

CHRIST IN THE CITY

ANNUAL REVIEW
2021-2022



THE CYCLE OF POVERTY **CAN BE BROKEN BY**

THE SIMPLE STRENGTH OF HUMAN CONNECTION

Hidden in the corners of our cities and behind unseen eyes is a poverty of loneliness, which reaches its tragic peak in a demographic that often goes unnoticed... **the homeless.**

We can easily see material poverty, the need for housing, food, and employment. But at the root of this problem runs a deep poverty of loneliness: the need for friendship, support, and human connection.

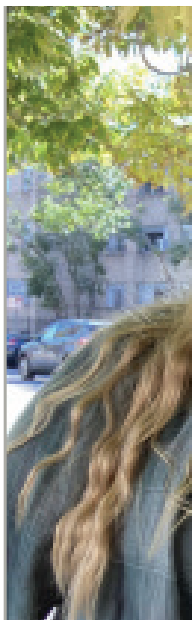
Often without jobs, family, or other social spheres, the homeless are among the most vulnerable to depression and despair. In our midst are the poorest of the poor, not only materially, but socially as well.

But there is hope

The cycle of poverty can be broken by the simple strength of human connection.

Imagine if every city had, not only soup kitchens and shelters, but people who were there just to help the homeless know they have a home in us.

And what is home but a small taste of Christ's infinite love? And what is love but being fully seen, known, and valued?





At Christ in the City,

we seek out the homeless in order to break down that barrier of isolation, which is usually the biggest obstacle between a person on the street and their desire to live a full and fruitful life.

Healing for our homeless friends—and our society at large—doesn't happen without relationship

That's why we form missionaries and communities nationwide to meet the homeless in friendship.



33

MISSIONARIES

750

VOLUNTEERS

25,000+

HOURS OF STREET MINISTRY



MEETING THE HOMELESS WITH *Friendship*

HOW IT WORKS



At Christ in the City, we understand that the root of homelessness is **ruptured relationships**. Therefore, a relational approach for homeless ministry is needed.



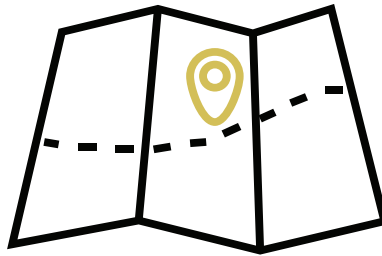
Young adult's volunteer to be **missionaries** for 1-2 years. They live, pray, and serve together and invite the local community to join them in meeting the homeless with friendship.



They attend daily Mass and receive **formation** to deepen their Catholic faith.



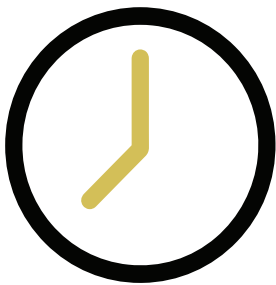
Missionaries walk the same routes in the city **all year long** with no agenda other than to bring the love of Christ and restore the human connection that is so desperately needed.



This catches many of the homeless off-guard at first because they are living in survival mode, constantly alert for potential threats. But in time, **trust is built.**



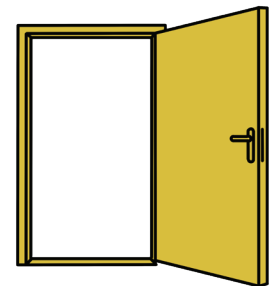
It begins by **asking the person's name** and remembering it next time we see them.



We approach people with **a willingness to listen** and to be ourselves - seeing a person to be loved, not a problem to be "fixed".



It's the **relationship** that opens the door. That human connection is the catalyst for our homeless friends to take advantage of housing, sobriety programs, and job opportunities; To overcome the depression and loneliness that is often so paralyzing.



As our friends recognize that they are worthy of being loved and capable of maintaining relationships, they often begin to reconnect with family, and start a **journey of healing** that changes the course of their lives.



CHRIST IN THE CITY CHANGES HEARTS BY TEACHING US HOW TO GAZE"

I always say that I met Jesus in college, but I fell in love with Him during the time I served at Christ in the City. Walking through the doors on my first day, I had no idea what to expect. I couldn't have possibly imagined to be met with such tenderness, joy, and compassion.

The staff and missionaries **held up a mirror for me to see both my strengths and my weaknesses in a way that was so encouraging and gentle.**

I, of course, encountered Jesus in our friends on the streets. I saw my littleness reflected in their strength. I often saw my disposition to the Lord reflected in their responses to me.



