

street smart



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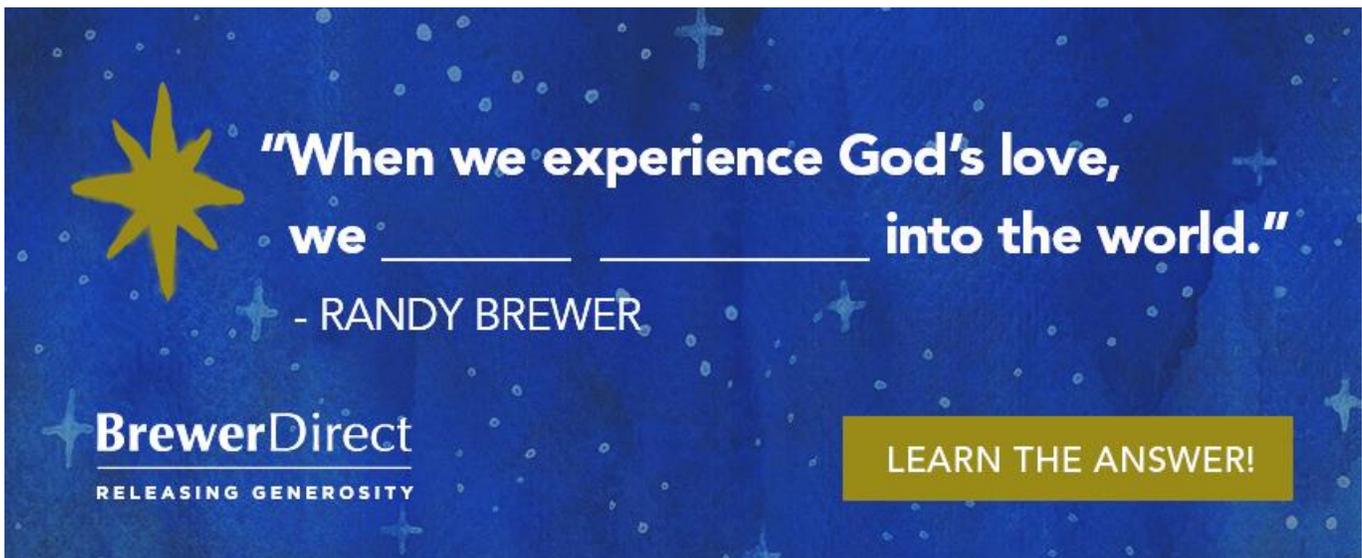
Useful news and information for members

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we _____ into the world."
- RANDY BREWER.**

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Tomorrow is GivingTuesday

Most of you are probably familiar with this mega movement to inspire global generosity, started in 2012. While the thrust is to get people to give on this one day, it encourages generosity and involvement all year long. Is your organization on their list of charities? Go to [GivingTuesday's website](#) to check and to learn more about how you can engage with this movement for even greater exposure.

RELATED NEWS: Representative Mark Walker (R-NC-6) plans to reintroduce the Universal Charitable Giving Act (UCGA) on the floor of the House on GivingTuesday. If the bill becomes law, it would create a charitable deduction to provide non-itemizers the same sort of benefits and incentives for their donations as the current tax code now provides to itemizers. This is vitally important to all organizations that are funded by donations. To help move this forward, please consider having your organization send a brief letter to Rep. Walker in support of the UCGA. You can use this [letter from Brian Walsh](#) for background information and basic directions.

Oregon Member First to Register for 2020 Conference

On November 15th we opened our early-bird registration for the next Citygate Network Annual Conference and Exposition in San Antonio. Eugene Rescue Mission (Eugene, Washington)—who joined Citygate Network earlier this year—didn't waste any time in completing their registration; their forms hit our server first! Now it's your turn. Sign up ASAP for 2020's biggest event of the year while the prices are still at their lowest level. [Click here](#) for all the details and the registration page. After December 18, 2019, the price goes up.

