



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

48 *Years*
1964-2012

MAY 2012

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Veterans of the Mission & VA

According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, "Only 8% of the general population can claim veteran status, but nearly one-fifth (20%) of the homeless population are veterans. A large number of displaced and at-risk veterans live with lingering effects of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse." Surveys of homeless men report one-third (33%) are veterans. Armed service veterans stay homeless, on average, longer than non-veterans.

Roseburg is a hub of veteran activity because of the local VA services that are offered. Homeless veterans are drawn to Roseburg to access those services.

Many stay at the Mission for a night or for months before, during and/or after receiving VA services. The VA Hospital adds millions of dollars to the local economy. Veterans live and shop in this community. The VA helps to even define Roseburg much like a university helps to define a so-called college town. The Mission is similarly defined at least in size and clientele. We do not contract beds for veterans working with the VA, because we have been blessed with ample shelter, food and clothing for them. Douglas County is supportive of the Mission and the VA, as we serve those that have served our country.

The Mission and the VA Hospital both have chapels, preachers and staff available for counseling. Granted the VA is secular and the Mission is a Christian organization; still, we share a common bond of agreement in the

spiritual need of our clients, however voluntary or integral that faith is to our organizations. The accrediting organization of hospitals requires a spiritual aspect in the operation of each hospital. The chaplaincy department is a part of meeting the whole need of patients in the modern healthcare system. In VA programs like the one for PTSD, spiritual assessments are done on each patient to determine their need while in that program. Similarly at the Mission in our New Life Program, intake interviews are done to understand each one's relationship with the Lord. Our new Life Program consists of chapels, Bible studies, addiction and life skills classes,

counseling and goal setting. It is not a requirement to be a Christian to be in the Mission's program, just an openness to discover our Creator and Savior. All of the vets pictured here have been to Mission chapel services and profess a faith in the Lord.

These same veterans, Sue, Michael, Tim and Daniel, have stayed or are staying at the Mission. All use VA services. They are not meant to be a complete representation of veterans using services at both places; yet, collectively they have utilized many of the programs offered. They all came to Roseburg and plan to remain here because the VA Hospital and Mission are here. All are using the HUD-VASH program, that is, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Veterans Affairs Supported Housing. One vet has already been placed in housing in the community.



Memorial Day

The Last Monday of May
May 28, 2012

Memorial Day began after the Civil War to commemorate fallen soldiers. At first it was known as Decoration Day, a day to decorate their grave sites, often with flowers. By the 20th century, Memorial Day had become a day to honor all Americans who have died in all wars. Now the day has become one of remembering relatives and friends whether they have served in the military or not. American flags are often placed on the grave sites of veterans. Military bands play, parades take place, work stops for many. Memorial Day is a day to remember the sacrifice of our veterans, the price of our freedom and the blessings of God on our country.

Two are still in the Mission's Transitional Housing Program, the other is in our dormitory. Years ago, the Mission purchased two Single Room Occupancy Hotels downtown. Now men can rent rooms for up to two years. They need to be in our dorm 30 days, graduate from our New Life Program or be referred to us by a social service organization like the VA.

Veterans utilize other services as well. Some of these vets were at the VA Domiciliary in White City, OR for long-term addiction issues. Some have used the VA Roseburg's short-term inpatient or outpatient addiction programs.

One has used the VA Roseburg's inpatient Psychiatric Program at least partially due to combat related issues. Some have used the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) van for transport between the VA and Mission. One of these vets has Parkinson's disease, one has a traumatic brain injury, all have utilized the VA medical services.

When the crises of physical, psychological and spiritual health as well as homelessness come together, the VA Roseburg Healthcare System and the Roseburg Rescue Mission work together to meet the needs of our veterans.

Items Needed:
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Pepper
Onions
Carrots
Disposable Razors
Deodorants
Baby Diapers

**Remember the
 Roseburg Rescue
 Mission in your
 Estate Planning**



Good News Club

Shirley is volunteering to present the Good News Club to children and their mothers at the Mission's Samaritan Inn. It's part of her ministry representing Child Evangelism Fellowship. For 15 weeks, she will teach a weekly class using songs, Scripture memory verses, stories and fun activities to inspire the involvement of students. Leading up to Easter, the focus was on the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, bringing that story to life. Attendance has been 8 to 12 homeless children, who are inspired to a hope beyond their current circumstances to a time when life will be better now and to an eternal life with the Lord. "It's about the most fun I've had in my life," Shirley said after her first session here, "The enthusiasm of the parents with their children encourages me too." Thank you Shirley. May young faith break the cycle of homelessness!

Dear Friends,

Jesus ate and drank with tax-gatherers and sinners, that is, those who appear to have fallen away or missed the mark to be in God's will. Jesus wants to bring the lost into the Kingdom of God. He said, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means,

I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,

for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

The Mission is a ministry to those who could be said to be among the tax-gatherers and sinners of our day. Many homeless, however, are truly innocent victims of a fallen world. Not all who wander are lost. Still, Jesus' calling is not to those who are now right with God, but to those who are not. The focus is on loving God and loving neighbor, not on our sacrifice. Our Christian response does include sacrifice, but our motivation is to be compassionate to others and the motivation of our Lord's sacrifice for us. It's not about what we as individuals are doing or giving up, because our offerings cannot buy salvation or a closer relationship with the Lord. It's not about us, it's about the Lord and compassion for His creation that still need Him.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are many ways to be "A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless".

Here are some of our current needs:

Samaritan Inn
 Chapel Services
 Bible Study
Men's Mission
 Chapel Service
 Thrift Store
 GED Tutors

Apply on our website or in our office.

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.