As transformative as these encounters are, I have found it difficult to articulate exactly what the Father did for me during my summer at Christ in the City. During a conversation about your mission with my friend Rachel, who led a FOCUS mission trip to Christ in the City in March, she phrased it well. She said, "I've watched a lot of people gaze at the Lord in adoration. Watching the CIC missionaries gaze at Him was particularly beautiful, because I knew **when they turned away from Him to look at me their gaze didn't change.**"

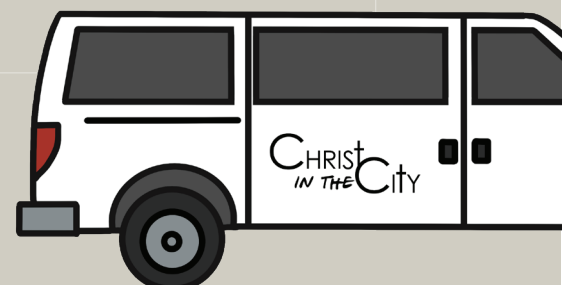
This is how Christ in the City changes hearts, by teaching us how to gaze. First at the Lord, then at each other. **With no distinction between the rich and the poor**, material or otherwise. When you learn to gaze, you also learn how to be gazed at. How to sit humbly in the gaze of another, and of the Lord.

Thank you CIC staff and missionaries for showing me what it looks like to be gazed upon. I hope and pray that the students I will meet at the University of Toledo may also come to know what it is like to be gazed upon.