Jo Saxton Added to San Antonio Program

Speaking of our Annual Conference and Exposition, we're thrilled to round out our already-strong lineup of platform guests with nationally acclaimed author and speaker Jo Saxton. Jo was a big hit at the 2019 Global Leadership Summit, and her books and podcast continue to earn rave reviews from leaders and Christ-followers around the world. She will be presenting a 90-minute workshop and keynoting at the last general session on Saturday, May 30, so you certainly won't want to leave early. Another huge reason to hang around through Saturday is that we will be having a District Splash at Sea World.

Buckeye State to Host Board Performance Acceleration Program in February 2020

Our highly regarded Ripple Effect program for board members is scheduled to take place in Columbus, Ohio, on February 20–21, 2020. We already have six member organizations committed. CEOs: Mark your calendar, talk about this with your executive committee, decide which board

members should accompany you, and then register online [right here](#). For more information or to discuss the curriculum in depth, call Program Director Ed Morgan at 917-576-6604.

Changes Coming for District Gatherings in 2020

Following a thorough analysis of Citygate Network District Conferences over the last six years, the staff and board have initiated some changes that will go into effect next year. The four districts that are not hampered by exceptionally long distances between populated areas and/or have routinely had high attendance and consistency in program planning/execution will continue to hold district conferences as usual. Those districts are Bluegrass, Evergreen, Great Lakes, and Liberty. For the Deep South, Heartland, Rawhide, and Sierra districts, we will be offering Regional Huddles—one-day gatherings in a number of locations for members within three- or four-hours' drive. The purpose will be for networking, idea exchange, critical topic explorations, and fellowship over a meal or two. Locations of some of the Regional Huddles will be announced in early 2020. If you'd like to host a Regional Huddle, contact your district president. And, as always, members in the Northern Lights District (Canada) are invited to attend the nearest District Conference or Regional Huddle.

Not Much Time Left to Register Your Comments with HHS

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has proposed getting rid of an Obama-administration rule that essentially barred any faith-based organization that holds to a biblical position on marriage and uses faith in/surrender to Jesus as a *bona fide* occupational qualification from getting government grants. HHS intends to rewrite the regulation to require grantees to comply only with nondiscrimination requirements that have been adopted into law while following all applicable U.S. Supreme Court decisions. Right now, there is a public comment period—to show support for or against this change—but it ends on December 19. A spotlight was shined on the nondiscrimination requirement earlier this year when Citygate Network member **Miracle Hill Ministries** (Greenville, South Carolina), was granted a waiver so it could continue to receive HHS funding through the state, despite their policy of recruiting only Christian foster care parents. If you are a U.S. citizen, we encourage you weigh in on this by going to this [website](#) and clicking the green box to make a comment.

Alternative Online Rating Service Could Help with Potential Donors

ImpactMatters, an organization founded in 2015 and funded in part with a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, launched a new [website](#) last Monday. It's worth checking out. ImpactMatters rates nonprofits according to "the amount of good" or impact of each donated dollar, rather than how much they spend on programs versus administrative costs. It's billed as a counterbalance to the way Charity Navigator or GuideStar do their ratings (even though it's a Charity Navigator partner organization). It's interesting that ImpactMatters will rate nonprofits with budgets under \$1 million, whereas the other services do not. Their impact calculator allows donors to specify a cause (hunger, homelessness, veterans, health, poverty, education, etc.) and calculate the economic effect their specific donation would have at various nonprofits in that space. ImpactMatters has no requirements for years in existence, or annual revenue minimums. Learn

more [here](#).

