place at our table. It may be in our dining room, where someone sits down for a

warm holiday meal. It may be in our education center, where someone takes a GED exam or reconnects with a loved one online. Or it may be across from a 12-step sponsor, charting a course toward recovery.

With your help, we enable opportunity, healing, and self-sufficiency.

And everyone is welcome at our table, no matter what. In this season of giving, showing up for one another is the greatest gift of all.

Please help ensure that everyone who walks through our doors feels seen, heard, and supported as they take their next brave steps toward a brighter future. **There is always room for one more at our table ... thanks in part to you.**

Best wishes for a happy holiday season!

Sincerely,

David L. Prentice  
President & CEO

## Jane, continued from page 1

*make my son's bed in the backseat or try to bathe him in the car," she recalled.*

Even while struggling, Jane tried to send her son to school so he could have education and routine. But the ordeal was taking a toll on both of them. When teachers noticed her son's distress, she opened up about their situation and made it clear she needed help.

This honest conversation led to a referral to our HomeLight Family Living program. After two interviews, Jane received the call she had been waiting for: She and her son had been accepted into the program.

***"The moment I heard I was accepted, I finally felt like I didn't have to carry the burden all by myself anymore," she said. "For the first time since being pregnant, I felt like I could breathe."***

Now beginning her journey at HomeLight, Jane looks forward to peace and the ability to give her son a safe and nurturing environment.

Her dreams extend beyond survival, all the way to a happier and healthier future. Jane hopes to one day start a small business, inspired by childhood memories of an ice cream truck driver who cared deeply for the kids in her community.

She wants to create that same sense of joy and mentorship for the next generation, starting with her own growing boy. She said, ***"I can finally provide my son with the stability and safety he deserves."***



# Dignity, Stability, and Hope



*Friends of The Midnight Mission at our grand opening.*

Earlier this year, we held a very exciting grand opening for the Clare E. Women's Recovery Center – a safe haven created by women, for women.

Designed to meet the unique needs of women who have faced homelessness and addiction, this new program provides a full year of housing, meals, counseling, medical and mental health care, education, and workforce development. It's the first long-term, 12-step-based recovery program of its kind on Skid Row, and it's changing lives!

Every part of **the center is staffed and led by women, creating an environment of trust, safety, and empowerment where women can heal from trauma and begin rebuilding their lives.** Here, recovery is not just about sobriety – it's about dignity, stability, and hope for a brighter future. Thanks for all you do to help create programs like this!



## THANK YOU!

## Every Dollar Makes a Difference

By giving to The Midnight Mission, you help set the table with food *and* hope.

Your generosity helps neighbors who are hungry or homeless get the resources and support they need to make positive changes in their lives – and that often starts with a meal.

**Can you give \$11.56 today to feed a family of four? Or \$49 to provide a week's worth of meals?** Only you know what you can give. We're grateful for every dollar you donate. Thank you!

### Ways to Give

Did you know? There are many different ways to help your LA neighbors:

- Joining Midnight Partners by making a monthly donation
- Giving from your donor-advised fund (DAF)
- Leaving a legacy gift by naming The Midnight Mission as a beneficiary of your will, trust, or retirement fund
- Donating by mail or online

**Get more details at  
[MidnightMission.org](https://MidnightMission.org)**

# Making a Difference – One Step at a Time



While most of Los Angeles slept, a group of dedicated friends of The Midnight Mission laced up their shoes and walked through the city—led by our longtime volunteer, supporter, and board member, Ari Wintraub.

As part of our fifth annual Midnight Walk, the team set out at 11:30 p.m. and journeyed 17 miles until sunrise. Along the way, they shared compassion in action – distributing hygiene kits and water to people in need.

The Midnight Walk is more than a trek through the night. It's a powerful tradition that raises awareness and vital funds to provide our unhoused neighbors with a pathway out of homelessness. You don't have to walk 17 miles to make a difference. You can create your own fundraiser or find other ways to get involved. To learn more, contact Tiffany Sgueglia at [tsgueglia@midnightmission.org](mailto:tsgueglia@midnightmission.org).

## Holiday Events

Join us to help make the holidays bright for neighbors in need!

- ✓ **Turkey Trot Run and Walk in DTLA**  
November 27
- ✓ **Thanksgiving Street Fair**  
November 27
- ✓ **HomeLight Holiday Celebration**  
December 11
- ✓ **Santa's Toy Village**  
December 21  
(Accepting toys through 12/12)
- ✓ **Christmas Brunch**  
December 25

For more information about these holiday events, go to [MidnightMission.org](http://MidnightMission.org).



## Increasing Access, Improving Health



We're thrilled to announce that our new Tele-Health Center is now open!

The Center connects participants to primary care, mental health counseling, and substance use treatment in a private, trauma-informed setting designed for dignity and healing. This milestone represents a major step forward in our mission to expand access to care, improve health outcomes, and support recovery for our community.

We're grateful for your help in making this vision a reality.

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Make a gift now by scanning the code or donate at [MidnightMission.org/Winter](http://MidnightMission.org/Winter).

