

MATTHEW BARNETT

DREAM CENTER • P.O. BOX 26629 • LOS ANGELES, CA 90026



With **YOUR** help, we can be a lighthouse of hope in a dark world...



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*YOUR Personalized
Dream Center labels
← enclosed.*



MATTHEW BARNETT

April 2009

Dear Friend,

When you hear about South Central Los Angeles, what's the first image that pops into your mind? Do you think of the neighborhood you've seen on the news again and again because it's a hot spot for gangs and violence? Do you think of a gritty movie or television program detailing the ugly side of the drug trade or homelessness?

All of those pictures are true...but they're only part of the story.

South Central is also home to hundreds of thousands of people just like you and me who are trying to raise kids, pay mortgages, love their families, go to work and make it through every day.

For them, the things we hear about on the news are not a distant threat but a daily challenge and reality. I'm talking about people like Thearithan Bun.

South Central is the only life he's ever known. Most of the first 20 years of his life were spent growing up on those dangerous streets. "This is my home," he said, "I know this community."

Thearithan still lives in the largely Latino housing neighborhood known as Pueblos. The neighborhood is tight knit, where most families know each other and interact daily. Many of the families have economic difficulties that make it hard to get food on the table week after week. And the threat of violence and death haunts their lives every day.

But Thearithan faced more than the usual challenges of a kid growing up on the mean streets of South Central. When he was just ten years old, he found out he had leukemia. For the next five years, his life was a constant cycle of painful medical treatments. Then one day, everything changed.

When Thearithan was 15, his church prayed for him at a special service. "Just like that, my cancer was gone!" he said. That miraculous change gave Thearithan a new purpose in his life. Now 23, he volunteers every week with the Dream Center Food Truck Ministry. He takes food to families just like the one he grew up in—families struggling to get by.

(over, please)

“God has given me a second chance,” he said, “so I’m trying to do what I can to give back.”

Though Thearithan’s life has been very different from most of ours, his heart beats with the same commitment and vision that motivates the work and outreach ministries of the Dream Center...

...and I’m writing you today because like Thearithan, I believe you have a desire to be a help and blessing to others. Your support of the ministry of the Dream Center makes it possible for us to be actively involved in the lives of people in neighborhoods like South Central, transforming the lives of tens of thousands of people.

Enclosed with this letter you will find your special personalized Dream Center address labels. We’re sending this small gift to express our appreciation for your help and friendship in making it possible for us to reach out to places like South Central where so many people are in need. And every time you use them, you’ll be telling people about a place where dreams really do come true.

The Dream Center is able to be a lighthouse of hope in a dark world because you care enough to make a difference!

That desire to give something back, to be a help and encouragement to others is one of the strongest forces in the world. The thousands of volunteers and hundreds of outreaches that make up the Dream Center prove this truth day after day. Your gift this month is so important...and I ask that you make a difference for people by sending that gift today. Thank you in advance for your response.

Your partner to make dreams come true,

Pastor Matthew Barnett

Pastor Matthew Barnett

P.S. You may never be able to come to Los Angeles and be part of an outreach ministry like Thearithan on a Food Truck, but your support is just as vital a part of everything we do. We could not meet these great needs—food, medicine, clothing, blankets, discipleship, addiction recovery, job training and the Gospel—without your help. Please be as generous as you can when you give this month.

P.P.S. Don’t forget to pray for us every time you use one of your personalized Dream Center labels. We appreciate your support and your prayers so very much. God bless you.



The Dream Center is able to be a lighthouse of hope in a dark world because YOU care enough to make a difference!

Every day the Dream Center is making dreams both large and small come true. Whether it's something as simple as food for a family in need or a longer term dream like being free from addiction, your generous support of this life-changing ministry makes it possible for us to transform hurt to hope for thousands of people in need.

Yes, Pastor Matthew, I want to help keep the Dream Center shining brightly as a place of hope in a dark world.

Enclosed is my gift of: \$X \$Y \$_____



(Name)
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(Barcode)

(acct#) (90411 or 90412)

**FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT,
COMPLETE OTHER SIDE.**



Please make check or money order payable to the Dream Center and mail to:
**P.O. Box 26629
Los Angeles, CA 90026**

RETURN TOP PORTION WITH YOUR GIFT IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED.

	(Name) (Address) (Address) (City, ST ZIP)		(Name) (Address) (Address) (City, ST ZIP)		(Name) (Address) (Address) (City, ST ZIP)
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	(Name) (Address) (Address) (City, ST ZIP)	<p>Every time you use these labels, remember to pray for the Dream Center dreamcenter.org</p>			(Name) (Address) (Address) (City, ST ZIP)

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FILL OUT THIS PORTION ONLY IF YOU ARE USING A BANK/CREDIT CARD.

\$ _____

Please charge the amount above to my: __ VISA __ MasterCard __ Discover __ AmEx

Card #: Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Phone (_____) _____



Mail to: **Dream Center**
P.O. Box 26629
Los Angeles, CA 90026

All gifts, less the value of any items received, are tax deductible as allowed by law. Upon receipt of sufficient funds for a specific project, support will be used for an equally important project.



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A Lighthouse of Hope!

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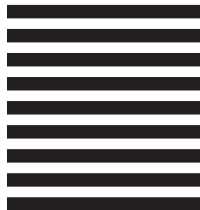
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