



# seeds of change

lutheran metropolitan ministry

Winter 2016 Volume XXIII, Issue 4

## Louis Stokes: A Champion of the People

Just weeks before his death in 2015, 90-year-old former United States Congressman and Cleveland native, Louis Stokes, finished his autobiography, *The Gentleman from Ohio*.

LMM's special bond with Louis Stokes spanned several decades, and that connection continues now between his family and the agency. We recently welcomed community members and loved ones of Stokes to a reception and talk to honor his life and legacy as a champion of the people.

Congressman Stokes' daughter, Lori Stokes, and LMM's President & CEO, Andrew Genszler, took the stage to discuss the book and the man who continues to have a lasting legacy. Jay Stokes, Congressman Stokes' widow, was in the audience listening to her daughter tell stories that resonated with the entire room. Both Lori and Jay then signed copies of the recently-released book.

Louis Stokes grew up in Cleveland and became a well-known figure in his hometown and in Washington, D.C. for his background in law, politics, and for his work with the NAACP. Congressman Stokes was Ohio's first black representative and a highly respected man of all people he served.



Lori Stokes reads an excerpt from her father's book, *The Gentleman from Ohio*.



LMM's Charles R. See introduces Lori Stokes and Andrew Genszler, LMM's President & CEO.

Thank you to the Stokes family for sharing your personal memories of the Congressman's life with us. LMM appreciates the contributions made to the agency over the years.

View our Facebook photo gallery to see images from the Stokes event. Visit [lutheranmetro.org](http://lutheranmetro.org) to see a video clip from the event.

## Donning a Legacy

Carrying on Congressman Stokes' legacy, his family has generously donated 20 of his custom-made suits to the men at the Shelter at 2100 Lakeside. Lori Stokes says her father was a sharp-dressed man, and she wants others to have the opportunity to gain confidence as they wear them to job interviews and rebuild their lives. WKYC cameras were rolling as Lori accompanied the first suit recipient, Reggie Washington, to her father's former tailor who made the custom suit years ago.

"As a Stokes, there is a responsibility to give back. That's what was taught in our household," said Lori. "I feel this is what he would want. He'd want his clothes in Cleveland. He was C-Town's baby boy."

Washington says it was a pleasure to meet Lori, and an honor to put on Congressman Stokes' suit. "It will put a little more pep in my step. It will definitely boost my confidence."

Following WKYC's report, numerous donors were inspired to give men's clothing to the Shelter. Thank you!

Go to [lutheranmetro.org](http://lutheranmetro.org) to view WKYC's story.



# Message from LMM's President



Andrew Genszler,  
President & CEO

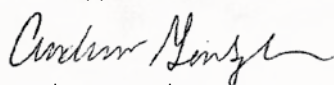
A few weeks ago I had the opportunity to speak at a graduation ceremony celebrating the accomplishments of program participants from our workforce development and culinary training classes. My message to the program participants was one of gratitude. I thanked them for their ability to inspire others through their hard work and for their willingness to allow us to tell their stories.

Reading through this issue of *seeds* you will find examples of the perseverance and dedication embodied by the graduates I addressed. They truly are inspiring. These stories, also shared on our website, during presentations and meetings, and – increasingly – through social media, reflect the mission of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry. For 47 years LMM has been walking with our neighbors, providing second chances, and meeting basic needs through a spirit of innovation. This is work worth celebrating. In this vein, it is not too early to let you know we have begun preparations for our 50th anniversary.

As we look ahead to 2019, there is positive momentum guiding us to LMM's milestone anniversary. It was only four years ago that we moved into our new building, the Richard Sering Center, annual giving to the agency has increased each of the last five years, and leadership giving – such as a recent, anonymous \$300,000 donation – is allowing LMM to think about our program delivery in new and transformational ways.

The next few years will be exciting. As we prepare for the future we do so with a sense of gratitude, inspired by our donors and friends who help make our work possible. I am especially grateful for the dedicated work of our staff partners and the visionary leadership of our board. On behalf of all of us, thank you for your ongoing support of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry and best wishes for a joyous holiday season, mindful of others and celebrating love and community.

