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CITY GOSPEL MISSION RELOCATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why do you have to move?

A: We have been looking to relocate since 2003 because our current Over-the-Rhine facility — originally built in the 1940s — is outdated, inefficient and landlocked. The increased need for our programs and services means we need more beds and expanded space to serve more participants.

Q: Why the Queensgate location?

A: The Dalton Avenue site fits City Gospel Mission's and the Continuum of Care's goal to keep shelter and services in the city core. CGM considered other sites, and Queensgate is the best available for the type of facilities we want to develop. The site is centrally located, with access to bus transportation — there is a bus stop on the same block — so that CGM residents can travel to community resources and other facilities that provide care. The site also is located near I-75, making it more accessible for the increased number of volunteers. The new facility will provide adequate parking for staff, volunteers and visiting care providers.

Q: Is zoning at the Queensgate site appropriate for a shelter?

A: A zoning variance was obtained for the site, just as it would be required at any other location in the city. City Council voted to approve the zoning change on June 22, 2011, and we are working with the city and county in accordance with the Homeless to Homes plan.

Q: What services and programs will be available at the new location that you do not currently offer?

A: The facility will allow us to offer full-day services. Currently, residents have to exit our facility after breakfast and are not permitted to return until dinnertime. In the new facility, we will have a state-of-the-art day center. CGM will offer additional case management and more than double the number of shelter and transitional beds. We also will relocate our administrative offices and house the Lord's Gym and Jobs Plus — organizations that complement our mission of breaking the cycle of poverty and despair.

Q: Can you avoid street loitering?

A: A large waiting lobby and a small vestibule are part of the 50,000-square-foot facility plan. Residents and visitors will wait inside instead of outside like they do at our current facility. The day center will drastically reduce daytime foot traffic. Additionally, CGM will partner with the Continuum of Care to provide a shuttle service and bus tokens for residents who need transportation to other programs and services in the city.

Q: Will there be a Good Neighbor Agreement?

A: Yes. It is currently being developed to address additional concerns of nearby businesses and property owners. CGM and the Museum Center reached a Mutual Commitment Agreement on June 16, 2011. CGM has been a good neighbor to OTR residents and Music Hall for decades.

“Breaking the cycle of poverty and despair ... one life at a time.”

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