Looking Down the Street

- We welcome back into membership **Steelbridge Ministries** (formerly Albuquerque Rescue Mission) in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Travis Clark is the CEO. Send Travis a note of greeting, welcome, and encouragement at tclark@mysteelbridge.org.
- David Jones has recently stepped down as CEO of **The Bowery Mission** (New York, New York). Interim leadership is being shared by Chief Spiritual and Community Life Officer Craig Mayes and Chief Development Officer James Winans. Craig was formerly the CEO at the New York City Rescue Mission, prior to its merger with The Bowery Mission in February 2018.
- Citygate Network member, **Tonier Cain International**, founded by former conference speaker and trauma survivor, Tonier Cain, recently held their 4th Annual National Healing Neen Trauma Informed Care Conference in Orlando, Florida. The conference focuses on networking and equipping care providers from around the country with proven tools to help trauma survivors on a long-term, ongoing basis. (Tonier was a keynote speaker at our 2018 Annual Conference and Exposition in Milwaukee.)
- **Souls Harbour Rescue Mission** (Halifax, Nova Scotia) is celebrating the one-year anniversary of Mission Mart, their 17,000-square-foot department-store style thrift shop. In compliance with Canadian laws, they are 90 percent volunteer driven. Mission Mart has more than doubled projections, surpassing the \$1 million mark in their first year.



Nonprofit Organizes Hockey Tournaments to Help the Homeless in Canada

Since 1996, [Hockey Helps the Homeless](#) organizes and hosts 14 Pro-Am and Collegiate hockey tournaments across Canada to raise awareness and financial support for the homeless. Their efforts focus on education, fundraising, and partnering with solutions-based local homeless support agencies in the communities where they play. Individuals and/or teams can register to participate in any one of 12 Canadian cities and must fundraise for a required minimum to play. All the registered players enjoy meals and games alongside hockey legends on the day of the tournament, and more than 15,000 donors combine to provide over \$2,000,000 annually. One event just wrapped up in Vancouver on November 29, 2019, and another tournament will begin with a puck drop on December 6, 2019, in Winnipeg.

USICH Director Resigns

Citing pressure from the current administration to step down, Matthew Doherty, executive director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), tendered his resignation two weeks ago, according to a [slate.com report](#). Director Doherty did not reveal specifics related to his departure, but those in the industry consider this the next move in the presidential administration's approach to the issue of homelessness in the United States. While Mr. Doherty considered the best approach to dealing with the homeless to be "housing first," Richard Cho, deputy director to USICH from 2013–16 expressed the possibility that the next director would focus more on "law enforcement" as a way to deal with our nation's unhoused.

Popular Food Network Show Features 'Thanksgiving Heroes'

A recent airing of one of Food Network's most popular shows, *Chopped*, showcased "Thanksgiving Heroes." The four amateur chef contestants were chosen because of the various food-related services they provide in their communities: a police officer who started her own nonprofit to bundle weekend meals for food-insecure kids when they leave school on Fridays; an elementary teacher who cooks creatively in the classroom to inspire her students; a FoodCorps volunteer; and a women's day shelter kitchen manager and chef. Provided with select offbeat ingredients for each of three courses, *Chopped* chefs compete against each other in creating an appetizer, a main course, and a dessert for a panel of three judges. These four "heroes" had opportunities throughout the episode to tell the audience about how they uniquely serve in their hometowns. The contest winner took home a \$10,000 prize, and each of the contestants received a gift card as a token of gratitude for their sacrifices and efforts on behalf of their communities.

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World's Big Sleep Out

More than 50,000 people around the world will be sleeping out for a cause this coming Saturday, December 7. It will happen in more than 50 major cities around the world, from Times Square in New York to Trafalgar Square in London, as well as on campuses and in backyards. In partnership with UNICEF and the Institute for Global Homelessness, the goal is to raise a minimum of \$50,000,000 to fund projects that provide sustainable change to help one million people out of homelessness and put the issue at the center of the political spotlight globally. Events around the world will feature performances from leading musicians and "bedtime stories" from A-list actors. Registration is required. Fundraising is encouraged, but not required. For more information about the event, [click here](#).