With appreciation,



Andrew Genszler  
President & CEO



## SAVOR THE CULINARY EVENT OF THE YEAR

Circle your calendar for **savor** on **Thursday, April 27, 2017!** Please join us at The Silver Grille in The Higbee Building for LMM's 4th annual flavorful benefit to bring food and culinary training to people in need.

Plans for **savor** are beginning to take shape and restaurants are already preparing to make the evening a fun and food-filled experience. Some restaurants are already signing on again, including Great Lakes Brewing Co., proudly returning to defend its two-time title of Best Food Station! New restaurants are also joining, ready to support LMM by setting up delicious displays to be sampled and voted on by **savor** ticket holders.

Raffle tickets will be available again this year for the chance to win some amazing gifts. Last year, prizes included a luxurious getaway, a food and wine package with a private four-course dinner and cooking lesson at LMM, and the coveted Cleveland collection, including gift certificates to Cleveland's finest restaurants, hotels, museums, and theater shows. We look forward to seeing you at our signature event.



**savor** 2016

**DON'T MISS OUT! WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LMM WEBSITE AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR TO MAKE SURE YOU RESERVE YOUR SEATS!**





# Year in Tweets

If you're not following Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry on Twitter, you're missing out! Here are some of LMM's best tweets and most popular hashtags of 2016! Follow us @LMMCleveland and President & CEO, Andrew Genszler, @LMMPresident for the latest agency updates, events, photos, community interactions, and more!

## #LMMSavor



**LMM** @LMMCleveland • Mar 3  
Get your seats now for #LMMSavor & reserve your spot to try plates from @pierwcleveland & @flyingfig – Tickets at [lutheranmetro.org/savor](http://lutheranmetro.org/savor)



**LMM** @LMMCleveland • Mar 16  
Honored to receive Community Impact Award from @DomEastOhio recognizing our workforce development programs!



## #GrittyCity



**LMM** @LMMCleveland • Jul 16  
Tune in! LMM contributes to BBC World News' story Monday on Hough then & now. #RNCinCLE @BBCWorld thx @AnBressBBC



**LMM** @LMMCleveland • Aug 8  
Pilot class of Chopping for Change graduates NOW! Helped prepare 240K meals for people who are homeless. @DRCOhio

## #WeAreLMM



**LMM** @LMMCleveland • Sep 27  
Proud to showcase to the community the artwork and music the teens at ASPR have been working on! #WeAreLMM



## #ERWnow



**LMM** @LMMCleveland • Oct 3  
LMM's application is in! We're competing for a groundbreaking grant of 100 million dollars! Thank you @macfound for the opportunity #ERWnow



## #MDDAY



**LMM** @LMMCleveland • Oct 14  
Making finisher medals for Gritty City 5K on Oct. 22 #MDDAY





## What a Difference a Day Can Make!

National Make a Difference Day could be felt throughout Northeast Ohio as more than 1,500 volunteers took time to give back at various locations around town. Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry is humbled by the response of the many volunteers who chose to spend the day with us. This day of philanthropy spanned across various parts of our agency, with volunteers and supporters at two locations including Gritty City 2016 at LMM's headquarters on East 45th and Superior, and the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside. LMM welcomed WKYC-TV3 as a media sponsor on Make a Difference Day. Joining both our first-time and long-time helpers, local news celebrities got in the volunteer trenches and made a difference to youth and people who are homeless. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

## Gritty City 2016

Gritty City, a two-day event benefiting LMM's Youth Services, was a huge success thanks to community support! We began Friday, October 21st with a happy hour at Goldhorn Brewery. The group came together for the cause while sharing a few drinks and appetizers.

Next, the Trek for Teens 5K run/1-mile walk stepped off from LMM on Saturday, October 22nd. Make a Difference Day volunteers from the community staffed the water stations on the route through the St. Clair Superior neighborhood. Additional LMM helpers registered runners and walkers. WKYC meteorologist, Greg Dee, and Cleveland Monsters mascot, Sully, were there for the fun. They helped with a pre-run warm-up and forecast.

