

**HOPE IN EVERY CORNER:** 

Union Gospel Mission 2024-2025 Annual Report



# A Letter from Executive Director Katie Hagglund

As I reflect on this past year, I am struck by two truths: the deep challenges that weigh on our neighbors, and the remarkable resilience and generosity of our community.

Homelessness in St. Louis County has increased 41% over the past decade, with chronic homelessness rising 157%—a direct result of the severe housing shortage in our region. Yet even in this difficult landscape, we have seen hope take root through small wins that matter: guests choosing treatment, children receiving their first beds, and thousands more meals served to neighbors who might otherwise go hungry.

The Mission has expanded its services significantly this year, ensuring that more people are fed, clothed, and cared for than ever before. At the same time, we've made meaningful progress toward our relocation and expansion project: the new Mission Engagement Center and Mission Heights Housing, will be located directly across from the St. Louis County Government Services Center. The Engagement Center will provide far more than food and shelter—it will offer onsite medical care, outdoor space, showers, laundry, job training services, peer support, and more. Above it, Mission Heights Housing will create 40 units of permanent supportive housing, offering dignity and stability for those most in need.





Every meal, every bed, every step forward is made possible because of you. Thank you for standing with us through a year of growth, challenge, and hope. Together, we are building a stronger, more compassionate Northland.

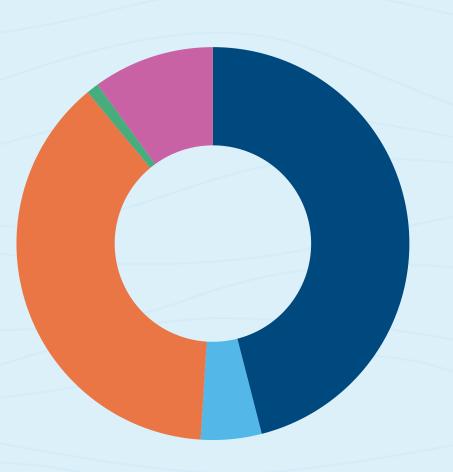
With gratitude and determination,

Katie Hagglund
Executive Director





Contributions	46.2%
In-Kind	37.7%
Grants	10.3%
Program Income	4.8%
Other	1.0%



### Impact and Outcomes:

The Mission Delivered

4,130

summer food bags to children in the Northland. The Mission Provided

### 27 People

with housing within Mission Heights, giving them rooms and beds. The Mission Served

99,219

nutritious meals and

27,843

breakfast bowls.

The Mission Saved

\$396,336

by rescuing over 201,186 pounds of food from local stores. 795 Volunteers gave

### **6,281 Hours**

of service to
Union Gospel Mission
and its guests.

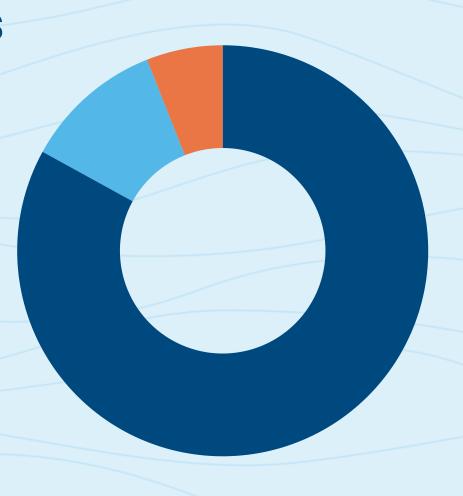
The Mission Provided

### **191 Kids**

with holiday presents that were collected and distributed by UGM.



<b>Program Services</b>	82.7%
Administrative	5.8%
Fundraising	11.5%



## Leave a Legacy of Hope

Every day at Union Gospel Mission—from a child's first warm meal, to a neighbor finding safe shelter—we see how one compassionate act can change the course of a life. By including UGM in your estate plans, you become part of our Legacy of Hope Circle—a community of caring individuals who ensure that food, dignity, and stability will be available not only today, but for generations to come.



#### Simple Ways to Create a Legacy:

- Will or Trust Add UGM as a beneficiary.
- Retirement Accounts Name UGM as a beneficiary on your IRA or 401(k).
- Life Insurance Designate UGM as a beneficiary.
- Gift Annuities/Trusts Provide long-term support for UGM while receiving income.

For more information, or to let us know if you've already included UGM in your plans, please contact us at (218) 722-1196. Together, we can keep hope alive.

#### **Adriane's Journey:**

# Finding Hope at The Mission

My name is Adriane, and I first came to the Union Gospel Mission during one of the hardest times of my life. I was homeless and struggling with addiction, unsure where to turn. From the moment I walked in, I was met with kindness and understanding. The staff welcomed me, gave me clothes, hygiene products, and meals three times a day Monday through Thursday, and two on Fridays. They helped me with bus passes and other essential resources. They treated me with respect and dignity when I felt invisible in the world.



When I decided to get sober, the Mission didn't just support me they believed in me. They gave me the opportunity to complete my community service hours, worked around my schedule, and guided me every step of the way. Over time, I've built friendships and trust with the staff, and their pride in my progress has given me hope I didn't think was possible. The Union Gospel Mission is more than a place to get by, it's a place where lives are changed, where people are lifted up, and where hope becomes reality. I am living proof that their work makes a difference, and I know that with their support, anything is possible. Please consider supporting this incredible mission – they truly change lives every single day.

#### 2024-2025 Mission Team

Rochelle Archambeau, Food Service Coordinator Rick Egge, Outreach Coordinator Katie Hagglund, Executive Director Jana Picotte, Development Coordinator Corrin Thell, Operations Coordinator

#### 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Karen Alseth, Board Chair
Anthony Bye, Board Treasurer
Mark Christopherson
Dave Drozdowski
Paula Leland Garnett, Board Vice Chair

Josh Goodwater, Board Secretary
Brian Hedin
Kelley Johnson
Larry Peterson
Katherine Proveaux

# In Memory of:

Richard Colin
Tom & Kathleen Dahlberg
Richard Fournier
Harry Gehring
Bonnie Gibson
Mildred "Millie" Hiti
Randy Hiti
Kevin Hoene
Melissa & Mark Hortman
Mona Johnson-Cheslak

Dexter A. Larsen Elias LeGarde Don and Edna Leslie Steve Lucia Marq Jerrold M. Peterson Harriet Reno Tom Stone Bryan Sunnafrank Ronald H. Tucker Mark Vukelich John Paul Zavodnick



# In Honor of:

Amanda Bauer
John and Erin Kalkbrenner
Bria Langdon-Larson
Barb and Karl Lindgren
Tom May
George and Dan Miller
The Simonsens
Jason Skorich
Mike Smith
Kay and Bob Stevens
Thomas Alan Steward



### **Supporter Highlight:**



#### AN ALLETE COMPANY

Partnerships with our local business community are essential to the ability of UGM to show up for our guests. And, this year, through volunteerism, rebates, and financial support, Minnesota Power has shown up for the Mission in a tremendous way.

"Union Gospel Mission is a beacon of hope and compassion, tirelessly serving our community through essential food programs and heartfelt outreach. Their unwavering dedication to uplifting those in need inspires us at the Minnesota Power Foundation to stand alongside them in support. Through volunteering at meal services and special events, we're honored to contribute to the Mission's transformative work." - Kate Van Daele, Community & Local Government Affairs Manager

Thank you, Minnesota Power, for lighting the way toward positive change and hope for our Northland neighbors in need!



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