

Word on the Street

Volume I, Issue V, November 2005 Here's Life Inner City in New York City Matt and Anna Shenk

Thanksgiving in the City



It's hard to believe Thanksgiving is just around the corner! At Here's Life Inner City, Thanksgiving is time for "Boxes of Love," a busy season when we help inner-city churches provide **23,000 boxes of holiday food** plus materials that share the love of Christ to those in need. This year, over **138,000 people** will dine on turkey, stuffing, vegetables, fruit and dessert that they would not have had without the help of generous Here's Life donors. In the spirit of the season, we thought we would share just one of the ways God has blessed this ministry in New York:

While delivering Boxes of Love in Brooklyn, Debbe, who is the director of the Salt & Sea Mission (a Here's Life partner ministry), found a young Hispanic boy digging through garbage cans. It was a daily routine for 10-year-old Martin in the run-down, crime-infested neighborhood. Rain, snow or shine, he scavenged for bottles to redeem the five-cent deposit. The money helped provide food for his mom and baby sister.

When Debbe walked up to him and offered him a box of food, Martin was astounded. Because the box was too big for him to carry, she gave him a ride to his apartment. There, relatives kept pouring out of crowded rooms in the small apartment. So Debbe left two Boxes of Love to feed them all. She told them that the food was from Jesus and invited them to the Mission's Thanksgiving service. Martin, his cousin, and grandparents attended, and they all received Christ as their Savior!

While Matt and I are unable to join the New York team in this year's Box of Love outreach since we are raising our financial support, we are certainly praying that God would bless this initiative and that it would bear great fruit. We invite you to be praying for this outreach as well.

Prayer

- Please join us in praying for the new after-school program for teenagers at our church, Greater Restoration. While the church has run programs for elementary age youth for many years, please pray for the leaders – Jared, Beth and MK – as they figure out how to care for teens that have different struggles and needs than the younger youth.
- Please pray for us, that we would seek each day to surrender our lives to the Lord and to seek His face.
- Please pray that God would raise up partners who would introduce us to their friends through referrals and by hosting dinner parties or desserts where we can share about our ministry.

In closing, we thought we would enclose with this edition of "Word on the Street," a copy of the quarterly national report of Here's Life. In reading this issue, we were so encouraged by all that Here's Life is doing throughout the country. Hopefully, it will help you catch a vision of all that God is doing through this ministry and why we're so excited to raise our support and get into the mission field. Thanks for your support!

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