Family Structure Plays Large Role in School Conduct

Recent [research](#) by the Institute for Family Studies reveals that a student's family structure has a bigger effect than racial disparities or socioeconomic factors in school conduct and discipline. Growing up in a chaotic, single-parent, or non-intact family often affects the level of attention, affection, stress, conflict, and discipline students experience. Those environments typically have less money, impacting their neighborhoods and peers, which can lead to delinquent and disruptive behavior. According to the data, the rates of student misbehavior nearly doubles when students live with separated or divorced parents versus those living with stably married parents. As many as 72 percent of black students live apart from their married birth parents, compared to 37 percent of white students and 26 percent of Asian students. Controlling for family structure, the researchers found a 55 percent reduction in racial disparities, whereas controlling for socioeconomic status only reduced the racial differences by 38 percent. This would indicate that some of the racial differences in school suspensions and discipline may come from actual, not just perceived, differences in behavior.

Consider: How can your people and programs pour into youth whose families have not provided them with the attention and support they need to thrive?

Chick-fil-A Will Stop Donating to Charities with Anti-LGBT Views

Since the last issue of *Street Smart*, many news outlets have [reported](#) that Chick-fil-A will restructure their charitable giving, beginning in 2020. Previously, their donations to numerous charitable organizations included large, multi-year commitments to the Salvation Army (SA) and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), which sparked highly publicized criticism from the LGBT community because of those organization's stances against homosexuality. Starting next year, the Chick-fil-A Foundation will shift to annual grants for charities in three categories they believe are critical in the communities where they do business: education, hunger, and homelessness. However, they have not said that faith-based charities will be eliminated, but rather that their stance on LGBT issues will be a factor. Many conservative groups and commentators have pushed back at Chick-fil-A, with former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee saying they "surrendered to anti-Christian hate groups and betrayed loyal customers."

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[Camp Director](#), Central Union Mission, Washington, DC

[Camp Maintenance Manager](#), Central Union Mission, Washington, DC

Care Support Specialist, Light of Life Ministries, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

Career Learning Center School Administrator, Orlando Union Rescue Mission, Orlando, FL

Controller, Good News Rescue Mission, Redding, CA

Controller, Light of Life, Pittsburgh, PA

Cook, Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, Seattle, WA

Development Director, Open Door Mission, Glens Falls, NY

Development Director, Home of Grace, Vancleave, MS

Development Manager, Bread of Life Mission, Seattle, WA

Director of Communications, Citygate Network, Colorado Springs, CO

Director of Development, City Mission of Schenectady, Schenectady, NY

Director of Marketing and Communications, St. Matthew's House, Naples, FL

Director of Men's Shelter Services, Union Gospel Mission, Spokane, WA

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Executive Director, Campus of Hope, Conroe, TX

Executive Director, Fairhaven Rescue Mission, Covington, KY

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Guest Services Supervisor, Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, Seattle, WA

Major Gifts Officer, Union Rescue Mission, Wichita, KS

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Program Administrator - Bridge Street Mission, Bridge Street Mission, Inc., Wausau, WI

Residential Coordinator_Cornerstone Manor Facility, Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

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"Rest" or *heshazo* in the original language is defined as, "to rest, to be quiet, to be still," and is all over the Old Testament, but when I found it in Genesis 4, my mind raced to understand its use.

The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downward? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door, it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."

—Genesis 4:5-7

But I think it translates better,

"If you do what is right/heshazo (if you are resting, if you are quiet, if you are still), will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right (if you are not resting, are not quiet, are not still,) then sin is crouching at your door, it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."

It shifts the idea of rest from a 'time-out' to a weapon I can use in my war against sin. Could God be inciting me into a rhythm where He is my deep breath? Could time in rest fortify me for the world I am fighting against and the life He has called me to? Could rest in Him be a sign not of weakness or tapping out, but of strength and gearing up? Could rest be about not a lack of activity, but instead a still heart? I want to say yes to still, which isn't the same as "stop." It is yes to purpose and priority, over bustle and busy.

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To contribute: If you would like to write a devotional thought for StreetLight, please make it about 200 words and include at least one Bible verse or passage, and submit via [email](#).

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