

**MORE
THAN**
a shelter.

RAISING UP

THE GOOD NEWS OF HELPING UP MISSION

This Program Saved My Life

When Luis, aged 39 (pictured left), was born, his father was celebrating two years of his own recovery. Growing up during his father's sobriety story made him never want to go near drugs. "I started drinking because I wanted to be a man," recalls Luis. "I drank so much, by the time I was 16 I couldn't stay awake, and that is when my cousin gave me my first bit of cocaine. I woke up!"

"I worked hard my whole life, and after every paycheck I'd give money to my mom. With every raise, I gave her more—until one day her amount stopped changing, but my spending on drugs kept growing."

"I came to Helping Up Mission (HUM) in the throes of a 20-year addiction to alcohol and cocaine. I could not stop. I prayed, Please God, I don't want to do this anymore, why can't I stop?" His life had spiraled out of control. "I lost my house, my license, my car, my wife, and my beautiful daughter to addiction."

"The first time I walked into HUM, there was a broken-down building across the street. My plan was to make

continued on page 2 →

2

Daniel Stoltzfus'
monthly update

3

• Focus on Recovery
• 140th Celebration

4

• Where are
They Now: Scott C.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

it through the 45-day blackout period of limited communication and a no-leave policy, get some drugs, climb the fence of the building across the street, use, and then sneak back into the building. But something changed—I started seeing God.”

During HUM’s 140th celebration, Luis stepped on the former site of that broken-down building to sing with the HUM choir. “Sitting in the park on that beautiful day made me realize that God has a better plan for me.”

“You can be an instrument for God, showing them how through this program He saves lives.”

Part of that plan is being an active member of HUM’s mobile street outreach team that goes out in Baltimore City to provide hope to men and women suffering from addiction, poverty, and homelessness. “Even though my father was sober when I was born, he passed away during my active addiction. Today, every day that I go on outreach, I am praying that I will bring somebody back to HUM. You can be an instrument for God, showing them how through this program He saves lives. So, every day, I get the chance to save a life. These interactions also give me a chance to talk to my dad in heaven. The spirit of my father joins me on this journey, and I know he is proud.”

“I love this place! This program saved my life. I want to continue to grow toward God in my new goal of life-long sobriety, and I am thankful for all the donors that make that possible. Grateful for his second chance, Luis is dedicated to building a life of sobriety, giving back to his community, and honoring the legacy of his father’s recovery.”



Hope Restored. Lives Rebuilt.

Daniel’s Monthly Update

Dear HUM Family,

Across the street from Helping Up Mission (HUM) men’s recovery campus stood the crumbling façade of a once historic building that housed the Hendler Creamery. Sadly, for nearly seven years that site sat empty and became a public safety hazard and place where active use occurred. Now this year, thanks to generous supporters of HUM, the site is being transformed into HUM Recovery Park.

This HUM Recovery Park is a metaphor for the transformation that occurs in so many of those we serve in our Spiritual Recovery Program. Like Luis, they come in broken down much like the disrepair once found across from HUM. And now... we see progress, hope, and change. The site where he planned to go to use became the very ground where Luis joined our choir to celebrate our HUM 140th Anniversary at the end of September.

Thanks so much for standing with HUM to literally save lives by bringing those we serve from active addiction into recovery! We are truly thankful for you.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Daniel Stoltzfus". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

K. Daniel Stoltzfus, CEO
Helping Up Mission

**⁴ Then I called on the name of the Lord:
“Please, Lord, save me!”**

**⁵ How kind the Lord is! How good he is!
So merciful, this God of ours!**

**⁶ The Lord protects those of childlike faith;
I was facing death, and he saved me.**

**⁷ Let my soul be at rest again,
or the Lord has been good to me.**

**⁸ He has saved me from death, my eyes from
tears, my feet from stumbling.**

Psalms 116:4-8

Focus on Recovery

Pete Griffin – Director of Outreach and Intake

Luis and I went out one afternoon to check on folks around the light rail. The first time we walked through, nobody came back to the bus, but Luis always says, “If we can bring one person back, it’s worth it.” So, we went again. Down by the vacant houses, we found a group getting high, and that’s when we met Devonte H. He looked at us and said, “I’m tired of doing what I’m doing.” Right then, we knew God was moving. We brought him back that same day, and by Friday he entered detox. To see someone choose life like that is a reminder not to give up. Sometimes you have to circle back because the miracle’s waiting on the second walk through.



140th Celebration

We extend our deepest gratitude to the community partners, donors, volunteers, and friends who gathered with us to commemorate a significant milestone: 140 years of service dedicated to restoring hope and rebuilding lives in Baltimore. Your unwavering commitment ensures our vital work continues for generations to come.





Mindful Giving

Family, we've made it easier than ever to meet urgent needs at Helping Up Mission. Our new partnership with **Mindful Giving** streamlines the process, allowing you to view real-time requests and give directly where help is needed most. Together, we can quickly provide essentials and hope to the men, women, and children we serve.

To Donate Urgent Needs
[helpingupmission.org/mindfulgiving.org](https://helpingupmission.org/mindfulgiving)



Where Are They Now: Scott C.

2023 HUM graduate Scott C. is currently the University of Maryland Medical Center's Operations Manager, but his journey started in the hospital's volunteer-to-hire PROHS program. "I just liked helping patients," he said. "There was this lady— 'Scott, can you get me some hard candy? If you can have it, I will get you some—a bag of Jolly Ranchers.' 'Don't eat all of these at one time,' I said. She was so happy. The next day she passed, still holding on to the bag."



Word spread quickly, and Scott began getting interviews. He was soon hired as an EVS Manager. "I needed good people," he said, "and I knew where there was a bunch of them who were looking for honest work—HUM! Twelve men from HUM now work there. I love giving back and seeing our guys succeed."

Happy Thanksgiving

Thank you for helping men, women and children in our care find hope and support this holiday season.

 **Helping Up Mission**
Hope Restored. Lives Rebuilt.

140
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helpingupmission.org

Our Mission

To transform the lives of and restore hope to those suffering from addiction and poverty by harnessing the power of faith, science and community.

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