



For Immediate Release

The Bowery Mission
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NYC Rescue Alliance Mobilizes More than 1,000 Volunteers to Find the Homeless and Offer Help

(New York, NY) January 27, 2009 –

More than 300 church-based volunteers, will swing into action on Saturday for the fourth week of an intensive homeless rescue effort by five faith-based organizations, led by the Bowery Mission, January 31st at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 2067 5th Avenue (at 127th Street) beginning at 1:30pm.

The volunteers will receive training and fan out to cover Harlem at 5:00pm. Up to 250 homeless are expected to respond to the invitation for a meal and return to the church between 6 and 8pm. More than 50 are expected to join a program of recovery.

Previous outreaches on January 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th have covered the Upper West Side, Midtown, Lower Manhattan and Upper East Side areas respectively. By months end over 1,000 volunteers will have served on the streets. Rescue Alliance project leader and Vice President of The Bowery Mission Brian Johansson says, “This historic cooperation between faith-based charities with more than 300 years combined experience stems from a common desire to see every homeless person in Manhattan get a chance for a new life. The suffering we’ve seen on the streets in this hard winter has been dramatic and heart breaking.”

Since the inception of the program January 3rd, more than 1,000 homeless people have been engaged on the street and 74 placed in a program of recovery. The program has the endorsement and cooperation of the Department of Homeless Services of the City of New York. Organizational participants include: The Bowery Mission, The Relief Bus, New York City Rescue Mission, Street Light Ministries, and Street LIFE Mission.

Volunteers will be available, Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 1:30 pm for interviews. Street outreach teams will be available, Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 5:00 pm to film live shots for the press at St. Andrews Episcopal Church and then will go onto the streets of the Harlem. Please visit our website at www.dontwalkby.org to see how volunteers and donations are making a difference.

For further information and a reservation to accompany teams this Saturday contact:

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