



“i will lift up
my eyes...”
Psalm 121:1

Losing your home is both frightening and depressing. With the recent economic downturn, the stereotype of homelessness has begun to change, but the “label” still carries a sense of hopelessness. It is worse for those who have always been independent and proud of their ability to care for their children. When “Tania” lost her home, she tried her best to explain to her children without going into details that they wouldn’t understand. But how do you explain loss of income to a child? How can you fully make them understand why they have to leave their room and many of their possessions and come to a shelter? Sharing an eleven by fourteen foot room and bathroom with at least one other family is even more difficult when that other family is made up of strangers.

For her children, the lack of personal space and the constant crowd of new people were some of the main difficulties. For Tania, the main difficulties were the loss of independence (having to ask for even the smallest item like soap or tissue) and her children’s tears.

However, in spite of the difficulties, Tania is choosing to look at her time at the Maplewood Center as an opportunity and a blessing. She has expressed gratitude to the staff for their help and compassion for her and her children during this time. The chapel times have helped her to view her situation and circumstances from a new perspective; she has been given a Bible and is learning to look for the meaning behind the words; and she has been utilizing the free counseling available to guests at the shelter. Her children, too, who have had only minimal experience with the things of God, are getting involved with the children’s chapel and taking time on their own to read Bible stories. As Tania says, “I can look at the decisions I’ve made and the choices I’ll make knowing I’m not walking alone. My future nor my past seems unmanageable. I’ve received many blessings in my life and I thank Maplewood and all your staff for making my transition a blessing.”

What a blessing to see lives being changed and to know that we can continue to serve those in need because of your generosity and faithfulness. Thank you for helping us help others. Thank you for being a rescuer!

<i>On This Day In...</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>Totals in July...</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>
Single Women Sheltered	25	44	Nights of Shelter	2,754	4,364
Mothers Sheltered	7	20	Meals	7,779	10,351
Children Sheltered	9	39	Food Boxes	27	33
Men Sheltered	56	62	Personal Needs	78	111



A Message from Mark: "it truly is from God"

"Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; Save me, and I shall be saved, For You are my praise." Jeremiah 17:14.

After a challenging night of 42 homeless children at the Mission's Maplewood Center, Azan (Mission mascot and chocolate labradoodle) and I were on our way home. Everybody was saying "goodbye" and getting their "last pets in" before we had to leave. Tabitha, one of our security personnel, was talking with a guest regarding "forgiveness." The guest, "Bonnie," was inquiring as to what scripture she should share with her daughter in order to encourage reconciliation with a family member. Bonnie briefly explained that she was once a crack cocaine user, and God has delivered her from this destructive lifestyle. She rightly recognizes, "I've done a lot that I am now ashamed of"; however, she smiles and says, "but I'm saved now. I am different...I'm not the same person that I used to be."

It's hard to imagine that a grandmother would be homeless and spending her nights at the City Rescue Mission. Most people simply don't think of grandparents and homelessness. Although, Bonnie doesn't struggle with this or let her current circumstances depress her. She knows that it will take some time to restore family relationships and friendships. It will take some time to get a job and "get on my own." But she also declares unequivocally, "This place is a Godsend! It is truly from God."

After talking with me, she was suddenly a little embarrassed by her emotions and tears, but she successfully expressed her gratitude to God and to all those who make this mission of rescue possible. I hope I was successful in expressing her gratitude to each and every one of you. Bonnie and hundreds of others thank you for being a Rescuer. Thank you for helping us help others.

To God be the Glory,



Executive Director
City Rescue Mission of Lansing



Security Positions Available at Maplewood



We have several part time openings for security staff at our women and children's shelter. Candidates must be detail oriented and able to sit or stand for long periods of time. The job entails surveillance of the security cameras on the property, making periodic rounds of the building, and ensuring the safety of those whom we serve. Overnight shifts are available on weekdays, and day time shifts are available on weekends. If you have the desire to assist in the ministry of rescue, please submit an employment application, available on the "contact us" page of our website: BeARescuer.com, or call 517.485.0145 for more information.

Who, What, When, Where, or Why?

This photo was taken in 1988. Do you recognize this former staff member? Hint: he's now on the board. Check out next month's newsletter or the Mission facebook page to see if your guess was correct.



Featured in August: This "state of the art" rolodex once held the newsletter mailing list.

Who is this?

Go to the Mission's facebook page and check out the Mission History album!



Centennial Tour Schedule for Saturday, September 17, 2011

Call 517.485.0145 or email info@lcrm.org for more information!

Tour Schedule - 10 a.m. to Noon

Tours begins at Michigan Avenue facility.

Park at Brogan's Parking Lot (see map) and enter through 613 E. Michigan Avenue (look to the right of the "Jesus Saves" cross).

10 a.m. first tour available

10:30 a.m. bus leaves for Maplewood Center (buses leave Michigan Avenue every half hour and return to Brogan's Parking Lot from Maplewood after Maplewood Center tour)

* second tour begins at Michigan Ave.

11 a.m. bus leaves Michigan Ave.

