



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope  
for the Homeless*

**52** *Years*  
1964-2016

FEBRUARY 2016

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## I Needed Some Place To Go

Brittney grew up in a single parent household with her mother. They both learned to be very independent, yet quite attached to each other. Brittney earned her GED when she was 15-years-old, then got a job. At 19, she was living on her own and became a single parent herself. When she was 21, something went terribly wrong. She said, "One day four years ago, my mom said she was tired. The next day, she didn't know who I was. She went to the mental health state hospital for a while, I felt lost without my mom; we did everything together." Brittney continued in her self-reliance, at least on the outside. By the time she was 23, she had a good job at a lumber mill and was buying a house and a new car. But she was still feeling the loss of her mother.

Then she said, "A couple years ago, I started hanging out with the wrong people. I just kind of lost my way for a while. I met these people, but didn't know they were using (drugs). It was introduced slowly." It filled the void in a very deceptive way, seeming to satisfy, but ensnaring in an addictive trap. She lost everything she had worked so hard to achieve. She said, "My house got raided for drugs. I got clean right away, but I was still flopping at a drug house. I have not used (drugs) while expecting him (my son)." Then in a separate incident, "I went to jail because my boyfriend and I have a no contact order (because of my 6-year-old daughter), and I got caught with him. I was released from jail in June. I was crying. I was five months pregnant. I needed some

place to go. I met two friends in a store that were at Samaritan Inn, and they seemed like they knew what they were doing. I couldn't keep doing what I was doing. If he (my boyfriend) saw the baby, I could lose the baby."

So Brittney went to the Mission's Samaritan Inn. "Living here, I have gained a lot of integrity; the whole routine and structure is good for me." Then she added, "There are a lot of mom figures (on staff) here." When she arrived, we were still in our old facility. Of the new place she said, "This place is so much bigger. You can help so

many more people. I like my room. I like the staff. The location is good; its close to DHS. I am so thankful for Samaritan Inn, because I will be getting my daughter back." And since this interview, she has received custody of her daughter here. While living at Samaritan Inn, the time came due for Brittney to give birth to her son. She brought her newborn back here from the hospital.

"I love to sing, that is why I named my son Lyric," she said, "I like it when Linda (Manager) does chapel and worship." She then related herself to Ruth telling her mother-in-law Naomi, "Where you go I will go... and your God my God" Ruth 1:16. Brittney and Ruth had seen the guiding hand of God in the lives of ordinary people of faith. Through many sorrows, the Lord showed great truth and blessing. She said, "As a mother, I am going to teach my kids about God, that He will stay by their sides no matter what."



*Brittney and Lyric (2 weeks old)*

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from the hospital.**

# Frostbitten Toes

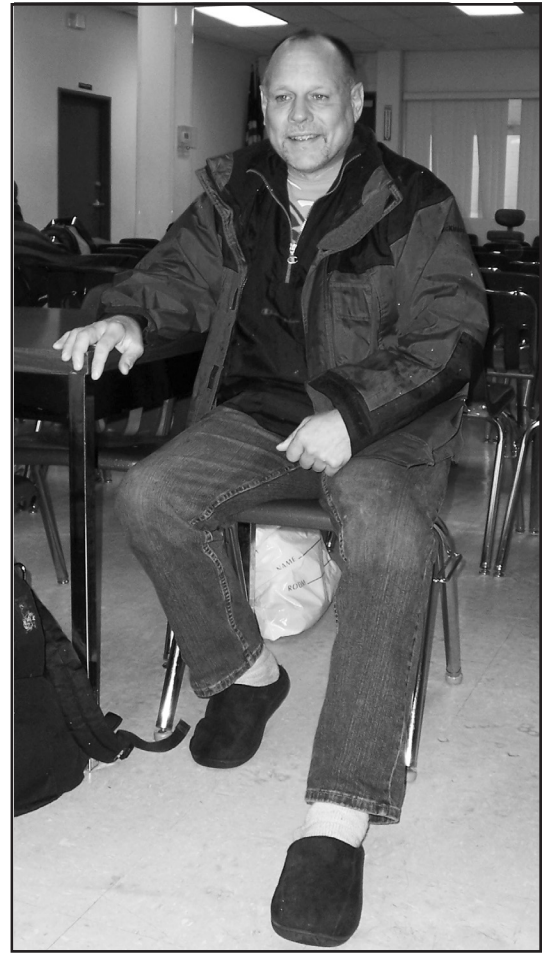
John limped into the Mission dayroom one December morning. He was cold, wet, hungry and needing medical attention. The previous night, the low temperature was 43 degrees, not freezing weather. However, he was suffering from hypothermia because of exposure to cold weather and having wet clothing and shoes. At the Mission, he said, "Everyone was really nice. I took a hot shower, I had not eaten in two days. I got dry clothes. Then, I noticed my foot was black and blue. People saw it and told John Roy (Operation's Manager), and he took me to the emergency room." He was diagnosed as having frostbite, a condition of damage to the skin and

**He is not chronically homeless and obviously not an experienced camper.**

underlying tissues. His prognosis is to lose a lot of skin but no toes. Weeks later, he is still hobbling around, only able to wear loose slippers and still feeling the pain.

He said, "This time last year, I had an \$18 an hour job grading veneer, a job I had for three years." He lost the job because of missing too many days due to back pain related to the job. He

said, "I didn't get unemployment, drained my 401k (retirement), then couldn't pay rent. I go out on day labor, to employment agencies and have been working." He is not chronically homeless and obviously not an experienced camper. He has, however, had his share of misfortune.



## Items Needed:

- Canned Veggies
- Canned Fruit
- Elbow Macaroni
- Egg Noodles
- Baby Food
- Strollers
- Car Seats
- Diapers, Baby Wipes
- Baby Bottles
- Bicycles
- Deodorant
- Disposable Razors

Remember the  
Roseburg Rescue Mission  
in your Estate Planning

## Dear Friends,

Just a year or so ago, the two people in this newsletter, Brittney and John, were employed in the timber industry. Neither one expected to be living at the Mission now. But life happens; mistakes are made, situations occur. The Mission is here to pick up the pieces, so to speak, of broken lives. People are rescued and hope is restored.

The Mission does not supply homeless people with the means to camp out, because then they are isolated and without service help, left to their own vices. Hope is in the Mission, not some campsite. Cold weather is especially dangerous for homeless people to camp out.

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We have had a long standing policy that during freezing conditions, day or night, there is an amnesty granted to people that have been temporarily disallowed services due to behavioral issues. They are allowed all social services here during that cold period, as long as their current behavior is acceptable. They can have three meals a day, use our dayrooms and sleep here at night. They have a warm place to be, and the Mission remains a clean and sober living environment encouraging recovery.

Thank you,  
Lynn Antis  
Executive Director

