

Since 1990

THE LIFE CENTER

For the Homeless



**We serve, educate and represent
one of our most vulnerable
populations
– the homeless**

THE LIFE CENTER

Homeless Hotline:

713 - 750 - 9565

832 - 292 - 3295

Pastor Winston James - Founder/CEO

Our Campus Location:

4516 Old Yale St. Houston. TX 77018

www.lifecenterhouston.com



Pastor
Winston James
Founder CEO

Pastor Winston James
P.O. Box 10556, Houston, Texas 77206
Telephone: 713-750-9565
Homeless Hotline: 832-292-3295
E-mail address: lifecenterhouston@gmail.com

Greetings. This is from Pastor Winston James. How are you today? I hope and pray that all is well and that this correspondence finds you continuing to walk in the Blessing of the Lord. It is a blessing that we're able to communicate with you through our brochure, website, and also, social media.

Since 1990. The Life Center has blessed, supported, helped, and assisted one of our most vulnerable populations – the homeless. I'm the Founder of the Life Center, but for over six years, I was homeless and slept on the streets of downtown Houston, and it was God, who through His Grace, delivered me from the streets, and gave me Vision for helping others. After my recovery, I was led of God to create a Kingdom Post for the lost, destitute, and the homeless. The Life Center Team and I support the community at large with our resources. God has granted us success, longevity, and the Favor of God on our Ministry. We know that God Glories when His Children overcome, and the people are empowered.

We are debt-free and we have two campuses, 1.5 acres and 10 facilities. Also we have recently opened our new 4,000 square foot – Heaven's Kitchen and Cafeteria, where hot meals are being served daily for our clients, and also, those of the community who are without food.

I invite you to become a part of what God is doing here. Enclosed, there is more information pertaining to how we are organized and the services we provide. For you, there are prayer support, fellowship, and volunteer opportunities. The Life Center Team and I are believing God for your partnership. Please keep us in your prayers. For the Life Center tour, please contact us at lifecenterhouston@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration and God bless.

On behalf of the Life Center,
Pastor Winston James

P.S. – In the event you meet someone who is homeless, or in need of temporary shelter, please do not hesitate to call us. The homeless hotline number is 832-292-3295.



THE HOMELESS HOTLINE

(832) 292-3295

Become a Life Center Partner Today

The Life Center's objective is to serve, educate and represent one of our most vulnerable populations - the homeless, especially the ones who have tried all the other shelters. Through the Grace of God, we are blessed with many opportunities to touch the lives of those who have hit rock bottom. *"Blessed [is] he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble."*

Psalm 41:1

The Life Center is a **Non-Profit Organization** Serving the Houston area.



What we do ...

We are not government supported at this time which gives us the freedom and flexibility to operate in a Christian manner. We also have a Computer Training Program for persons wishing to improve their computer skills to enter the workforce and a self-sustaining lifestyle. This is accomplished through fund raising and donations from generous contributors. Our needs are your time, talent and contribution of food, clothing (men, women and children's), personal care products, infant items and financial support.

We are located on Yale Street near Crosstimbers, just north of Downtown Houston. Our main purpose is to assist homeless individuals not only by providing shelter, food, clothing, drug and alcohol counseling, but most importantly, Spiritual Guidance. There are thousands of homeless individuals on the streets today, and your help to reach out and assist is desperately needed. Our Campus currently has 10 facilities that accomodate up to 92 individuals overnight. We also host a street outreach program consisting of informational material for persons on the street requesting assistance, but not wishing to live in the sheltered environment.