Post-run activities including line dancing, a DJ, awards, pumpkin decorating and Mitchell's ice cream were enjoyed by 90 runners and walkers, as well as 30 volunteers and numerous LMM staff partners. Proceeds from the event will greatly benefit Youth Services by helping children who need it most.

Mark your calendars for next year! Gritty City 2017 will take place on October 20/21!

To see additional photos from Gritty City, check out @LMMCleveland on Twitter.



Ready, get set, GO!



5K runners proudly show off their medals.



Happy Hour for a cause!



Two runners take on the 5K route through the St. Clair Superior neighborhood.



# DIFFERENCE

## Making a Difference at the Shelter

National Make a Difference Day 2016 had a positive impact on the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside. The movement caught on in Cleveland again this year, sparking the interest of kind-hearted people in the community looking to volunteer, including the WKYC-TV3 crew.

Anchor Russ Mitchell and reporter, Matt Granite, were among about a dozen Channel 3 employees who came to the Men's Shelter to pitch in around the building and befriend the residents. Representatives from Arby's and Great Clips were also at the Shelter to help out. The volunteers put in a full day of work, grilling and serving lunch, playing board games, and helping residents paint a room at the Shelter.

Visit our Twitter page @LMMCleveland to see more photos from Make a Difference Day.

## Former Shelter Resident Returns to Volunteer

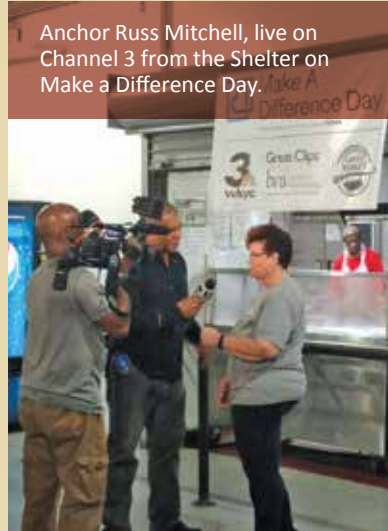
Make a Difference Day has a special meaning for Clyde Jefferson. On October 22, he returned to the place he once called home, but this time, to volunteer.

Clyde used to live at the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside when he fell on some hard times. While staying there, he was motivated to return to school to renew his barber's license. A barber by trade, he knew his livelihood would once again depend on his ability to find stable work in his field. A year later, he landed a job at Great Clips as an Assistant Manager.

*"I feel I can give back to my community doing what I do best," said Clyde. "I'm a public servant and I want to use my talents to help."*

On Make a Difference Day, he walked into the Shelter with his co-workers to give men who are homeless haircuts for free, a service he once needed himself. He saw some friendly faces, and knew he was helping men with not only their appearance, but their confidence and dignity. As one resident after another sat in his chair, Clyde's sunny disposition was a bright spot for the men who hope to move on soon, as well.

Anchor Russ Mitchell, live on Channel 3 from the Shelter on Make a Difference Day.



Former Men's Shelter resident returns to give free haircuts.

Making a Difference includes grilling lunch with new friends!



Volunteers and residents play board games at the Men's Shelter.





Boy Scout Troop 620 helps with landscaping.

## Boy Scouts Help Veterans Landscape Home

Veterans who were recently homeless have found a place to call their own. The home, intended to help veterans get back on their feet, is providing much-needed affordable housing, but the outside needed some sprucing up. Boy Scout Troop 620 stepped in to give thanks to the veterans by helping out with cleaning and landscaping.

The Scouts, parents, Scoutmaster, local landscaping companies, church members, and more, all arrived at the home with a landscaping plan. The day of service resulted in 20 volunteers helping spread 18 bags of dirt, nearly two dozen bags of mulch, putting in 26 plants, and filling 20 bags with weeds from the backyard. They even mowed the neighbor's overgrown yard to help out. Thanks to their hard work and donations from community partners, the veterans have a beautiful yard to complement their home!

