



**For Immediate Release**

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**As Hunger and Homelessness Rise, The Bowery Mission Welcomes Everyone to its 145th Thanksgiving Celebration**

**NEW YORK, November 22, 2024** – More than 130,000 individuals in New York City spent the night in a shelter,<sup>1</sup> and many will not be invited to a Thanksgiving table this holiday season. In a year that saw record-high numbers of individuals seeking meals and care at our downtown Manhattan campuses, The Bowery Mission will welcome longtime New Yorkers and recent arrivals to its 145<sup>th</sup> annual Thanksgiving Day celebration on Thursday, November 28 at our flagship campus at 227 Bowery.

Over the past year, The Bowery Mission has scaled up to meet increased demand as an unprecedented number of migrants have come to New York City. We saw a significant surge in the number of meals served at our flagship campus at 227 Bowery last winter, and anticipate a similar increase this year as colder weather approaches.

Whether you will be one of these individuals experiencing the traditional American Thanksgiving holiday for the first time, or have long celebrated but are without a home to go to this year, the Mission is ready to welcome you around our table – offering not only a nourishing Thanksgiving feast, but an invitation to lasting community and connection to further practical supports.

“Every day on our meal line, we serve individuals from so many different circumstances, from recent migrants to chronically homeless and underemployed individuals,” says James Winans, The Bowery Mission’s President & CEO. “Thanksgiving is a special opportunity to ensure each of these guests has a safe, warm, and welcoming space, where we can build community and share gratitude together.”

On Thanksgiving Day, anyone who comes through our doors will receive a traditional turkey dinner, complete with honey-glazed turkey, mashed potatoes, mushroom gravy, apple chutney, corn succotash, stuffing, and a slice of apple, pumpkin, or pecan pie. From 11:30am – 4:00pm, guests will be seated at tables in our historic chapel, with outdoor seating also available, and from 4:00pm – 5:00pm, meals will be served to-go. In 2023, we served more than 2,000 meals on Thanksgiving Day, and expect to serve a similar number this year.

Each guest will receive a care kit filled with hygiene items and have a chance to engage with the Mission’s staff ambassadors, with whom they can discuss their needs, receive referrals, and talk through practical next steps for recovery and independence.

This year’s celebration is made possible by the Mission’s individual supporters and corporate and community partners. The Bowery Mission gratefully recognizes the following corporate sponsors for their support: Pura Vida Investments, Havas Sony Corporation of America, Colgate-Palmolive, DLA Piper, SmartRise Health, Havas North America, Inc., Whole Foods Market, Blessings of Hope, and City Harvest.

[1] Coalition for the Homeless, “State of the Homeless 2024,” July 2024.

<https://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/State-of-the-Homeless-2024-PDF.pdf>

For additional media assets, please contact Paige Landsem at [media@bowery.org](mailto:media@bowery.org) or 332-255-2699.

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### **About The Bowery Mission**

For over 150 years, The Bowery Mission has been a steadfast presence in New York City, providing refuge and support to neighbors facing hunger, homelessness, and other hardships. Since our founding, we have been dedicated to meeting urgent needs and building a community where lives are transformed through the love of Jesus. Our welcoming red doors are always open, inviting everyone in for a hot meal, a warm bed, and a heartfelt conversation.

Last year, The Bowery Mission served over 400,000 hot meals, provided 65,000 nights of shelter, and distributed 27,000 articles of clothing to those in need. Our Residential Programs helped more than 150 adults rebuild their lives after homelessness, and our Children’s Programs have empowered over 475 kids from underserved neighborhoods in NYC to explore their talents, build lifelong friendships, and grow in character and faith.

Join us in our mission to uplift those in need. To learn more about our work and how you can help, visit [www.bowery.org](http://www.bowery.org).