For more information, contact

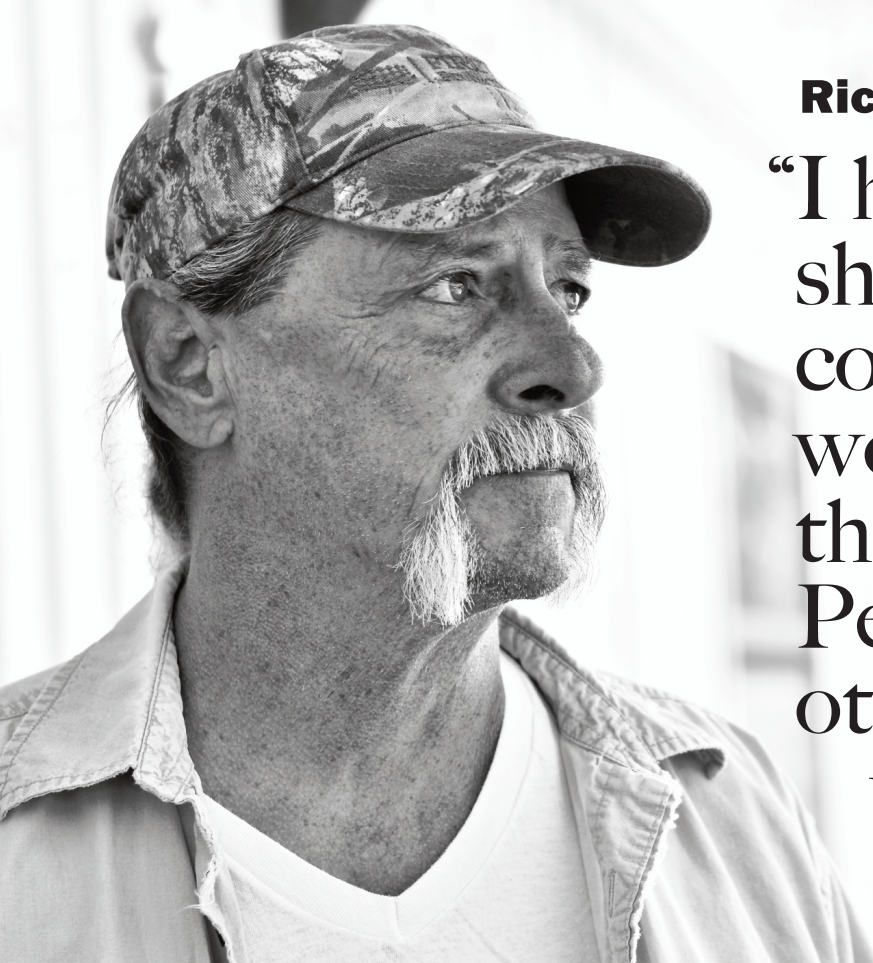
Pastor Winston James

P.O. Box 10556

Houston, TX 77206

Telephone 832-292-3295

Volunteers are needed and appreciated



Ricky

“I had been to other shelters, but felt more comfortable in the woods—until I found the Life Center. People care for each other here—they treat you like family.”

Ricky is a Vietnam War Veteran who has been homeless for a number of years.

Working in home remodeling and having been laid off—Ricky lost his home and most of his belongings. He chose to live in the woods outside of Houston, sleeping there in the evenings and then walking 1.5 miles to downtown Houston where he would panhandle.

“When I walked in here the first time I was hungry and cold and about to give up. Folks at the Life Center immediately got up and fed me—gave me food off their own plates until I had enough to eat and then they just let me be. They knew what I needed and provided it without asking for anything in return.” said Ricky

Ricky is one of many homeless veterans who live inside of Houston.

In fact, according to the National Coalition on Homelessness—nearly 40% of men who are homeless are veterans. Ricky Boots, as he has been nicknamed by the staff and other clients, talks of other vets who have gone into the woods. *“You can tell when a guy has given up and has gone into the woods to die. They’ve lost hope. I try to bring them to the Life Center—to provide them with hope and sustenance—the will to carry on.”*

The Life Center has been helping for nearly 30 years.

The Life Center provides a space to sleep, food, counselling, advice, and spiritual guidance for those seeking it. I, myself, was once chronically homeless, and am free of judgement now providing support to nearly 100 homeless individuals seeking assistance.

The Life Center is now seeking your support to carry on its important work.

With freezing temperatures and the hundreds of people who have been left homeless due to Hurricane Harvey—shelter beds are filling up quickly. Demand is higher than ever. Would you consider making a small donation to help defray some of the costs of operations and food?

A mere \$10 can feed a family staying with the Life Center for a week. All donations are greatly appreciated and help. **Donate online, visit LifeCenterHouston.com today.** Thank you.