The house on Cleveland's East side became a home to veterans in 2015 after LMM and the Cuyahoga Land Bank formed a partnership. The Veterans' Affordable Housing Initiative provides housing options for veterans who are homeless in Cuyahoga County. The Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside serves 600 homeless veterans each year. The permanent home for veterans helps the men gain their independence back.

## HOME INSTEAD PLAYS SANTA TO SENIORS

The holidays are a time for giving, but not all seniors have loved ones to shower them with affection and gifts around the holidays. A local company is stepping in to make a difference to seniors in Cuyahoga County. Home Instead Senior Care is a friend of LMM's Adult Guardianship Services (AGS) program, helping aging adults in the care of our guardians. This year, Home Instead has offered to provide gifts to nearly 70 seniors who are part of AGS.

The company works with various non-profits and organizations each holiday season to find seniors who are in need of generosity. Home Instead then works with local businesses and retail stores to help facilitate the purchase and distribution of the gifts by placing trees and ornaments with their various locations. Each senior's gift requests are written on a "Be a Santa to a Senior" bulb and hung on the trees.

Following the purchase and delivery of the senior's requested items by Home Instead, AGS guardians will take on the task of making sure each gift is wrapped with love and delivered to the hands of each senior they care for, just in time for the holidays.



"Be a Santa to a Senior" gifts



## REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED ON

At the close of 2016, we recognize and respectfully share a list of individuals who were part of the LMM family and passed away during the year. The names reflect those who were under the care of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's Adult Guardianship Services guardians, or received services from the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside. LMM walks with those who are oppressed, forgotten and hurting. In their honor, we will continue to advocate for vulnerable adults and respond to the needs of those neglected by society. May those who have passed in 2016 find everlasting peace.

### Adult Guardianship Services

Robert Agree  
Alfonso Alfred  
Lester Basch  
Soloman Boysaw  
Harold Brown  
Frances Carpenter  
Michael Carrizal  
Valentine Christiansen  
John Davidson  
Ann Drews  
Anita Elwell  
Gladys Evans  
Linda Fagain  
Dwight Gaines  
Anthony Gentile  
Willie Gilmore  
Frank Golkowski  
Carl Greenwood  
Glen Harmeling  
Carol Hill  
Natalie Holland  
Matthew Hooper  
Ray Hornsby  
Paul Hughes  
Johnson Jackson  
Evelyn James  
Johnny Johnson  
Rita Johnson  
James Jordan  
Nancy Kerr  
June Kilian  
Henry Kind  
Edward Kozar  
Tamara Kunko  
Roger Lawson  
Steve Lazarovich  
Gus Lindsey  
Alberta Livingston  
David Lucot  
Earl Madison  
Mary Madison  
Linda Makuhan  
Dorothy Marlow  
Steve Martin  
Ernest Massaro  
Jorge Moreno

Mary Morrow  
Joseph Paryllo  
Curtis Pitney  
William Porter  
Donna Reynolds-Byrd  
John Rusnak  
Helen Satyshur  
Eugenia Smiddy  
Sandra Stricko  
Joseph Stupnick  
Velma Sway  
Sampson Taylor  
Patricia Teamer  
Thelma Timmons  
Renee Twigger  
Julia Walker  
Walter Wigley  
Shawn Williams  
Carrie Woods  
Marvin Wright

### Volunteer Guardianship Program

Edward Brown  
Gerald Gaydosh  
Kathleen Gaydosh  
Victoria Jenkins  
Robert Kelly  
Karen Lewis  
Rocco Luvera  
Alphonso McGee  
Patrick Myers  
Susan Romancheck  
Barbara Schipper  
Carol Zrubek

### Men's Shelter

Eric Asazawa  
Antonio Carter  
Robert Devic  
John Johnson Jr.  
Michael Lewis  
Melvin Nathan  
Victor Mitchell  
John Richardson  
Yarbro Teamer III  
Michael Queener

## Chopping for Change Success

It wasn't long ago that Kimmy Waller began coming to Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry five days a week, taking classes to begin changing her life. Now, she's living her second chance and making it count.

