



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope  
for the Homeless*

**50** *Years*  
1964-2014

AUGUST 2014

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## A Veteran Rescued

There are no jobs for gunners on tanks in civilian life. After nine years in the Army and a tour of duty in Iraq, this sergeant became a private citizen again. David was not physically injured, but there are other forms and degrees of casualties that never make the statistics books. Symptoms can go undetected. Victims can self-medicate with alcohol or other substances, not fully realizing or understanding the source of their problem. Then, like David, alcohol becomes an added issue, for both the psychology of addiction and the physical injury to internal body organs. Personal and employment relationships get stressed and broken. Some wandering and searching is common. And homelessness is more prevalent for the veteran.

After his honorable discharge, David returned to the Oregon coast, where he had spent a portion of his childhood. He worked in lumber mills. He said, "I was chasing around work on the coast, until the work dried up." He arrived in Roseburg last November on a bus. After spending that Thursday in a motel, he entered the Mission the next day. By Monday, he was at the Employment Department updating his resume. On the same day at the Mission, he was getting slacks, a shirt and tie. With a military type determination David said, "I wasn't going to give up until somebody hired me." On Thursday, just a week after arriving here, he had a job. After working that job a few months, he applied for a more substantial position with another company. But he was turned down by their medical insurance provider because of the bodily harm done by alcohol. There was another unrecorded veteran casualty.

Of the Mission, David said, "This place is a sanctuary. When you have a problem in life, you don't have to worry about drugs or alcohol here. You leave the world out there. This place is home. This has become like my family. The Mission provided structure; without it, I just fall apart. I wake up and there is something to do, people to talk to, work, a set bed time. I needed it, craved it. Its a safe place." The Mission's organization does resemble a barracks, chow hall and work details, similar to military life. He is pictured here in our Furniture Store, a place he enjoys working.

And of our chapel services, they were a welcomed blessing. David had a revelation of the presence of the Lord while standing on the beach one night in prayer. So chapel messages were more than just words of hope in troubled times; they were personal. He said, "Chapel services are good, refreshing to hear the Word from different people, different dynamics. I enjoy the music; a guy brings drums and a guitar. Its really nice to be in a Christ center place that hasn't folded from the government pressure to stop preaching for money." David's favorite Scripture verse is, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." I Corinthians 13:13. He said that at the Mission, he has known love from God and from the people that are here. "Thank you from the bottom of my heart."



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## School Supplies Needed

**Children's Backpacks**  
**Over the Shoulder Bags**  
**Zippered Pencil Pouches**  
**Flash Thumb Drives**  
**8-10 oz Hand Sanitizer**  
**Hand-held Pencil Sharpener**  
**#2 Ticonderoga Pencils**  
**Pencil Top Erasers**  
**Spiral Bound Grid Paper**  
**Notebook Paper College Rule**  
**Spiral Notebooks Wide Rule**  
**Composition Notebooks**  
**3-Ring Tab Dividers**  
**Scientific Calculators**  
**Certificates For Shoes**  
**Facial Tissue**  
**Fiskar Scissors**  
**Protractor**  
**Rulers**  
**Highlighters**  
**Erasers**  
**Colored Pencils**  
**Glue Sticks**  
**Color Crayons**  
**Black & Red Pens**  
**2" Binders**  
**Felt Markers**

### BASIC SERVICES

For men, women and children  
**Food:** 3 meals every day  
**Clothing:** Available to all  
**Recovery Program:** ..... 20  
**Transitional Housing:** ..... 36  
**Client Shelter:** ..... 120  
**Emergency Shelter:** ..... 24  
**Total Beds Available:** ..... 200  
**Dayrooms:** Open all day  
 Laundry, showers, phone, etc.  
**Thrift Stores:** Items vouchered to those in need, sold to others  
**Chapel:** A part of our daily lives.



## Canned Food Drive

**237** times every day of last year, a hungry person ate a meal at the Mission. That was 86,479 meals. Most of these people were staying at the Mission. Some camped outdoors. A few are neighbors in the community. A basic necessity of life is met. Meals are prepared at two separate, shelter kitchens; one is at our downtown facility for men, women, and children to eat, the other is at our Samaritan Inn just for women and children. It takes a great deal of food to maintain two kitchens and this pace of consumption. Its relentless.

Cupboards are getting bare and supplies more scarce. We do not receive food from the USDA, that is food banks, because of our chapel services. We were receiving canned fruits and vegetables from a cannery in Salem, but they closed. We were also getting food from a cannery in California, but no more. Chain grocery stores have company policies that require that they only give to food banks, not independent organizations. And we never ask for client's food stamps.

On the bright side, some local and dedicated organizations are supporting the homeless at the Mission with food items. Many individuals in our community regularly share food here. We are grateful and thank you very much. Right now the need exceeds the supply. All types of food can be used here; however, canned foods are the most nonperishable and easiest to store in the pantry.

### Jesus said, "For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat." Matthew 25:35

Perhaps your church could do a canned food drive as a mission's project. This would not be another community food drive to feed those who are food insecure; we do not provide food boxes. The Roseburg Rescue Mission is the mission field to the homeless in our community. This ministry uses the social service of providing three prepared meals every day as a means of reaching the poor, the same as foreign missionaries use medical assistance, teaching English or diggings wells. By showing the action of genuine love in meeting real physical needs, people are open to listening to the Gospel. When we put forth the effort to make their physical lives better, they take more seriously the effort to address their relationship with the Lord of their eternal, spiritual lives. Our purpose is to evangelize hungry hearts, then feed hungry stomachs.

Food can be brought to our downtown kitchen at 513 SE Lane Avenue in Roseburg. From there we will distribute it to Samaritan Inn as needed. Thank you for being a part of this ministry to the poor of our community.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director

