



FOOD, SHELTER AND A FUTURE

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August 2025

Dear Friend,

**Subject: Urgent Appeal for Financial Support to Sustain Shelter Services Amid Budget Cuts**

**Urban Ministries of Durham (UMD)**, a nonsectarian nonprofit organization, has served as a critical lifeline for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in our community. Unfortunately, due to recent budget cuts, and for the **first time in our 40+ year history**, **our homeless shelter is now facing significant financial challenges that threaten our ability to continue providing essential services.**

Every night more than 100+ people rest safely in our shelter. Every day hundreds of nutritious meals are served in our Community Café. Families come to our Food Pantry & Clothing Closet for essential groceries, clean clothing and a path to stability for those in crisis. But **with reduced public funding, our ability to meet even the most basic needs of our guests is at serious risk.** The need is growing, yet our resources are shrinking.

We are urgently seeking **financial support and donations** to help us continue our mission. Your contribution will directly support:

- Emergency shelter operations
- Meals and hygiene supplies
- Case management and housing assistance
- Crisis response services

Please know that your generous financial support will make a profound difference in someone's life. **Together, we can continue to offer hope and dignity to the most vulnerable members of our community.**

**This is our community-and these are our neighbors. Your gift is a powerful act of community solidarity and compassion at a time when it's needed most.**

**To make a gift today, please scan the QR code below.**

If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at [smitchell@umdurham.org](mailto:smitchell@umdurham.org). Thank you for your compassion, generosity. and continued commitment to those we serve.

With sincere gratitude,

*Sheldon*

Sheldon Mitchell  
Executive Director