Pastor Winston James



The Life Center
God Answers Prayers



4516 Old Yale St, Houston, TX 77018
LifeCenterHouston.com 713-750-9565

The Life Center After Construction



Multi Purpose Annex Facility



Residential Dorms



Heaven's Kitchen and Cafeteria



Main House



Sister Sara's House



Main Dorm

**Life Center
for the Homeless**

Address 4516 Old Yale St. Phone (713) 750-9565
Houston, TX 77018
Correspondence Address: P.O. Box 10556
Houston, TX 77206

CEO/Executive Director Pastor Winston James
Organization E-mail lifecenterhouston@gmail.com Year of Incorporation 1990

Introducing: The Life Center NEEDS

The Life Center Needs List:

Urgent Needs

Shaving cream

Razors

Deodorant

Travel size soap

Bottled water

Ink - HP Color laserJet 4600 - All Colors

School uniforms and supplies

HD Video Cameras

Professional Media Equipment

Indoor & Outdoor 60 Watt Floodlights

Lawn care equipment
(weed eaters, mowers, etc...)

Industrial strength cleaning supplies
(mops, brooms, chemicals)

Ongoing Needs

New underwear for men,
women and children

Socks

Men & women's clothing -
Appropriate for job interviews (Suits)

Pillows

Blankets

Towels

Toilet paper

Paper towels

Flash lights and batteries

Metro - QCards with funds
pre-loaded

Food Needs

Ground meat

Chicken

Wild game and other meats
are welcome

Bread

Canned goods & other
non-perishable foods

To donate a vehicle, contact us at
713-750-9565 or 832-292-3295

[illegible][illegible]



Organizational Information

Mission Statement

The Life Center is dedicated to serve, educate and represent the Homeless of Houston. Through the operation of a short-stay residential facility, and the combination of an educational program, an in-house work program and group counseling sessions based on the Alcoholics Anonymous twelve-step modality, The Life Center hopes to impart sufficient work and basic living skills, along with a positive and focused mental attitude to Homeless individuals so they can take their proper place as productive and stable members of today's society.

Deuteronomy 15:7-8

7 If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother:

8 But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanteth.



Impact Statement

Shelter, Spiritual Guidance and rehabilitation are our first priority. Shelter bed space will be divided up according to two areas of importance. First, priority will be given to clients who have decided to fully participate in the program according to its rules and expectations. These people will be allowed to remain residents for a targeted stay of no more than ninety days. Homeless persons in this program will be asked to leave if they violate a major house rule or it appears to the Center Staff that they do not have a sufficiently serious attitude about altering their Homeless situation.

The other area of importance is people who need temporary shelter. We will allow clients to get a bed for the night. During that time, these persons will be asked to join our program if ongoing assistance is needed. The Center will be operated under a set of rules to be established from time to time by the Board of Directors or The Director of The Life Center with the help of an Advisory Board made up of the Director and selected Residents of The Life Center.

These rules must be followed for continued participation in the program. It is the intent of this program to provide safe, clean and beneficial shelter to individuals in need. The Center will be monitored on a twenty-four hour basis by the Center Staff, including but not limited to the Director and Assistant Director. Our second major objective is to provide our residents with three meals a day. In addition, we hope to provide meals to Homeless nonresidents, if possible. Implementation of a training and development program is the next major objective.

As a part of development programs, weekly training sessions will be conducted which will focus in on such things as assisting with securing their proper identification, driver's licenses, social security cards, bank accounts, budgeting, grocery shopping, nutrition, job search skills, resume' writing, interview skills, locations of affordable housing and referrals to other agencies that can assist with other needs.



Needs statement

These 5 priorities represent our current focus:

(1) Funding:

Ministry of Jesus Christ and Life Center monitors all incoming donations and fundraising proceeds as well as outgoing expenses.

(2) Volunteers:

The Life Center for the Homeless needs volunteers for various programs and to help with providing and serving food to our residents.

(3) Christian Motivational Speakers and counselors

We are a 501c3 nonprofit

Organization and its part of our structure that we allow other believers of the Faith to lecture from time to time. Prayer, Spiritual Guidance and empowerment are one of our main focuses. All lecturers are interviewed before given the opportunity to grace our clients.

(4) Women and Children program:

On January 28, 2011, The Life Center purchased the adjoining property located on the south border of it's existing Campus. This new property will allow The Life Center to help and assist more of Houston's most homeless and destitute, especially families with zero income.

(5) Youth Program:

Youth Program: Today's youth's values are diminishing. It is The Life Center's intent to help ensure that doesn't continue to happen by providing a Mentoring Program, Music Program, Computer Literacy Program, Take it to the Streets Productions, Bible Study and Sunday School.