In Christ,

Maddie Bebbler

Summer of Service Missionary



A LOOK INSIDE
Missionary Life
IN 2021-2022

15

MEN

18

WOMEN

312

HOLY HOURS AND
MASSES AS A
COMMUNITY

360

COMMUNITY DINNERS
PREPARED BY FIVE
MISSIONARY
COOK TEAMS

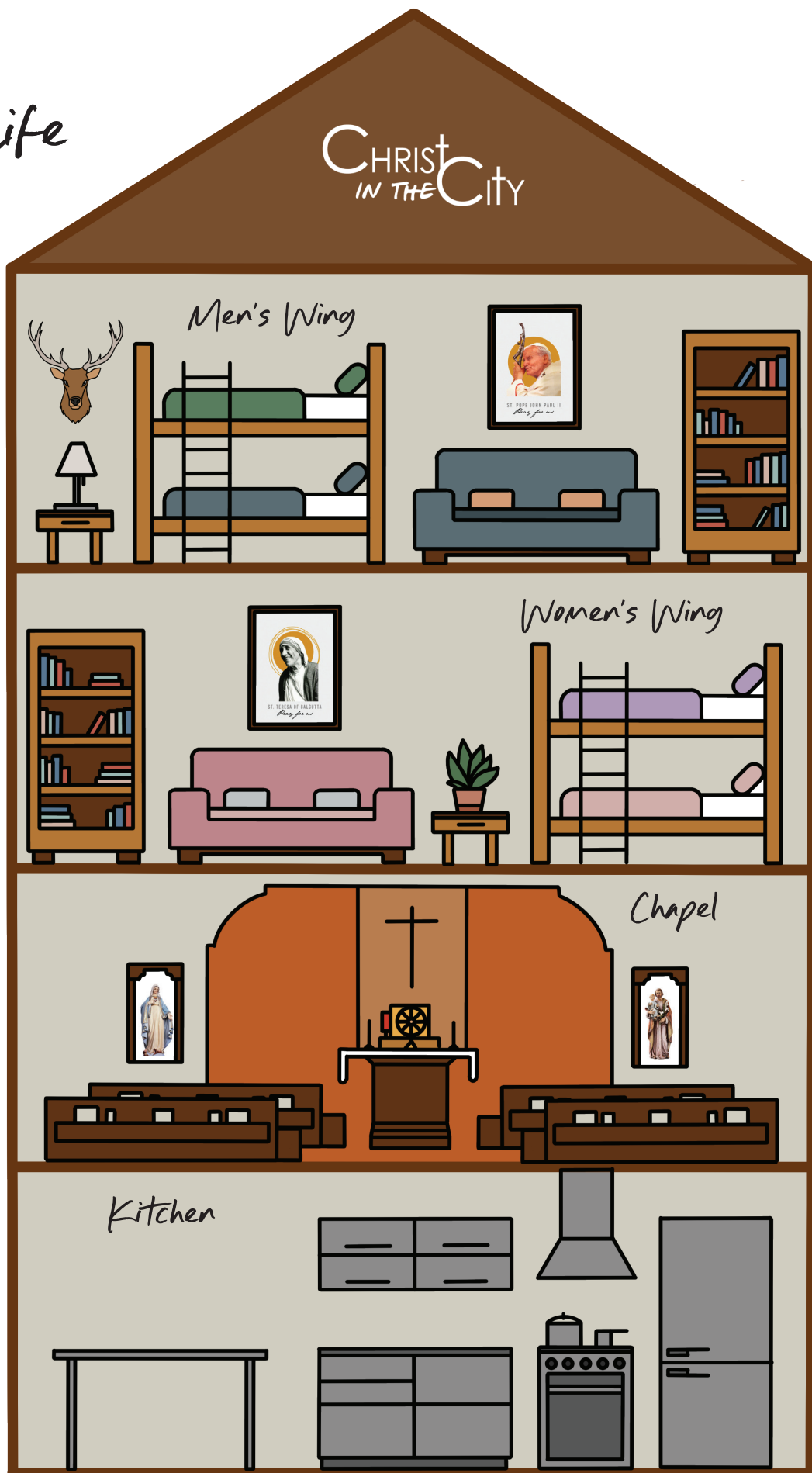
5

SPIRITUAL
FORMATION
RETREATS

25,000

HOURS SPENT MEETING
THE HOMELESS WITH
FRIENDSHIP

CHRIST
IN THE CITY





SUMMER SPOTLIGHT

We led summer mission trips in 7 cities across the country!

Check out our podcast to hear stories from our time with the homeless in each city!



HOMELESS BUT HUMAN
A CHRIST IN THE CITY PODCAST



BOSTON, MA
WATERFORD, IRELAND
DALLAS, TX
DAYTON, OH
LINCOLN, NE
GARY, ID
DENVER, CO

TEAM DALLAS

6 MISSIONARIES LED
28 DALLAS SEMINARIANS
IN A **3-WK** SUMMER MISSION!

On this episode, we discuss:

- How the presence of seminarians wearing clerics made a powerful impact on the homeless we encountered
- Southern hospitality is a thing, even amongst the homeless.
- What you can do even in 30 seconds at a stoplight.





TEAM IRELAND

4 MISSIONARIES

TRAINED **19** IRISH VOLUNTEERS

& WALKED **10** MILES A DAY

MEETING THE LONELY IN THE STREETS

On this episode, we discuss:

- Bringing Christ in the City into the Irish culture
- Ireland's "chat benches"
- Training the Christ in the Street Irish volunteers and how to get involved doing homeless ministry in Ireland!



TEAM BOSTON

5 MISSIONARIES LED

4 TEAMS OF VOLUNTEERS TO

SERVE THE HOMELESS IN BOSTON

On this episode, we discuss:

- Can a three week mission trip in a new city actually make a difference?
- How the Sacred Heart stopped a man in his tracks.
- An unexpected encounter at a Red Sox game.
- The Encounter ministry in Boston is spreading like wildfire- led by two former Christ in the City missionaries!



6

YEARS SINCE OUR
FIRST SUMMER
MISSION TO
PHILADELPHIA

11

MONTHS PLANNING
WITH THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
PHILADELPHIA TO OPEN A NEW
CHRIST IN THE CITY
LOCATION

1

REPURPOSED CONVENT
TO HOUSE MISSIONARIES
FOR 2022-2023!



WE'RE GROWING! CHRIST IN THE CITY OPENS HOUSE IN *Philadelphia!*

The past year has been an exciting time of preparing Christ in the City to expand beyond Denver. We launched a program to grow and train our formation team to bring Christ in the City to new cities! Beginning in August, we now have full-time missionary teams in **both Denver AND Philadelphia!**

Six years ago, Christ in the City was welcomed by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to lead a Summer of Service mission trip. Since then, unforeseen to us at the time, the Lord has been preparing this partnership.

Special thanks to Archbishop Nelson J. Perez and his staff for the invitation and for helping turn this expansion into a reality. With the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, we visited multiple locations and through God's providence, we were connected to a perfect property for our missionaries. The Christ in the City missionary house, a renovated former convent, has a beautiful chapel, plenty of rooms, and office space!

We're so excited and thankful to the Holy Spirit for His grace which allowed us to come to this point. We are also incredibly indebted to all those who have built and contributed to bringing Christ in the City from an idea to the program it is today.

Your support has made this possible! We are so grateful for your prayers and generosity. We couldn't do this without you! You are helping us to reach even more homeless friends in 2023 across multiple cities and giving us a foundation to bring this mission wherever the Lord invites us.



2021 - 2022 FINANCIALS

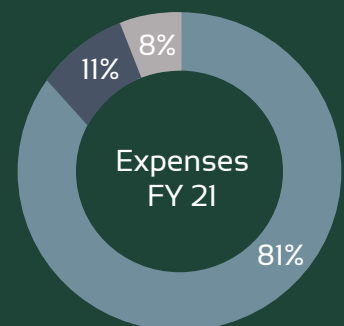
INCOME:
\$1,838,987

EXPENSES:
\$1,755,957

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING CHRIST IN THE CITY
STAY STRONG AMIDST COVID-19!**

Financials include in-kind donations.

For more in-depth information on our finances, visit: www.christinthecity.org/annualreview2021



- Ministry
- Fundraising
- Administrative



For more stories from our ministry
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CHRIST IN THE CITY PODCAST
HOMELESS BUT HUMAN



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HEAR FROM THE HOMELESS



SIMPLICITY CHECK CHALLENGES



MEET THE MISSIONARIES