



Lutheran
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of
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MEDIA RELEASE

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FAITH MISSION USES COLUMBUS FOUNDATION GRANT TO LOWER UTILITY COSTS

COLUMBUS, Ohio— In time for this winter’s cold, Faith Mission has completed renovations to the second floor sleeping area at the men’s homeless shelter on Sixth Street. Thanks to a \$45,000 grant from The Columbus Foundation, Faith Mission was able to replace the old, single-pane windows as well as the unreliable and costly heating and cooling system that served the shelter’s second floor.

These renovations will lower Faith Mission’s long-term utility costs, allowing more public support to go toward basic services that help individuals to solve the issues that led to their homelessness. The Columbus Foundation’s capital investment advances the multi-year renovation plan for the Sixth Street men’s shelter, which has already replaced the roof and completed renovations to the third floor sleeping area. The Sixth Street facility is one of Faith Mission’s three homeless shelters serving single adult men and women in Franklin County.

“With temperatures fluctuating, it can be difficult to properly heat and cool a shelter that houses up to 165 men,” said Executive Director Sue Villilo. “This grant has allowed us to update our system and make our sleeping areas as comfortable as we can for our clients, especially now as they seek refuge from the impending cold.”

The Columbus Foundation donor funds that specifically supported this grant were provided by Noverre Musson, Mr. and Mrs. Derrol R. Johnson, Rebecca J. Wickersham and Blanca Hambleton Van Buskirk.

Faith Mission, a member of the Lutheran Social Service family, has been serving the homeless community since 1966, offering a safe environment for homeless men and women on an emergency walk-in basis. The agency, as a partner of the Community Shelter Board, provides shelter, food and clothing, while helping individuals with access to longer term solutions such as housing, employment assistance, medical, dental and vision care and counseling.