* third tour begins at Michigan Ave.

11:30 a.m. bus leaves Michigan Ave.

* fourth tour begins at Michigan Ave.

12 p.m. bus leaves Michigan Ave.

* fifth (and final) tour begins at Michigan Ave.

12:30 p.m. final bus trip from Michigan Ave.

Map Legend

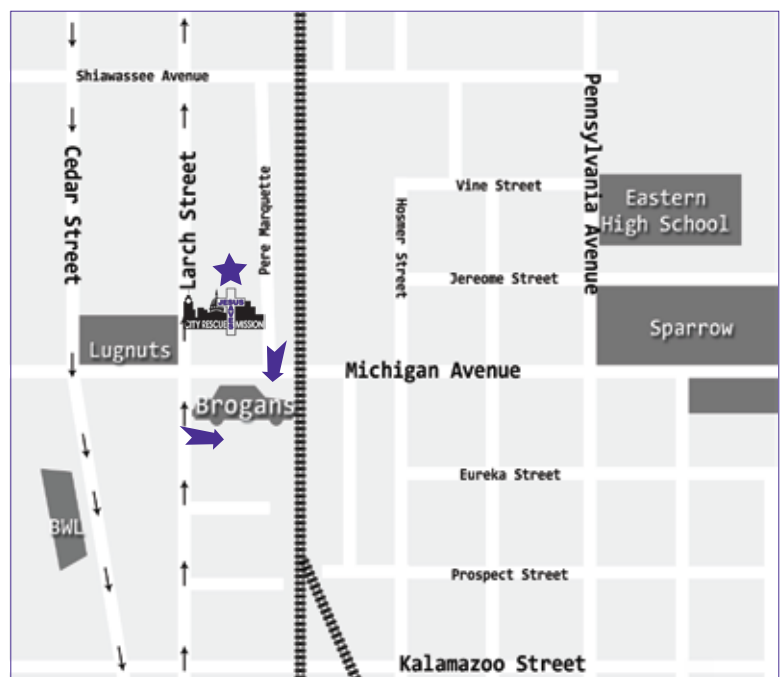
★ 613 E. Michigan Avenue

➔ Entrances to Brogan's Parking Lot

Open House - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Open house available at Michigan Avenue and our Maplewood Center.

Parking available at Brogan's Parking Lot (see map below) and Michigan Works or Walter French. (There is limited parking at both facilities, so please be considerate and use parking indicated above unless a physical need requires you to park at the Mission.)



Gift and Bible Sells Used Books to Support the Mission

Read any good books lately? Gift and Bible is selling quality used books and CDs with the proceeds going to support the ministry of rescue. The books are available at their West Saginaw Store: 5819 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing 48917. Store hours are Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. We are so grateful to Gift and Bible for their generosity and compassion. This is only one of the many ways they have helped the Mission and our community!



Mark and Aaron, from Gift and Bible, at the West Saginaw Store

Golfing for a Good Cause



CRM Staff Accept Donations from IBEW Business Manager and Outing Organizer

We are so grateful to the many groups who chose to support the Mission through their annual charity golf outings. Board of Water & Light and IBEW Local 352 collected monies for the Mission and Pennies for Power; South Church had their annual golf scramble; and Capital Area Women's Lifestyle Magazine has once again chosen to donate the proceeds of the Lady Classic, on September 15, for the Mission's Maplewood Center. (For further information on the Lady Classic visit www.cawlm.com/lady-classic-2011.) These funds will help us continue to provide for those in need.

Housekeeping

Tour of the Mission:

For those interested in a tour of our Michigan Avenue Facility, please call 517.485.0145.

Personal ID Number:

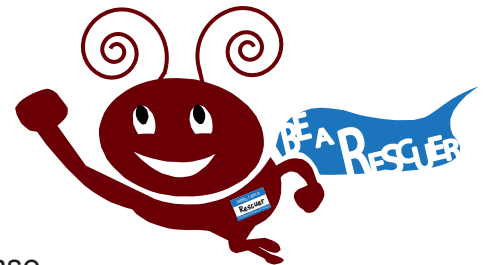
Above your name on your receipt or newsletter envelope is your PID. This number will help if you have a duplicate or have questions regarding a monetary donation to the Mission.

Tax Deduction/Credit:

Gifts given to the City Rescue Mission of Lansing qualify for a tax credit/deduction. By law, we are not allowed to list a dollar amount for non-monetary donations; please keep your store receipts for new items to attach to your copy of the receipt. Monthly giving reports for cash donations are always mailed in the middle of the following month.

Too Many Mailings?

If you are receiving a duplicate mailing, please call 517.485.0145 or email info@lcrm.org.



Mission Needs List

- Canned Vegetables*
- Canned Fruit*
- Drink Mix
- Toilet Paper
- New Women and Men's Underwear and Socks
- Size 3 Diapers
- Women and Children's PJs
- New Pillows
- White Wash Cloths
- Colored Towels, all sizes
- Bibles (NKJV)
- Copy Paper

* #10 cans, if possible