

Don't
miss...



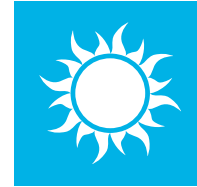
Open Your
Heart

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"I was able
to feed my
children."

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Our
Summer
Six

4

**DEMETRIA'S FAMILY IS
CHANGED FOREVER**
AND THEY WANT
TO THANK *YOU!*

**YOUR SUPPORT
TOUCHES LIVES
WITH NEW HOPE.**





**“WHEN MY KIDS
WERE HUNGRY,
I WAS ABLE TO
FEED THEM.”**

Demetria sat by her son’s hospital bed, holding his hand, watching him breathe, praying he’d regain consciousness. “He got hit by a car and received a traumatic brain injury,” she says. “He was on life support for five days.”

Thankfully, he regained consciousness, but he needed a lot of care to heal from his injury. “I lost him mentally for about a year,” Demetria says.

As if that heartbreak weren’t enough, Demetria and her husband struggled to pay his medical bills

of her family’s need. **“They gave us a turkey for Thanksgiving, coats, clothes and toys, and they encouraged and prayed for me,”** Demetria says.

Her stellar performance as a volunteer made her the obvious choice when a Volunteer Coordinator position opened on our staff. “I love working with people that are going through challenges,” she says. **“And now I’m able to buy more groceries, get necessities for my children, and have money left over.”**

“THE MISSION SHOWED US UNCONDITIONAL LOVE.”

while providing for their other four children. “We were living on my husband’s police pension and were strained financially beyond belief,” Demetria says. “I started coming to the Mission’s Food Pantry and I was so happy because, when my kids were hungry, I was able to feed them.”

When she saw the compassion of our Mission staff, Demetria decided to apply here for a position but she wasn’t hired immediately, so she came on as a volunteer. It was then our staff discovered the severity

Demetria’s son has made a near full recovery from his injuries. “I almost lost him, but his mind is pretty much back,” she says, her eyes filling with tears. “He even came here to volunteer.”

Because you gave from your heart to help Demetria and her family, their lives have been changed by your goodness and God’s love forever! “God blessed us through the Rescue Mission. I’m very thankful and now all I want to do is give back.”

A Message from
WENDY GOETZ

**Open Your Heart...
to Meet Our Summer
Challenge**

These past few months have been unsettling for everyone – and most especially for our neighbors in need. Hunger... homelessness... poverty. These hardships can seem even more daunting in the current environment. In times like these, caring for hundreds of hurting individuals presents a challenge that's greater than ever.

Summer is always hard, but this year we're being stretched to the limit. The meals we serve during June, July and August cost more than \$80,000 alone. On top of that are expenses for crisis-related assistance such as personal hygiene items, change of clothes, towels, sheets, pillowcases, sanitizing products, and more. There's no decline in the need for faith-based recovery and practical guidance that empowers our guests to change their lives.

We need your help to meet our summer challenge!

During this critical time, I pray you'll continue to remember our homeless and struggling neighbors. They need your encouragement, prayers and compassion now more than ever.

Please *open your heart* to ensure we can care for every individual who turns to Rescue Mission of Utica for hope and a new beginning, now and in the months ahead. Your partnership brings

comfort to so many, especially in times like these.



Wendy L. Goetz

Wendy Goetz
Executive Director

**Through the 3 MONTHS of Summer
your gift today helps provide...**



39,972
meals



hundreds
of clothing
items



13,000
nights
of care



life-transforming
decisions for
Christ



countless hours
of counseling &
education

Give Where You Live!
**Our 92-Day Summer
Campaign is underway now.**

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

💻 Give online anytime at **uticamission.org**.

*This time of year, gifts
typically drop off, so
we need your help now
more than ever!*



Open Your Heart

92-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

*Save
The Date*

You are invited to our 130th Anniversary Gala!

What: Great Food, Great Music, a Great Evening
of Giving Thanks!

When: Thursday, October 1, 2020 6:00PM

Where: Delta Hotel at Utica Centre

Visit **uticamission.org** for tickets and more details.



Pledge to Give Monthly at This Critical Time

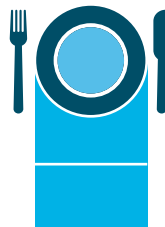
Our **Monthly Miracle Partners** provide the funds we rely on to feed, shelter and care for our most vulnerable neighbors. Their giving is consistent every month... and that's especially crucial when we're facing a crisis like COVID-19.

Giving monthly is the best way to ensure we can meet emergencies head-on today, as well as confront the challenges that will endanger those in need tomorrow.

Please prayerfully consider joining this vital group! Your monthly commitment will secure an ongoing foundation of support for struggling individuals and families who need assistance with daily essentials, as well as tools to rebuild their lives.

SIGN UP NOW!

Visit **uticamission.org** or complete the back of the enclosed reply form.



Your monthly gift of \$30 provides **13** meals and care



Over a year, your \$30 monthly gift brings **156** meals and care

PLEASE HELP WITH OUR SUMMER6



Our "Summer Six" are essential items in high demand for our Mission guests all season long. Please deliver your donations to 293 Genesee Street, seven days a week, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (315) 735-1645, ext. 2115, for guidelines. Those in our care will be deeply grateful for whatever you can share this summer!



1. Bottled water
2. Hand sanitizer
3. Toothpaste/
Toothbrushes
4. Toilet paper
5. Shampoo/
Conditioner (16oz)
6. Shaving (cream/
Razors

