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**\*\*** PRESS RELEASE **\*\***

Footwashing Offers Reflective Begining to Easter Weekend

**What**: Houston, TX – Open Door Mission <http://www.opendoorhouston.org>) a Christian faith and evidence-based recovery and rehabilitation facility located in Houston’s East End, will begin Holy Week with a special Maundy Thursday service on March 24th, including a traditional washing of the feet ceremony.

The ritual of washing of the feet recalls Jesus’ actions in John 13:1-17 just before the Last Supper. In Jesus’ time foot washing was known as the lowest form of servant work and today it serves as a reminder of humility and service to others.

**When**: Thursday, March 24th at 10:30 am

**Where**: Open Door Mission – 5803 Harrisburg Blvd., Houston, TX 77011-4323

**Photo Opportunities:**

* Open Door Mission Board of Directors, staff and residents of the Mission and the public participating in the foot washing ceremony

**Interview Opportunities**:

* Tommy Thompson, President & CEO of Open Door Mission
* Open Door Mission Board of Directors
* Open Door Mission residents and alumni

**About Open Door Mission**Established in 1954, Open Door Mission serves as a faith-based recovery and rehabilitation center dedicated to transforming the lives of homeless, addicted, destitute or disabled men in the Greater Houston area.

The Mission’s programs do this by equipping men recovering from drug and alcohol addiction with as many tools as possible to maintain life-long sobriety. Open Door Mission also prepares men for employment and a living wage with job-readiness training, GED classes, college class-work and mentoring. As part of the program, residents and Alumni give thousands of volunteer hours to nonprofits, neighborhood improvement and civic projects throughout the Greater Houston area.

Free, supportive and compassionate convalescent care where men can recover from surgery, illness and injury and access a host of social services is also provided.

For more information about Open Door Mission, visit [www.opendoorhouston.org](http://www.opendoorhouston.org).

*The alcohol and drug treatment and recovery services offered at Open Door Mission are exclusively religious in nature and are not subject to licensure or regulation by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. This program offers only nonmedical treatment and recovery methods such as prayer, moral guidance, spiritual counseling and scriptural study.*

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