



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope  
for the Homeless*

**51** *Years*  
1964-2015

MAY 2015

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## A Safe Place To Be

Lisa was knocked about a room by an overpowering aggressor. She is a victim of domestic violence and suffered a traumatic injury to her neck. Surgery was done, removing bone from her hip to repair her neck. Pain pills were prescribed with this warning, "Misuse of narcotic medication can cause addiction, overdose or death." The caution includes withdrawal symptoms, impaired thinking or reaction, avoid driving and drowsiness can cause falls or other accidents. The rippling effect of domestic violence had invaded every aspect of her life: health, relationships including her daughter, employment. It caused depression and sleeplessness. When the prescription refills ran out, Lisa said the withdrawals were unbearable. She turned to illegal drugs for relief, but she was only addressing the symptoms, not the actual cause. It only made life worse, with a new more powerful addiction. And the drug supply seemed unending. She said, "You don't have to look for them; they (the dealers) come looking for you." Trouble and even more violence followed. She was in a downward spiral.

When all else failed and Lisa needed a safe place to be for herself and her ten-year-old daughter Skylee, she called the Mission's Samaritan Inn. But we were full, with 50 other women and children in similar circumstances. A housing agency paid for two nights in an inexpensive

motel. When she called us back, there was an opening, but it was for emergency use on couches in our living room. Not everyone has been so fortunate to only wait two nights to get in. Before too long, they were in real beds here. Lisa said, "This is the place to be, to be around people that care about you and help you get on your feet. Linda (Samaritan Inn manager) gave me more resources than I ever received before. The love that is in this house is amazing."

**"But we were full, with 50 other women and children in similar circumstances."**



Lisa is a Christian that has struggled in her walk with the Lord. She said, "I see how much Linda loves the Lord and I want that. I thought I had to have a man in my life, and I don't feel that way anymore. I have always felt a hole in my heart, an emptiness. No man could fill it, no drug, only the Lord can fill that emptiness. The Lord is so present in the house (at Samaritan Inn) that when I am gone, I miss it. It feels so good to be home."

While Lisa and her daughter were waiting those two nights for an opening at Samaritan Inn, the motel manager offered her a job there. Then a convenience store, that she walked into, asked if she wanted to work there. Suddenly, she had two part-time jobs and never applied for either one. Now while she is at work and sees struggling mothers trying to care for themselves and their children at the motel, she encourages them to go to Samaritan Inn. Lisa says, "It's the place to be."

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

*Volunteers are needed in these areas:*

Chapel Services  
Bible Study  
Thrift Store

*Apply on our website or in our office.*

## BASIC SERVICES

For men, women and children

**Food:** 3 meals every day.

**Clothing:** Available to all.

**Housing:** 250 beds

**Transitional Housing:** Rentals (Men)

**Recovery Program:** Open to Men and Women.

**Dayrooms:** Open all day.

Restrooms, laundry, showers, phone, etc.

**Thrift Stores:** Items vouchered to those in need, sold to others.

**Chapel:** A part of our daily lives.

## More Room In The Inn

In social services terms, reducing or eliminating homeless women and children being turned away for a lack of capacity was our goal. When the proposal to use the old Umpqua Medical Center was presented to the city Community Development Department, they calculated the maximum number of people allowed there at 119, based on the square footage of the property. We then designed the remodeling project around that number to minimize those being turned away. Maximizing capacity required a design that combined the Chapel, Dayroom and Dining Room into one multipurpose room, simply named the Dayroom. Space is not used for areas that are only occupied occasionally during the day. In addition, the chairs can stack up and the dining tables fold up to roll out of the way. The flexibility allows for this room to accommodate the various uses as needed throughout the day or season. There is no goal to fill its capacity; we really hope that never has to happen.



The photo above is of the new single women's dormitory. It will have 50 beds, that is the equivalent of all our existing Samaritan Inn. An additional 69 beds will be placed throughout the rest of the facility. What used to be doctor's condominium units will be pod living areas, mostly for mothers and children but also for singles as needed. Waiting rooms will be living rooms, exam rooms become bedrooms, some nurse stations will be showers, a couple of medical records rooms change to laundry rooms. One unit will have the manager's office, receptionist, program classroom and storage, all with minimal remodeling. One pod living area is designated just for staff that live on-site and for women on the New Life Program.

Congestion will be reduced. Now there is a rather elaborate schedule to use the showers and laundry facilities throughout the day. It looks like a "Cheaper By The Dozen" movie or too many roommates in a small apartment comedy. The new Samaritan Inn will relieve that stress with 18 showers, 25 toilets, 9 washers, 9 dryers and numerous hand washing stations. The kitchen will no longer be the path to the backyard. The Dayroom is large enough for everyone to have a seat, eat and go to chapel together.

**"For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God."**

**2 Corinthians 4:15**

In ministry terms, increasing the spread of the Gospel is our goal. A larger Samaritan Inn will deliver the message of hope in Christ to more women and children. The chapel area will seat more people. The New Life Program will be expanded. There will be more room for additional women in Bible study, Bible-based addiction recovery and life skills classes. The increase in well-grounded women and children will reduce those returning here, because they will be better equipped to live independently.

We are still on schedule to open by the end of May.

**Items Needed:**  
**Powdered Milk**  
**Canned Fruits**  
**Canned Veggies**  
**Pancake Mix**  
**Syrup**  
**Toothpaste**  
**Disposable Razors**  
**Towels**  
**Deodorant**

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