Waller was recently an inmate at the Northeast Reintegration Center for Women (NERC) in Cleveland. She admits she made some poor choices that landed her at the facility for two years. While serving time, she heard of Chopping for Change, a program that allows women who are close to release to take culinary classes and receive wrap-around services, helping them gain skills to obtain employment upon release. Chopping for Change is a collaboration between Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry and the Cuyahoga County Office of Re-Entry.

For nine months, Kimmy and her classmates were shuttled every weekday from NERC to LMM. The first three months focused on soft skills. For the rest of the program, she began culinary training in LMM's Central Kitchen, helping to put out nearly 2,000 meals a day for people who are homeless.

Before she knew it, she was at her graduation ceremony. The Chopping for Change participant was soon released from NERC and was ready to seek employment. She quickly found it — at Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry as a Case Aide. Kimmy, sitting in her own office, reflects on the moment she got the job. "I cried," she said. "All this hard work I'm doing is paying off. My family is very happy."

Kimmy believed in herself and the culinary program designed to give inmates a second chance. Now, she's an integral part of the success of the current Chopping for Change participants. A proud moment came when she recently took part in a Chopping for Change ceremony, this time as an LMM staff partner. "Kimmy understands the participants on a level others may not be able to," said Bryan Mauk, Director of Social Enterprise. "She's been there and succeeded. The Chopping for Change women can relate to her and it makes her an asset to our organization."

In January, Kimmy started Chopping for Change. Within 10 months, she bought a car, launched a career, and is giving back by working with the women in the program. "I try to give them inspiration and tell them good things will happen. It's a blessing to spend time in the kitchen with them."



Kimmy Waller, left, with Chopping for Change graduates.



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## Our Mission:

To promote shalom (peace, well-being) and justice (right relationships) through a Christian ministry of service and advocacy with those who are oppressed, forgotten and hurting.

## Link with LMM



@LMMCleveland



Facebook.com



Youtube.com



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Latest news at  
[www.lutheranmetro.org](http://www.lutheranmetro.org)

## Contacting LMM

LMM Main Offices, 216.696.2715

- Development & Communications, 216.696.1724
- Office of Advocacy, 216.658.7210

### Behavioral Health Services

- Lutheran Family Services, 216.281.2500

### Community Re-Entry, 216.696.2717

- Care Teams, 216.696.2717
- Comprehensive Case Management Services, 216.696.2717
- Friend-to-Friend, 216.861.1838
- Women's Re-Entry Network, 216.696.7535
- Young African American Reclamation Project, Jr., 216.623.0138

### Guardianship Programs, 216.696.1132

- Adult Guardianship Services, 216.696.1132
- Volunteer Guardianship Program of Lorain County, 440.934.3613

### Housing & Shelter

- Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside, 216.566.0047

### Social Enterprise, 216.658.4608

### Youth Services, 216.696.0370

- After School Prevention Resources, 216.651.6841
- Next Step—shelter care, 216.941.0062
- Next Step—semi-independent living, 216.221.8920

To add, delete or change your address, contact  
216.696.1882 or [mail@lutheranmetro.org](mailto:mail@lutheranmetro.org).

## End the Year on a Charitable Note

It's not too late to make a year-end contribution to LMM by supporting one of our branches of service — Adult Support & Advocacy, Community Re-entry, Housing & Shelter, Lutheran Family Services, Social Enterprise, or Youth Services — or to the area of greatest need. Make your tax deductible gift today by returning the enclosed envelope or making an online donation at [lutheranmetro.org](http://lutheranmetro.org).

If you are at least 70%, another way to help LMM is by taking advantage of the IRA Charitable Rollover. It provides a great opportunity to make a gift during your lifetime from an asset that would be subject to taxation if it remained in your estate or were paid directly to you. If you have questions, please feel free to contact our Development Office at 216.696.1724.



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