

**GOSPEL CENTER
RESCUE MISSION**
restoring lives since 1940

THE VISION

JULY 2022

“Hail and Farewell”



It is always hard to say goodbye, especially when a person comes into our community, hitting the ground running, making a significant difference in the lives of the homeless and addicted. For the past six years, the Gospel Center Rescue Mission has been blessed by God under the leadership of CEO Wayne Richardson. Admired by the community, as well as staff and volunteers, he has left a legacy of growth, high-standards and quality in each and every project.

During his time at GCRM, Wayne organized and led a \$53 million campus renovation capital campaign. Projects have included; the renovation of the William R. 'Bill' Brown Building, the New Hope Family Shelter, the Recuperative Care Center (which also served San Joaquin County as the COVID House for the homeless throughout 2020 and 2021), the kitchen and dining room renovation, and The Mission Kids playground, to name a few. He raised the quality and importance of the New Life Program Graduations and

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The Blessings of Grace

Happy July My Friends,

Because of God’s powerful grace, and the incredible team leaders at the Gospel Center Rescue Mission, we serve the homeless and addicted people in San Joaquin County. I am thankful and humbled to be working with such a great group of people. In addition to providing faith-based programs, celebrating graduations, and our involvement in the community, we seek out opportunities to bring guests to the Mission to share stories of God’s love and forgiveness with our students.

We were blessed with this opportunity when Dave Dravecky, former pitcher for the San Francisco Giants, was keynote speaker at the 31st Annual San Joaquin Leadership Prayer Breakfast. Following the breakfast, I asked Dave if he would be willing to share his story with the students on our campus. Without hesitation he said, “Let’s go.” His interaction with our students was beautiful to watch as he told his story, sharing how God’s grace is always more than we could ever imagine, especially in difficult times. He told his comeback story of pitching for the Giants against Montreal when his arm snapped due to his cancer returning. He was laying on the ground at the pitcher’s mound and he knew that even

though his situation had immediately changed, it did not change who God is and how much God loved him. In an interview following that game a reporter asked, “Where is your God now, Dravecky?” Dave responded, “He is right here with me. He never left me. My uniform does not define me, baseball does not define me, nor does any situation. Only God defines who I am and who I am becoming.” The students responded with joy and applause. As the students walked out, I observed them holding their heads higher and walking a little taller.

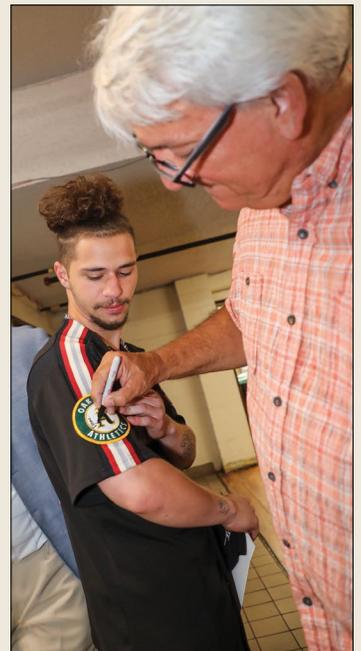
I am thankful to our team members for continually pouring encouragement into each of our students’ lives, as well as all of you, who volunteer, provide financial support, and pray for our team and our students.

As I begin this new journey at The Mission, I am thankful to Wayne and Carol Richardson for all you have done to grow The Mission, and their help during this transition. You two are amazing!

God bless you all,

David Midura

David Midura



made sure the community was aware of each and every celebration held at The Mission. Wayne was the go-to guy during COVID when the media was looking for stories on sheltering the homeless. He also led many workshops at no charge for other non-profit organizations, teaching skills on senior leadership fundraising training. Well-respected as a highly motivated fundraiser and a person who can dream, implement and complete major projects, Wayne has left an indelible mark not only on GCRM, but the entire community.

He will leave at the end of June to lead the fundraising efforts at South Florida Bible College and Theological Seminary (SFBC) in Deerfield Beach, Florida. There, he will be expanding their fundraising to keep pace with the ministry's fast growth. He will also be working towards a life goal of receiving his master's degree, and doctorate degree at SFBC. Wayne will be joined by his wife, Carol, who has been active in development at GCRM as well. Faithful servants of Christ, Wayne and Carol will be greatly missed.

David Midura, GCRM boardmember and volunteer, began as new CEO on May 31. David will be leading GCRM at a time when development and building projects are at the ready to continue fundraising efforts and construction plans. David has worked in real estate development with a focus on apartment communities, as well as overseeing the management

and upkeep of portfolios. "I am excited to continue the successful work that was put in place by Wayne Richardson. There has been so much growth and accomplishment over the past six years under his watch, and I am honored to keep the plans moving forward," states Midura.

A man of faith who loves Jesus Christ, Dave is actively involved in the Leadership Prayer Breakfast. He has been involved in GCRM for more than twenty years, serving first as a volunteer, and eventually as a member of the Board of Directors. In the community, he held a position as Trustee of the Stockton Unified School District Board of Education, and Chairman of the Rotary Club of Stockton endowment. He and his wife Kerry reside in Stockton and have a blended family of five adult children and two grandchildren.

GCRM HAPPENINGS



Soil Samples for New Project

Crews drilling 30' into the GCRM's parking lot for soil samples as part of the covered parking solar structure building permit. Once the permit is finalized in fall of 2022, construction will begin soon after. This is one of the twenty funded projects for 2022.

SAVE *the* DATE

Upcoming Graduation Schedule

Sunday, July 10

First Baptist Church of Stockton

Keynote Speaker

Michael Blower

City of Stockton Councilmember Elect District 3

Sunday, September 11

GCRM Campus

Keynote Speaker

Dianna Clay, 2022 Distinguished Graduate

November 13

Lincoln Presbyterian Church

Keynote Speaker

Bill Conley, GCRM Past President and Boardmember

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Come Visit Us This Summer!

GRADUATION



May 2022 New Life Program Graduates with Britton Kimball, COO GCRM and keynote speaker Dr. Mary Drabik, President, South Florida Bible College & Theological Seminary.

IN THE COMMUNITY



In the name of Jesus, New Life Program students were baptized at First Baptist Church of Stockton. Pictured l to r: Pastor Derek Metro, Carrie Williams, Amanda Sampson, Josclynn Billingsly, Katherine Dickerson, Michaela Mascarenas and Wayne Richardson.

Fundraising nonprofit start-up training was conducted by GCRM on Saturday, April 30. Ten area nonprofits were represented by 26 attendees whose roles were board members, CEOs and senior fundraising staff. The seminar was hosted by The Well – an amazing new nonprofit coffee shop and multi-enterprise center in the heart of Stockton. Training nonprofits is one of GCRM's seven Core Programs.