



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope  
for the Homeless*

**51** *Years*  
1964-2015

AUGUST 2015

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## Rescued From Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence is the number one reason mothers and children, as well as single women, flee from their living situation to find safety at Samaritan Inn. They are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, both nationally and locally. Some missions already have more women and children than men; we are fast on that same course. The problem goes beyond an economic recession. Mental illness and substance abuse are issues. There is a decline in the value of marriage. Family and social networking are giving way to greater dependence on government and nonprofit organizations. People are losing their faith.

Amy made the classic marriage mistake. She said, "I thought that I could change him. I thought I loved him. I could rescue him." Now in hindsight, it was more of a codependent relationship. Each person thought their marriage would build each other up, but the reality is that they were a drain to one another. It smoldered for ten years. By then, they had a child, Ezekiel, who is six years old. And indeed, he was in the middle of the parental turmoil, even the final relationship breaking event.

The child's father had an alcohol and drug addiction. At first, he hid the problem. Amy was a little naïve. He was verbally and physically abusive to both his wife and son. In time, the problem came out in the open, so much so, that the neighbors could hear it, even the apartment manager. They were evicted. He knew their relationship was over. Under the influence of some mind altering substance, he foolishly and desperately took Ezekiel and fled. Perhaps, he was trying to keep a relationship, that he could still cling to and control. He went to a very familiar place, under the outside stairs of their

church. They spent the night there. Ezekiel was safe; his father was in trouble for kidnapping and drugs; Amy was suddenly a single mom.

They stayed with a friend for a couple of weeks, until over occupancy laws caused them to have to move. She called Samaritan Inn, but we were full. However, they were able to get in the next day. She said, "I went to Samaritan Inn with anxiety and discouragement. I thought we would get beds in a large, open dorm, but I got a room with my son. I walked in the front door and panicked. Tanya was sitting at the desk. She was very helpful, answering all my questions. She was very upbeat and made me feel welcomed. I had no job, no money. We stayed three months. We met a lot of nice people and made friends."

The year before she was married, Amy became a Christian. She went through the whole, difficult ten year marriage as a believer. But, she had become rather discouraged. She said, "If I was not at Samaritan Inn, I probably would have lost my way, spiritually dried up. Chapel kept me going, uplifted. I felt hope that I would get my life together. I was able to talk about God with people openly." Ezekiel learned a Bible verse and is still able to quote it months later. He said that he likes Jesus, singing and the playground. He remembers asking Linda, our manager, to pray with him after he received his immunization shots for school.

Amy and Ezekiel have moved out of Samaritan Inn. She has been working a job for eight months and has stopped all government assistance programs. She said that we helped her and her son get through the hardest time in their lives. And they are active in their local church. Rescued!



## School Supplies Needed

Children's Backpacks  
Over the Shoulder Bags  
Zippered Pencil Pouches  
Flash Thumb Drives  
8-10 oz. Hand Sanitizer  
School Box (about 9"x6")  
#2 Ticonderoga Pencils  
Plastic Pencil Boxes  
Spiral Bound Grid Paper  
Notebook Paper  
(Wide & College Rule)  
Spiral Notebooks Wide Rule  
Composition Notebooks  
3-Ring Binders 2" size  
3-Ring Tab Dividers  
Facial Tissue  
Fiskar Scissors  
Scientific Calculators  
Rulers • Erasers • Pens  
Highlighters  
Colored Pencils  
Glue Sticks • Crayons  
Dry Erase Markers  
Shoe Gift Certificates

### 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.



## New Samaritan Inn Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting & Walk Through, August 19, 2015, 2pm

A ribbon will be cut and some words spoken to celebrate the opening of the new Samaritan Inn. Its truly a victory for homeless women and children against the scourge of domestic violence, child abuse and neglect. Its a time to reflect on the size and seriousness of this social problem and to observe what can be done when we work together as humble, obedient servants. Its a formal announcement of a very public place, the location to be well known to the community, so referrals can easily be made. Security is provided by fencing on all sides. The picture above is of the new sign in front of the facility that will be lighted at night. Hope is increased for those who have been turned away for a lack of room in the past.

By the time of the grand opening, clients will already be moved into the new Samaritan Inn. Its being held in the middle of the afternoon so that it will not interfere with the schedule here. Our plan is to have a double-sized newsletter next month with several photos of the new place for those that cannot be at the opening. September's newsletter will also include a history of Samaritan Inn and an explanation of the challenges this project presented. Its too easy to just see the finished product; a preservation of the means by which it was accomplished gives perspective to future projects.

**"Let justice roll down like waters  
And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."  
Amos 5:24**

From the humble beginning of a single house 30 years ago, the Roseburg Rescue Mission has attended to the needs of homeless women and children. In 1985, only one or two women stayed each night. Today, its no longer a small, auxiliary operation; it rivals the size of the men's facility downtown. Samaritan Inn is a mission unto itself. As the face of homelessness continues to change, we will watch for the ever shifting need among the most vulnerable of our community.

At the end of the day, when the ribbon is rolled up and the refreshments put away, a larger facility will be left to support. There will be an increased need for food, clothing, hygiene items, utilities, maintenance, staffing and volunteers.

*Lynn Antis, Executive Director*

