

Christian Artists Help Battle Poverty and 'Bring Light' to the Homeless on LA's 'Skid Row'

Maverick City Music and Kirk Franklin have united to record an album and tour the country, and they added a special tour stop on Los Angeles' Skid Row.

The area is home to one of the largest concentrations of homeless people in the country. The concert was in partnership with the Los Angeles Mission, a non-profit that works with those living in severe poverty in the community.

And it was a dream come true for the Los Angeles Mission President Troy Vaughn. It marked the launch of a strategic plan he has to help those in need.

Vaughn told CBN's Studio 5, "About five years or so ago, God gave me a vision called Music Matters. Music Matters stands for Maintaining Universal Strategic Investment In Community. And we can have, as the backdrop, bring music back to our heart. Music is a universal language and everybody understands music, right? And then we can use that as the backdrop of community transformation."

"What would that look like? And so, what we're going to do is launch it today, right? Today is ground zero. And, you know, God brought me back full circle here because I think it's really important for us to understand that homelessness, at least here in Los Angeles, we understand homelessness with a clear association with Skid Row. And so we come back today to send a message," Vaughn told CBN News.

Part of his vision included having Grammy Award-winning

contemporary worship group Maverick City Music and Kirk Franklin perform on the streets.

Vaughn said, “I’m overwhelmed by the magnitude of God’s love and generosity, His grace and His mercy. I was at a Maverick City concert two years ago and I was in the audience. I got up the last one on the microphone and I asked him to come to Skid Row.”

Fast forward to this year. Vaughn learned Maverick City was coming to town for a couple of days and they wanted to come and serve through their Maverick City Initiative.

This is deeply personal to Pastor Vaughn. Before becoming President of LA Mission, he was homeless and living on the streets of Skid Row.

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