

**For Immediate Release**

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**The Bowery Mission Launches The Jerry and Maria McAuley Center, in celebration of 150 years of service in New York City.**

**New York, NY, March 18, 2021— Tomorrow Saturday, March 19th,** The Bowery Mission will unveil *A Legacy of Transformation*, a new museum-quality exhibit devoted to the legacy of Jerry and Maria McAuley, who are widely credited as the founders of the rescue mission movement in the United States.

***A Legacy of Transformation: History Wall Unveiling***

Saturday, March 19 at 11 a.m.

The Bowery Mission - Tribeca Campus

90 Lafayette St.

When the McAuleys founded their mission on Water Street in 1872, they gave birth to an idea that would eventually inspire many rescue missions across the nation to take on mission work to our neighbors experiencing homelessness and hunger.

“We know that we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, a legacy that stretches all the way back to Jerry & Maria McAuley in 1872,” James Winans, The Bowery Mission CEO says. “That is why we are rededicating our building at 90 Lafayette Street as **“The Jerry & Maria McAuley Center of The Bowery Mission.”**”

A plaque dedicated to Jerry & Maria McAuley was recently installed on the outside of the building, as well as a portrait-in-bronze of this extraordinary couple inside the building lobby. The portrait includes Jerry’s simple testimony: “God restored me.”

Today The Bowery Mission carries on the McAuley’s vision: to remain a place that offers a helping hand through deep faith, a caring community and life transforming services.

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**About The Bowery Mission**

The Bowery Mission has served New Yorkers experiencing homelessness and hunger since the 1870s. Last year, The Bowery Mission provided more than 255,000 hot meals, 54,000 nights of shelter, 17,000 articles of clothing, and 29,000 emergency showers. Each meal and every service is an invitation to our Residential and Community Programs that help clients make progress toward a transformed life of faith, community, sobriety, sustainable income and independent living. To empower children to thrive and succeed, The Bowery Mission also offers year-round opportunities for enrichment through Mont Lawn City Camp, culminating in summer camp for hundreds of children in the Poconos Region of Pennsylvania. To learn more, visit [www.bowery.org](http://www.bowery.org).