





3 | Las Vegas Ministry Center



Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Send Relief works with churches and volunteers to meet needs and change lives in communities within the U.S. and around the world.

By offering help and hope to the most vulnerable in collaboration with missionaries, local ministries and churches, your gifts and efforts through Send Relief have a long-term impact.

With Send Relief's help, churches and partners like you receive resources and training to be the hands and feet of Jesus to communities in crisis, refugees, human trafficking survivors, those affected by natural disasters and vulnerable children and families.

Ministry Centers

Send Relief ministry centers deliver compassion ministry within local communities while providing mission trips and training opportunities for churches all over the country. The goal of ministry centers is twofold: serve communities well and encourage others to do the same.

All over North America, Send Relief ministry centers actively assess community needs, develop ministry strategies, deliver ministry and provide opportunities for others to go on mission.





There is much more to Las Vegas than what people see on television. It is a place of contradictions.

- This big city functions like a small town in many ways. People in each community know each other and come together in times of trouble.
- Those who call Las Vegas home rarely visit the Strip. Instead, they take advantage of the great outdoors and vast shopping opportunities.
- Las Vegas has the highest rates of human trafficking per capita, and poverty and homelessness are rampant.

Las Vegas is a city located in Clark County, Nevada. It is also the county seat of Clark County. With a 2020 population of 667,501, it is the largest city in Nevada and the 25th-largest city in the United States.

• Las Vegas is growing at a rate of **1.23%** annually, and its population has increased by 14.35% since the 2010 census.

• The average household income in Las Vegas is **\$79,657**, with a poverty rate of **15.28%**.

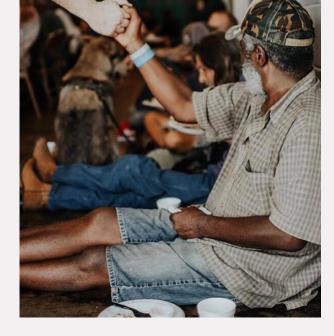
Las Vegas, an internationally renowned resort city is the most populous in Nevada and is known for gambling, shopping, fine dining and nightlife.

• Billed as the Entertainment Capital of the World, Las Vegas is quickly transforming into a favorite family and retirement city.

Las Vegas Diversity

Non-Hispanic whites are still the largest ethnic group in Las Vegas, but their proportion of the city's population has declined (from 72% in 1990 to less than 48% in 2010).

- Las Vegas is sometimes referred to as the ninth island of Hawaii because many people from the state have moved to Las Vegas.
- As the Las Vegas Sun recently reported, about 20% of all Hawaiians have visited Las Vegas.



Las Vegas has one of the highest marriage (and divorce) rates in the United States.

 This rate is because Nevada marriage licenses are easy to obtain. It is easier to divorce in Nevada than in most states. which leads to many people traveling from other states to get a divorce in Nevada.

Nevada ranks 10th in the Nation for the total number of human trafficking cases reported to the National Human trafficking hotline.

- More than **90%** of this subset are sex trafficking cases.
- The FBI identified Las Vegas as 1 of 13 High-Intensity Child Prostitution Areas in the U.S.

Source: https://impact-nv.org/human-trafficking

Las Vegas Ministry Center Snapshot

Ministries

Strengthen Communities

• Poverty, Homelessness and Education Ministries

Care for Refugees

Protect Children and Families

Family Advocacy Ministries (FAMs)

Fight Human Trafficking

• Trauma Counseling and Education Ministries

Mobilization Opportunities





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-Kathleen Khal

Las Vegas Ministry Center Community Partnerships The HUB Ministry and Hope Church

Send Relief's Las Vegas Ministry Center works to minister to vulnerable people.

A partnership between Send Relief, The Hub: Urban Ministries and Hope Church, this ministry center is on a mission to give everyone in the city of Las Vegas access to a restored life. By rebuilding dignity, value and worth in the lives of the underprivileged, the center helps people transition out of poverty and trafficking.

"The glamorization of the sex industry here in Las Vegas has led to the harm, exploitation and trafficked of many. It's an incredible city full of amazing people, but there is also a lot of darkness and hurting people living here," says ministry center director Kathleen Kahl. "We have large homeless communities throughout, and our state ranks in the top five for having the most homeless youth."

 The center functions as a participation-based ministry, teaching the value of earning and giving a platform for people to participate in their lifechange process.

- In partnership with Send Relief, the Las Vegas Ministry Center is currently working on moving into its new building.
- This move will allow them to expand their capacity and serve more people experiencing poverty and homelessness.
- As they work to love and help those experiencing poverty, they rely on God for restoration on every level addressing their physical and spiritual needs.



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-Kathleen Khal

History of the Las Vegas Ministry Center

The Las Vegas Ministry Center began when Hope Church was interested in finding ways to make an actual impact on the city. After much prayer, they settled on three areas they wanted to see change in Las Vegas: foster care, human trafficking and education. They quickly realized joining forces with other ministries would exponentially increase their impact.

"The Christian community is surprisingly strong here," says Kathleen. "So even in a city as transient and tourist-focused as Las Vegas, we have a solid group of individuals who call this place home and want to see Jesus transform the community for good."

Volunteers run the programs. They also serve meals, sort and organize donations and

perform outreach — including visits to weekly motels where poverty and trafficking are common.

In this outreach, the ministry center meets people who fall into every one of the ministry center's focus areas.

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The Las Vegas Ministry Center currently partners with the Department of Family Services, other nonprofits, public schools, churches and more.

Sometimes local groups and government agencies hesitate to partner with a Christian organization, but persistence and ministry success have broken many barriers.

"We work with many nonprofits who work with foster, adoptive and kinship families, the homeless population, survivors of trafficking and high-risk youth. We also partner with businesses and rehabs and just started working with hospitals," says Kathleen adding, "We also collaborate with the local school district and work closely with five partner schools. Our relationships with government agencies and nonprofits have formed genuine friendships. and we couldn't do what we do without them."









Las Vegas Ministries

Future Ministry Plans

- Expand Strengthen Communities Ministries
- Expand Fight Human Trafficking Ministries
- Expand Protect Children and Families Ministries

Vision

The Las Vegas Ministry Center would love to see a change in the way churches in Las Vegas view serving the vulnerable. It can quickly become an "us-versus-them" mentality or can happen in a way that's not very empowering.

"God is at work here in Las Vegas in a powerful way. We are seeing people plant new churches and desire to work together to fight the darkness in our city. I believe that if we continue to band together the way we have been, we can see Las Vegas transformed, lives restored, and the gospel shared throughout our city," says Kathleen.



One of the most powerful ways to show the most vulnerable the love of Christ is by taking steps toward them. By helping churches be the hands and feet of Jesus, Send Relief supports and provides opportunities for those who desire to respond directly to these needs in lasting, meaningful ways while sharing the hope of the gospel.

Give

Your gift provides critical, immediate help to families and communities that need it most. Give today to provide practical care and share the love of Jesus.

Click here or scan the QR code to give



Contact

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Serve

Participate in various compassion opportunities by taking a mission trip and vision tour to a ministry center around North America. Mission trips can include apartment outreach, food pantry ministry, after-school programs, sports ministry, canvassing, prayer walking, homeless ministry, physical labor, serving at-risk families and university campus ministry. The trip also includes aspects of training and equipping so you can learn how to connect and serve the international and refugee communities in your cities.

Click here to sign up





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