



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

50 *Years*
1964-2014

FEBRUARY 2014

752 SE Pine St • PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470 • (541) 673-3004 • www.roseburgrescuemission.org

Veteran Finds Housing

Jim utilized the Roseburg Rescue Mission while waiting for the new construction to be completed of a Veterans Administration housing project. He was on the waiting list for the new Eagle's Landing on the VA Roseburg grounds. Other homeless, veteran men stayed at the Mission as well, anxious for opening day. Still others here wait for additional VA housing programs. They are well screened by their VA caseworkers and deemed to be stable and highly motivated to succeed. Jim's time at the Mission will be just over two months.

He was in the U.S. Army with nine years active duty and was honorably discharged. He has several physical disabilities, some of which happened in the service of our country. He has Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), having been in military action. Staff sergeant was his rate; wheeled vehicle mechanic was his rating.

After his discharge from the army, he bought a boat repair business and was involved in it for nearly 20 years. Health issues caused him to sell his business. For a few years then, he worked at a wood mill, until an on the job accident. Not able to work any longer, he started selling his rental houses and video store. Living on the proceeds of a once financially successful life, the time came when the money ran out. His marriage ended when he could not provide for his wife. He stayed with friends and family. Depression set in and the drinking became heavy.

Jim had successfully transitioned into civilian life, until matters got out of control. It was then that the PTSD and physical injuries of his military service really intensified. They were aggravated by the loss of the personal infrastructure in his life. Our country then stood behind its promise to support our veterans, especially when their service to us adversely affects them.

HUD has similar subsidized housing for low income, non-veterans. However, Eagle's landing gives preference to veterans, places them closer to veteran's services right on campus, opens up additional high quality housing and can make entrance financially easier for qualifying veterans like Jim.

In the photograph, Jim is at a workbench in the Mission warehouse, where he uses his military diagnostic and repair training on donated electrical and electronic items. He wants to stay busy and productive. The American flag in the background was his idea. Of the men at the Mission, 35% are veterans; while in the general public, 24% of men are veterans.

The Mission's impact went far beyond physical necessities. Indeed, our main purpose is to help people find eternal housing with the Lord of Life. Jim said, "I had received Christ, but fell away when all the bad things happened. I was not too happy with Him (God). I thought that I had hit bottom, and there was no way for me to get back up again. Chapel here was a whole new thing for me. I never studied the Bible. Now I understand that God will forgive us. At the Mission, my faith has been renewed. I have confidence in myself and in God that He is going to help me. Thank you."



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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

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: 24

Transitional Housing: 36

Client Shelter: 118

Emergency Shelter: 32

Total Beds Available: 210

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.

Items Needed:

Dry Milk

Spices-Pasta

Pancake Mix & Syrup

Oatmeal

Tomato Sauce

Baby Strollers

Car Seats

High Chairs

Quilts

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

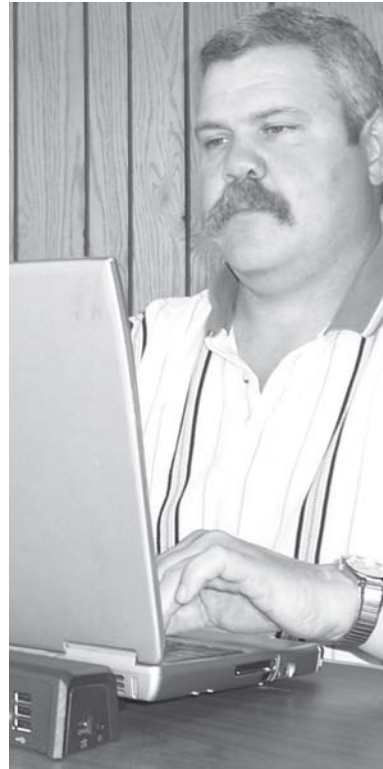
Veterans Join Mission Program

Jason is a veteran that experienced military combat. It has left him with an internal scar of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. All too often our protectors return home with issues that affect their ability to cope with daily life. Such ailments can be difficult to diagnose, accept, admit, submit for treatment. Some vets deal with it by self-medicating, that is using alcohol or other substances. Jason drank. He would hold a job for a while and live in his pickup, so he could isolate and save expenses to drink.

Housing was not going to solve Jason's problems, nor was he in any condition to qualify for it. He had no income, no ability to hold a job, no means of overcoming his disability. He needed hope. The Mission provides food, clothing, shelter and a rehabilitation program. In our program, we care for the needs of the individual, but the quality of care for the whole group has to take priority to maintain the integrity of the program. We have an initial phase called the "Pipeline" that allows a person into the work aspect, but keeps them out of the classes until they are ready for Phase One. Our program provides work training, Bible study classes, chapel, classes in education, life skills and addiction recovery, personal counseling and goal setting. Every aspect in life that could keep a person from being successful is addressed.

Jason was in a self-destruct mode. He had to decide that he wanted help; no one could make him. He said, "I don't know if I was at the bottom of my rope, or I was just ready to see what was wrong with me. The mission has helped me take care of my problems. I would still be out in my truck. This is the longest I've been anywhere in quite a few years."

As in Jason's case, sometimes it takes more than one try at our program. He has now been back in the program several months and is doing very well. He is a supervisor of our Dayroom and Dormitory areas. Jason said, "I used to



get real anxious in our classes. Now I'm not so anxious. Its going to happen the way God designed it to happen. Now I let the job happen, and I don't sweat the small stuff. I used to get angry when I disagreed. Now my job is to follow the leader, not be the leader, which has gotten me into trouble. Everybody deserves my respect, compassion, forgiveness. It allows a whole lot of pain to go away and the rest of your life to grow up."

Jason also said, "I'm learning more than just the words of the Bible, but putting it into action. I'm learning to care for myself and others. You've gotten me healthier, happier-physically, mentally, spiritually. He then quoted, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face

"You've gotten me healthier, happier-physically, mentally, spiritually!"

trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance" James 1:2-3. He said, "Its not easy to be joyful in the midst of trouble. I've learned to be easier, not fight it so much, let it transpire and go from there."

Jason is transforming into a new creature, not remaining an old one with a new cover. He is getting the help he needed; housing will be next.



Lynn Antis,
Executive Director