

The MIDNIGHT JOURNEY

How Your
Gifts
Make a
Difference

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDNIGHT MISSION

Summer 2025



"I Am Forever Grateful."

Sam remembers being stranded by the side of the freeway with her mother, Elisa. Everything they had in the world was in the trunk of their car, which had no gas left in the tank.

She looked up at her mother's face and saw the weight of stress, fear, and worry. But she also saw her strength.

She saw the woman who had fled a life of domestic abuse, taking her children with her to protect them from ever experiencing the pain she had endured. Right then, Sam made a silent promise – to be her

Read the rest of Sam's story inside!

Just for you...

- CEO Thank You
- From Homelessness to Hope!
- By Women, for Women

MidnightMission.org





In so many ways, these are difficult times.

The growing crisis of homelessness, economic hardship, systemic inequities, and recent wildfires have intensified the urgent challenges we face.

But at The Midnight Mission, we stand firm in our commitment to human dignity and the well-being of our community. With your help, we will continue responding to every crisis with compassion and action.

We meet individuals where they are, treating them with empathy and respect, and recognizing their inherent worth. One of the things I'm most proud of is that our staff – from our security team to our case management team and even some of our executives – have a lot of lived experience with drug and alcohol recovery. We've all been there, so we're able to have dialogue with people.

And we know lasting change is possible when it's **rooted in connection and support, both inside our doors and out in the world.**

With you by our side, we are not merely responding to challenges, but investing in a future where every individual has the chance to thrive. It's because of you that we can continue to provide the resources, care, and community that are transforming lives every day.

Thank you for standing with us. Your partnership enables us to bring hope, healing, and opportunity to those who need it most.

Thank you,

David L. Prentice
President & CEO

mother's rock, someone she could lean on when times got tough.

And times were tough. At the same time she was trying to care for her kids, Elisa was battling depression, anxiety, and low self-esteem.

Thankfully, they found their way to The Midnight Mission.

When Elisa and Sam discovered our HomeLight Family Living Program, their spirits were as low as the gas tank had been that fateful day.

Our team recognized Elisa's urgent needs for stable housing and counseling. We also saw her resilience and motivation.

With the guidance of her case manager, Elisa began taking steps to transform her life. She revamped her resume and embarked on a job search. Her perseverance paid off when she got a full-time job – with benefits! – at a company that offers growth opportunities.

"I used to think we were being punished, but now I know that every struggle shaped us into who we are today."
– Sam

By the time Elisa and Sam made the transition to independent living, Elisa had a stable career, savings for their new home, and a renewed sense of confidence.

Inspired by her mother's strength, Sam pushed

herself to excel. She worked hard in school, determined to make her mom proud. Today, she is attending college to pursue a nursing career, ready to give back.

Here's what Sam said recently, with thanks in her heart. *"I am forever grateful for the people who helped us get here, and I can't wait to see what the future holds."*

Their journey is a testament to resilience, love, and the power of a second chance. With the right support, hope is never out of reach.



Sam and Zach Braff at our recent benefit concert.

From Homelessness to Hope!

Home is more than a place – it's a feeling of belonging. And discovering that home can be a journey. Take Qantra. After losing her father, Qantra and her baby boy had nowhere to live. Their journey to find a new home started off tough – the two lived in their car for two months. But all that changed when she came to HomeLight Family Living.



"They show you what real family is, what it means to be loved and encouraged," she said.

Today, she and her son have a home of their own.

Thanks to your generosity, people experiencing homelessness can find stability, reconnect with loved ones, and build a brighter future.

By Women, for Women

For over a century, The Midnight Mission has run a highly successful Healthy Living Program for men. But as the demographic of people struggling with homelessness changes, so do the needs of the people walking through our doors. That's why the opening of our new Clare E. Women's Recovery Center is so important. It will be tailored to address the unique challenges and traumas women face.



Recognizing that each journey to recovery is personal, this year-long program will offer a fully female-centered experience – one that provides safe shelter, robust mental health services, education, workforce development, and a strong support network.

Our approach combines trauma-informed care with empowerment and practical skills development, and the program will be run by women, for women.

This is just one part of what your support has helped us accomplish!



\$2.89 provides
1 meal!

These days, \$2.89 doesn't go far. But at The Midnight Mission, it can provide a whole meal! And like everything we do, each meal is served with respect and with the chance to talk, be heard, and get help.

Every \$2.89 you give can serve up hope in the form of a hearty, nourishing meal. How many meals will you help provide today?



DID YOU KNOW?

The Midnight Mission offers hygiene kits and towels to our homeless neighbors who use our 24/7 restroom and shower service.



Calling All Volunteers!

Summer is a busy season at The Midnight Mission, and we need all the helping hands we can get! Individual volunteers and groups are welcome, and opportunities include meal service, sorting clothes, making food boxes and hygiene kits, and tutoring.

And volunteering is now easier than ever. We now have a live calendar where you can sign up for a single event or make a regular commitment. You'll find the calendar at MidnightMission.org/Volunteer.

Every volunteer opportunity at The Midnight Mission is more than an act of service – it's also a chance to create real, positive change in the lives of our LA neighbors. Your time, compassion, and support help transform lives and bring hope to our community!

To learn more about volunteering, contact Andrew Linares at (213) 624-9258 ext. 1249 or at ALinares@MidnightMission.org.



Hydration Saves Lives!

Please Give Today

You know how important it is to stay hydrated during the summer. But without stable shelter, there's often no relief from the summer heat.

Without a cool place to seek refuge, severe heat can be life-threatening. That's why, with your help, The Midnight Mission provides:

- Water
- Cooling services
- Health referrals
- And more

Please make a gift today to help ensure we can reach those who need help urgently this summer. Thank you!



Make your gift now by scanning the code or donate at MidnightMission.org/Summer.