August 2026

Open Door Mission

the OPEN DOOR

The newsletter of Open Door Mission



"I love swimming. I'm really good at cannonballs." — Legend





"My favorite summer treat is a watermelon popsicle." — Emily

CAMP + Care



Thanks to you and other generous friends, boys and girls experiencing homelessness enjoyed a summer of hope!



"My favorite summer activity is hide and seek. I like being the hider." — Ren

Give Today

Continued inside ▸

YOU CARED FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN NEED

Thank you for providing over 100 children and their families with everything they needed to thrive this summer!

Kids want to spend summer at the pool. Biking to the park. Staying up after dark playing hide and seek.

But for children facing poverty in our community, summer looks nothing like that.

Instead, they're spending long days at home, maybe caring for younger siblings. Their meals stop with school. Structure disappears.

Camp + Care Brings HOPE This Summer

And out of every 7 hungry kids this summer . . . only 1 will get the help they need.

But thanks to you, more than 100 children found nourishment, stability, and joy this summer. Through Camp + Care at Open Door Mission, you kept kids fed, connected to community, and safe from the dangers of poverty.

And while children were at camp, their moms got to do something just as important: move forward in recovery, earn a GED, build job skills, and heal at Lydia House.

Lydia House is the only free program like this in the Omaha metro. No other place keeps families intact — in a safe, therapeutic home — while parents build a better life.

That wouldn't be possible without you!

UPDATE YOUR WILL IN JUST MINUTES

A free resource for you to leave your legacy during National Make-A-Will month

As a friend of Open Door Mission, you now have access to GiftWise — an easy-to-use online service where you can create a legally binding will . . . quickly, and for free!

Because we value your ongoing support and commitment to lifting neighbors out of poverty, we're passing on this resource to you as a small thank-you. You can plan for your family and personal assets, feel peace about your long-term financial decisions, and support the causes close to your heart.

For more information about leaving your legacy and setting up your will, visit **giftwise.com/opendoormission.** GiftWise



stabilizing care!

Thanks to you . . .

This summer was packed to the brim with blessings! Here are just a few of the ways you changed lives locally:



GRADUATION

Thanks to your generosity, 17 men and women graduated from the New Life Recovery Program!



CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Thousands of families received turkey dinners, books for kids, and much-needed essentials.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

Over 120 golfers were swinging to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty!

Thank you for giving your time, resources, prayers, and heart to help neighbors overcome homelessness this summer!

FROM DR. CANDACE L. GREGORY, PRESIDENT & CEO



INSIDE THE OPEN DOOR

I hope your summer was sweet. The kind with backyard cookouts, maybe a Stormchasers game, and enough humidity to remind you you're a Heartland local.

At Open Door Mission, summer is never slow. But it's always rewarding.

Children living in poverty easily slide under the radar during the summer. Often, they're caring for younger brothers and sisters at home while Mom works. School meals disappear.

But because of you, more than 100 children received something quite different this summer.

They got nutritious meals at Camp + Care — complete with summer treats like watermelon popsicles. They swam, tried archery for the first time, and painted.

And my favorite part is that while kids were busy being kids, their parents were working on recovery, earning their GED, and building a future. That's possible because of our staff, volunteers, and you. Open Door Mission is truly blessed with incredible friends. Thank you for all you do!

Blessings,

Candace

Dr. Candace L. Gregory
President & CEO

Open Door Mission



Change a life with every $2.15 meal

Right now, men, women, and children in our community are hungry. Some don't know where they'll sleep tonight.

But you can change that.

When you give now, every $2.15 will put a hot, nutritious meal in someone's hands and open the door to a safe shelter bed. Your compassionate care doesn't just meet a need — it sparks lasting change.

See below for how to give. Our Heartland neighbors urgently need someone to lift them out of poverty!

URGENT FOOD NEED:

Be a Hunger Hero and help provide these urgent food items for hungry Omaha families!

Cereal
Boxed meals
Canned fruit
Pasta noodles & sauce
Macaroni & cheese

You can even order on Amazon, and items will be shipped directly to Open Door! To shop from the wishlist or host your own drive, go to **opendoormission.org/events/hunger-heroes-food-drive.**





Join us at the Love Your Neighbor Reception!

Celebrate the impact you've made with family and friends! Drop in, grab an appetizer, and enjoy a short program at 6:00 p.m. Business casual attire.

Date
Thursday, September 17, 2026

Westside Church
15050 W. Dodge Rd., Omaha, NE 68154

RSVP
opendoormission.org or call (402) 422-1111.

Your gift now of meals and vital care will transform lives!

3 WAYS TO CHANGE A LIFE IN THE HEARTLAND

1. **GIVE BY MAIL** by sending your gift and reply form in the enclosed envelope.
2. **GIVE ONLINE** by visiting opendoormission.org/augustNL26
3. **SCAN HERE** with your mobile device.

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