

## **NATASHA IS SO GRATEFUL** you have given her new life!

*On Page 3... Read how  
Natasha found true healing.*



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## A Message from DR. TERRY MEGLI

### Will You Love Your Neighbor This Summer?

*"Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another."*

*- 1 John 4:11, KJV*

Did you know the Bible tells us to love our neighbor in eight different verses? So clearly the Lord calls each of us to not just love, but to love generously. At City Union Mission, our staff's hearts are filled with love for those who are hurting and lost... and YOU put that love into action with your faithful support.

The summer months can be especially challenging for our neighbors in Kansas City. Those living on the streets face added stress and health risks due to the heat. Parents already struggling to pay the bills have the added burden of childcare costs and more meals to serve.

What's more, the summer months are when we typically see a decline in donations as people are busy with vacations and

other activities... and often forget about our struggling neighbors.

***That's why I hope we can count on you during the Love Your Neighbor campaign!***

I know you won't let these precious men, women and children be forgotten during the summer season. That you'll show them someone cares and there is hope for the future.

Thank you for loving our neighbors with your financial support and for keeping us in your prayers this summer as we minister to the hurting - we need it!

Giving thanks to God,

Dr. Terry Megli  
Chief Executive Officer



## We have a new look!

Our new logo was designed to best communicate what we do here at City Union Mission - instilling hope and conveying our presence of faith at the center of our city.

Many of those who come through our doors have lost hope of ever finding what they seek. Freedom from addiction. Restoration of relationships. Healing counsel. The tools and opportunities needed to become self-reliant. The assurance that God loves them unconditionally.

Since 1924, we've been ministering to their defeated hearts, helping them heal and grow strong in the Lord, equipping them to find and live the life God intended, restoring their hope.

*"Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life." - Proverbs 13:12 NIV*



### Have you considered working at the Mission?

Do you have a heart for serving those in need? Do you feel called to use your time and talents to help change lives? If so, the Mission may be the place for you!

We have a variety of job openings and are looking for compassionate, ministry-minded people like you to join our team. To learn more about the open positions here at the Mission, visit [cityunionmission.org](http://cityunionmission.org), click on About Us and then click on *Job Openings*.

**HOTLINE FOR THE HOMELESS**  
**(816) 474-4599**



**“I found true healing and I’m becoming whole.”**

**N**atasha grew up in a living hell, abused for years, in every way, by her mother’s boyfriends. It left her severely traumatized. “I was so disconnected that I didn’t think I could ever love somebody else.”

When she was 15, Natasha began numbing her pain with drugs, and over the years, her addiction escalated and her heart grew colder. She was dying inside. Then she discovered she was expecting a child, and her heart came back to life. “I loved my daughter so much. I got sober and was a good mom.”

Natasha had been clean for nine years when she ran into money trouble and lost custody. She was heartbroken. “I relapsed because I didn’t have my daughter with me and my life fell apart.”

Eventually, she wound up in jail and it was there that she met Jesus. But she didn’t know how to live as His follower so, after she was released, she entered our New Life Program.

Through chapel services, Bible studies and Christian counseling, Natasha’s roots in the Lord have grown deep, and He’s healed her heart. “Jesus brought things up that I needed to forgive, and the Mission taught me how to process those emotions,” she says. “His love for me melts my heart.”

**“My heart was ice cold, but now there’s love there.”**

A graduate of the program, Natasha is staying here, earning an industrial sewing certificate on a donor-sponsored scholarship and working part-time. She received a car through another generous scholarship, enabling her to keep her busy school and work schedule. Meanwhile, she’s saving money for a home where her daughter can visit. “I want to be an example of what the Lord’s love can do and lead her to Him.”

Natasha is thankful for the kindness and compassion of loving neighbors like you – and how you have given her peace and hope for the future. “I was broken, but the Mission has been living water for my soul and spirit. I’ve found true healing and I’m becoming whole.”



# Bloom in EVERY Season

Are you facing a new season in life? Perhaps you're recently retired, widowed, starting a new career or raising children. No matter your season, you always have at least one of the following three things to offer:

**Time.** As we age, we often have more capacity to volunteer or serve. Do you have time you can give to an organization you care about?

**Talent.** Whether you're in the process of building a career or preparing to retire, you have talents and skills you've developed – designed by God to benefit others. Is this a season where your talents can help bring advancement or attention to a cause you're passionate about?

**Treasure.** Many older adults find themselves less physically equipped to volunteer, but more focused on the legacy they'll leave behind. These individuals carry a deep treasure – a legacy of values they want to pass along to loved ones, or financial gifts for organizations like City Union Mission. Each day more people decide to turn their estate plan into a legacy of love.

Could you be in a unique season of giving?

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "3 Ways to Blossom in Every Season of Life" by contacting Karl Ploeger at 816-329-1475 or [karl.ploeger@cityunionmission.org](mailto:karl.ploeger@cityunionmission.org) – or bless your family today with a God-honoring Will at [christianwill.org/cityunionmission](http://christianwill.org/cityunionmission).



## Help Camp CUMCITO heal a child's heart.

Do you remember those wonderful, carefree summer days when you were a kid? Going to the lake. Playing baseball. Camping with your family. Hot dogs and s'mores cooked over a fire. They're memories you cherish.

But for children from low-income families in urban Kansas City and rural Benton County, summer days are often lonely. Mom and Dad work long hours struggling to pay the rent and utilities. And there's nothing left over for camping or baseball games or trips to the lake. Maybe not even enough for three meals a day.

You can change that! You can give these children a fun and faith-filled summer by sending them to City Union Mission's Camp in the Ozarks (CUMCITO)!

For 87 years, the Lord has been healing and changing children's hearts at this special place. Each July, nearly 500 children spend a week on the camp's 600 acres near Warsaw, Missouri, swimming, hiking, doing crafts and having cookouts.

All the while, they're strengthening their faith in the Lord's unconditional love through chapel services, Bible teaching, drama, music and the compassion of our Christian counselors.

Will you pray about being a part of this life-changing work by helping send a child to camp? To make a donation, give online at <https://cityunionmission.org/campcumcito/> or submit your gift with the enclosed reply card and envelope.

Thank you!

## The Advanced Employment and Education Track Offers Vital Step Toward Success

Natasha, whose story is shared on page 3, is on our Advanced Employment and Education Track, designed to help graduates earn certifications and develop skills needed for higher-paying jobs. When we learned Natasha had sewing experience, we connected her with the Sewing Labs, where she's earning a certificate in industrial sewing on a scholarship sponsored by our generous donors. She's the inaugural participant in the eight-month program, and after completing a five-month internship, will be equipped and ready to step into all that God has for her.

## Your Gifts in Action

THANK YOU!

January - March 2022

  
**208**  
Homeless Sleeping Overnight (daily average)

  
**443**  
Meals Served (daily average)

  
**1,097**  
Patients Seen (for medical issues)

  
**165**  
Chapel Service Attendance (daily average)

  
**38**  
Salvations and Re-dedications