

# homewardbound

DURHAM



MISSION

Mending Shattered Lives Since 1974



**“I still have lots of work to do, but with God’s help and your prayers I know I’m on my way.”**

As a former social worker, I used to give out the answers. Now . . . I am asking the questions.

Before I came to the Mission, I felt hopeless and alone. **Today, God has changed my life completely.**

**M**y name is Millicent. Durham Rescue Mission means so much to me. It provides a sense of hope for someone who felt she was worthless. My depression drove me close to committing suicide several months ago. I thank God He kept me from carrying out that act.

So why am I at the Mission? I lost two jobs. My husband was having an affair, and he gave me just enough money to survive. After he got fired, I left our place and ended up living in a rooming house. All I had was gone. That’s when my brother-in-law said to me, “Millicent, God is missing in your life.” He was right. He found the Mission on the Internet, and one day I walked through these doors.

### **I was suspicious at first . . . but that suspicion didn’t last long**

I was suspicious of all the love at first. I’d been fed enough lines, and I figured this was just another set of vacant promises. How wrong I was. This is the most loving, caring, compassionate place I’ve ever known. I now have a relationship with God. My life is filled with hope . . . and joy. I can’t remember a time in my life when I’ve been this happy. I love our Bible classes, where God is teaching me the right way to live.

I once had a career as a social worker. People used to come to me for answers, which I readily gave them. Now, here I am . . . asking the questions. The good news

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## Testimony of Millicent . . .

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is God is answering my questions. I'm grateful to those here who are willing to listen to me.

I also want to thank you for the food, the clothing, and for the roof over my head. I hope you realize how important you are to this place of hope and healing. I still have lots of work to do, but with God's help *and your prayers* I know I'm on my way.

Your grateful friend,

*Millicent*

## 2013 Stats for January & February

Nights of Lodging . . . 20,632

Meals Served . . . . . 61,896

Clothing Items . . . . . 3,482

Counseling Hours . . . . . 1,523

Vocational Hours . . . . . 10,736



## An Encouraging Word from the Founders Dr. and Mrs. Ernie Mills

Dear Friend of the Durham Rescue Mission,

“**F**or I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in. Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me” (Matthew 25:35-36). These are among the most powerful passages in all of Scripture.

These are the words of Jesus — as fresh and true today as when our Lord uttered them over 2,000 years ago. In reality, Jesus outlined our ministry when He said what we do for others is as if we were doing unto Him, so we continue to provide for the needy who come to the Durham Rescue Mission seeking help.

Jesus loved the poor. He related to them. He walked with them. He listened to them. And when those around him fed the hungry, provided water for the thirsty, took in strangers and visited people in prison, He said . . . “Verily I say unto you, *Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me*” (Matthew 25:40).

### Jesus . . . the rescuer of lost souls

During the summer months, those in need continue to flock to our doors. They are hungry and sick — physically and spiritually. People come to be rescued . . . and the only One who can rescue them for time and eternity is our Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you for standing alongside us month after month and year after year. Today, when you see someone in need, we encourage you to minister to that person in the Name of Jesus . . . because when you reach out to the needy, *you touch the heart of Jesus.*

Thank you for being one who cares,

*Ernie + Gail*

Ernie & Gail Mills, Founders



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## Thank you for making yourself a b

**B**ecause of your compassion, someone at Durham Rescue Mission today is discovering there's a better — and a *new* — way to live. Your kindness and investment continue to reap great physical and spiritual dividends in the lives of those who come to our doors. Your concern helps our Mission guests realize they *do* matter after all . . . and your ongoing support assures our friends you will always be there during their time of need. You bless a person who lives in a state of homelessness with your smile, a pat on the back, a financial donation of any amount or a word of encouragement. Every ounce of your compassion counts . . . because you never know when a single word of kindness helps pull someone back from the edge.

