

{ *Who are the people you see every day?* }

No. 87
in a series.



People We See

Shelterless in Los Angeles.

Meet Gloria McKay.



AGE: "I'm 53."
BIRTHPLACE: "Atlanta."
FAMILY: "I have two sisters, three brothers and two half-brothers, but we're not close. I have a daughter and a son."
MARITAL STATUS: "Married but separated."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from high school. I played basketball, volleyball and hockey."
MILITARY: "I almost joined the Army, but I got pregnant and went to nursing school instead. Unfortunately I never graduated from nursing school."
RELIGION: "I belong to the Church of God in Christ."
MEDICATIONS: "No."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE: "Mainly in hotels."
HER STORY: "When I lived in Atlanta I lived in a bad area, and I wanted a better life for my kids. I confronted the drug dealers that were using my property, and they made my life very hard. I tried to get help from my congresswoman but that didn't work. I kept fighting to keep my kids safe, but then one day they took my daughter away; she was only 10 years old. They said I wasn't a fit mother. I was devastated, and I came out to LA to get Johnny Cochran to get my girl back . . . but he died soon after I got here. I have been here ever since with my son living in hotels and the missions trying to have someone help me with my case. To this date I haven't seen my daughter."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "Jesus."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Law and Order."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "I like the actors from Law and Order. I love that show. That's the way legal matters should be dealt with."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Soul food! Fried chicken, potato salad, sweet potatoes, and pound-cake-style cornbread."
FAVORITE CANDY: "Snickers."
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "I don't really have one."
LAST JOB: "I worked at the Georgia World Dome."
LAST BOOK READ: "The Bible . . . and I always read the Sunday paper."
LAST MEAL EATEN: "Nothing yet . . . but just last night I had something."
MOST HELPFUL ORGANIZATION: "None."
MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "Rent receipts."
WITH \$1 MILLION: "I would open two Comfort Inns. One would be a place where the homeless can live. It would have a church in it, and I would hire someone from Oral Roberts University to minister at it. I would invite the homeless from all over the world."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Don't become homeless – people look at you like you are a piece of garbage."
MAKE A WISH: "That the Lord change the world, and everyone love and treat each other right."

The Club gave Gloria a Bucket and a Blanket, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.

The interview, conducted by John Hawkins, took place Aug. 19 at Third and Los Angeles Streets.

Gloria (right) and Club CEO John Hawkins.

{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, and Director of Sales Angel Gomez, introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell. }