Background Statement

The Life Center was situated in Houston's oldest black community, known as "freedman's town". This area is impoverished and besieged by crime and homelessness. Pastor Winston James inspired by the needs of people in that area, developed the idea to open a shelter for homeless men. Pastor James enlisted the help of Rev. Vince Thompson.

Rev. Thompson in turn gathered a group of dedicated individuals, professionals in diverse fields, who have donated their time in an effort to make The Ministry of Jesus Christ and Life Center a reality. The Life Center non-profit corporation was formed under the name of Ministry of Jesus Christ and Life Center.

The Board of Directors consisted of 5 persons. In addition, three members of The Life Center program have the opportunity to serve as volunteer board members while they are in the program. The program is designed to be "for us, by us" in the sense that the Center is not only founded by an ex-street dweller, but for the first time in Houston's history, it is also ran by ex-street dwellers. Our team of helpers has been meticulously put together after meeting a certain criteria. Originally, the board met every two weeks to attain the goals outlined herein. The board's initial task was the renovation of the buildings to fit the needs and requirements of a residential facility. Through the solicitation of funds and grants, the building was renovated following the lead of Master Architect, Burt Ison. Much of the grant and fund solicitation was accomplished through the hard work of Rev. Thompson.

Between 1996 and 1997, after 6.5 years of helping people, The Life Center started making plans to move from 817 W. Dallas to 2301 Caroline St. with the assistance of Atty. Christian Hill and Dr. M. Plumber. The Life Center was blessed with a loan for \$250,000.00, which enabled them to buy a 10,000 sq. ft. facility with 30 years to pay off the loan. In 2000, The Life Center had to relocate from the Downtown headquarters.

The property at 2301 Caroline St. was sold for \$450,000.00. The Life Center paid off all it's debt and purchased the property at 4516 Old Yale St., 4517 Yale St., 4519 Yale St. and 4523 Yale St. Finally, The Life Center has a permanent home where up to 70 of Houston's homeless can be served. The property is 4/10 of an acre.

In 2007, The Life Center paid off its property's balloon and is debt-free. The most recent update is that all old construction is completed. We have received certificates of occupancy for all of our facilities. The Multi-Purpose Annex Facility is completed and it is very beautiful. On January 28, 2011, The Life Center purchased the adjoining property located on the south border of it's existing Campus. This new property will allow The Life Center to help and assist more of Houston's most homeless and destitute, especially families with zero income.



Statement from the CEO/Executive Director

The residential program is open to all who are Homeless; That is, individuals who have no other viable option for temporary shelter, and no immediate means of support. All available bed space in The Life Center will be utilized by Homeless persons. Beds, clean clothing, a washer and dryer, showers, restroom facilities and a Chapel will be available.

The Life Center operates under the ideology of “never do for others what they can do for themselves.” The residential program is centered on a strong self-governed peer group orientation. In an effort to help our Homeless clients take responsibility for their living situation, each client will have an active role in shaping and maintaining The Life Center community.

This peer group structure will have a hierarchy of client positions, such as a weekly job programmer, whose task is to assign household jobs for the upcoming week and supervise the work. In this way, we hope to strengthen the clients’ involvement with the program, strengthen self esteem through participation in the community and put responsibility on the clients for their own situation and ability to resolve it.



Statement from Board Chair/ President

Clients who accept shelter in The Life Center will be expected to abide by The Life Center rules and sign The Life Center Services Contract acknowledging they agree to accept the terms of the shelter. If a person violates any of the major rules of The Life Center they will not be permitted to remain at The Life Center. A client may return to the program only after a sponsor in the group presents the former client for readmittance upon a vote of The Life Center staff and clients, with the Director having the final decision.

Available bed space will be given on a priority basis to individuals who appear willing to join The Life Center program. People who join The Life Center program will be given continuous residence and accommodations as long as they are making progress to resolve their Homeless situation. Clients will also be asked to attend a weekly group session on Poverty Anonymous. This group will be facilitated by an experienced group leader who will focus in on the hardships of being Homeless and the means which are available to these individuals to change their lives from living on the streets. Other group sessions will be done on an as-needed basis, as problems arise.



"The streets were my life,
before I discovered The Life
Center for the Homeless."

- The Richard Geers Story -

**For more of the Richard Geers
story, please visit**

<http://lifecenterhouston.com>

THE LIFE CENTER



II Corinthians 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

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