## It doesn't take a lot to help a person . . . *just a small amount of love can change a life.*

**M**y name is Montio. I came to Durham Rescue Mission straight from prison. Prison was the result of a 25-year drug addiction that put me at odds with the law. My habit was a way for me to escape the pain of living. My father was murdered when I was 16. My grandfather died when I was 18 and my mother passed when I was 24. It was all too much for me. So I took what I thought was the easy way out. *In the end, there was nothing easy about it.*

### At first I wanted to leave . . . but God had other plans for my life

When I first came to the Mission, I wasn't sure this was the place for me. I'd watch the cars go up and down the road. More than once, I was tempted to pack up my things and head back out on my own. I wanted my freedom. You know, to go back to doing things my way. I'm grateful God tugged on my sleeve and said, *Stay here and let me live in your life.* I listened to God's voice, and here I am today. I was once a felon. Now I know I'm a child of God . . . and a person of value and worth. God bless the Victory Program

Without your prayers and donations, there would be no Mission. Thank you for helping me to find my way home.

and our teachers. I never realized I had so much to learn about God and His mercy.

In the past, I was on a path of destruction. Today, I'm on a journey filled with hope. Here's what I'm learning: *It doesn't take a lot to help a person . . . just a small amount of love can change a life.* Thank you for all you do to help keep these doors open for people like me. In so many ways, you've helped save my life.

God bless you,

Montio



## The Center for Hope Update

Praise the Lord! On January 30, one year after groundbreaking, we opened our new facility, **Center for Hope**. Just before opening, we had 66 men sleeping on the floors in our old building. The opening came at a perfect time, since the weather was cold, and men were in need of warm shelter.

We were so excited to hold our Dedication and Ribbon Cutting on February 13. It was such an honor to have Governor and Mrs. Pat McCrory and Durham Mayor Bill Bell join us, along with several hundred friends, on this joyous occasion.

The Center for Hope gives us an additional 88 beds for men! In March, of the 88 new beds, we only had four open! The Center for Hope offers a large dining room and commercial kitchen, as well as three dormitories, spacious classroom facilities and much more!

We would love for you to come for a tour and see God's blessings and meet some of our residents. Call us today at **919-688-9641, ext. 5036** to schedule your "insider's tour"!

## Lessing to someone in need today.

### We are grateful beyond words for your support

We're all on our own special journey . . . and when you share your heart and abundance with weary travelers, you breathe new life into their spirits and help give them the courage to carry on. Everyone at Durham Rescue Mission is grateful to you for your many expressions of love. Those who come to us for assistance during troubled times may never meet you, *but they will always remember your acts of kindness.*

To continue to help make a difference in lives young and old, may we encourage you to give yet another generous donation at this time? You may use the remit slip enclosed or give your donation online at [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org). God bless you for being someone who cares — not only during the critical summer months but throughout the year.

**“Those who come to us for assistance during troubled times may never meet you, but they will always remember your acts of kindness.”**

# Annual Back to School Party and Cookout

Thursday, August 15 at Noon

Help at-risk children in the Triangle prepare to start a new school year.

**Donations Needed!** You may share a gift online at our secure website [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org) or use the enclosed envelope.

Call 919-688-9641, ext. 5025 to register to volunteer.

Visit [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org) for more details.

## Volunteers Needed to Help With:

- Setup
- Serving
- Hosting Game Booths
- Cleanup



## Mission Statement of Durham Rescue Mission

“Our mission is to meet, through the power of Jesus Christ, the needs of the whole person — spiritual, educational, emotional, physical, vocational and social — so those who are hurting may become fully functioning members of society.”



## My Summertime Gift

**YES, Ernie and Gail . . .**  
you can rely on my enthusiastic support for the ministry of Durham Rescue Mission.

### Here's my gift of:

- \$20.50 to provide 10 meals and other assistance
- \$30.75 to provide 15 meals and other assistance
- \$61.50 to provide 30 meals and other assistance
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide as many meals and as much care as possible.
- Please bill my credit card:
- VISA  MC  AMEX  DISCOVER

**Durham Rescue Mission**  
P.O. Box 11368  
Durham, North Carolina 27703-0368

ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

► Please mail this completed form with your generous summertime gift, or you may donate on our secure website at [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org). Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.

## Chaplain's Corner Rev. D. Robert Tart, COO

When reading the parable of the talents in Matthew 25, it is easy to see God is separating true believers from false believers. When that separation happens, there will be no defense for the unbeliever; his actions will illustrate his heart. Jesus condemns the unbeliever for being lazy and wicked (Matthew 25:26). The wicked servant had been given resources by God to use for God's glory.



However, the lazy servant did nothing with those resources. What have you done with the resources God has given you; your job; your family; your health? Do you use these resources for God's glory, or do you complain about your job, your wife and children, and lack of health? The answer to such questions may illustrate your relationship to Christ.

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