

Relief Ministries Heads to NYC for Thanksgiving Outreach

Once again Mercy Chefs and our Relief Ministries team are heading to New York City to help feed and minister to the needy. Being the largest populated city in the US, there are many people who need help. There are many organizations and churches who are already helping, but even they can't reach everyone.

We have been asked to come to NYC by The Bowery Mission, one of the oldest, largest and most respected missions in NYC. They not only feed and house people, but they have an intense discipleship program that takes less fortunate people and with God's help turn them into productive members of society and many also become actively involved in serving God and others.

We worked with the Bowery and Mercy Chefs in May of this year and fed over 2000 meals in a few days. Next week we will do a feeding outreach on Monday, 4 on Thanksgiving day and another one on Friday. We are looking at remotely serving 3500 meals. This is on top of what the Bowery will normally do, which is about 3500 over and above their daily servings.

There will be 3 chefs from Mercy Chefs joining myself and my family along with 4 others from our church. We will also be joined by Paul and Mandy Yoder, who attend our church, but have spent a lot of time over the past year serving at The Bowery, which is how we were introduced to mission. A few other people from FL will join in at some point as well as some from the area who are related to some of us from FL.

We will be coming alongside of the Bowery staff and volunteers as we will double their food output. We'll be using two Mercy Chefs commercial kitchens. One is fully equipped and has been used in disaster response as well as the first NYC/Bowery outreaches and the second is brand new and though only partially completed, will enable us to have more prep space and serve food for two of our outreaches.

God has moved in many ways to set up the work that He is going to be doing next week in NYC, but we have faced many oppositions as well. Please keep us in your prayers, our first crew is driving from FL to NYC and they are leaving tomorrow morning, Thursday at 4 AM! My family follows via plane to Virginia Beach, where we pick up the second truck and trailer and join the crew driving from FL. Saturday we drive into NYC together where we pick up the last of our crew who is flying in to NYC and head to the Bowery. The Mercy Chefs 1st chef joins us on Sunday, the second one on Tuesday and Gary should arrive by Wednesday in time to help for the big push and outreaches!

I've added some pictures below from the outreach in May if you want to see some of what we did!

If you are interested in donating to our ministry to help offset the cost of this trip and materials needed, we have set up an online giving section of our web page,

<http://calvarychapelsarasota.com/306287.ihtml>, or you can contact us directly. All donations are tax deductible.

Thanks for all your prayers and support.