



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

52 *Years*
1964-2016

APRIL 2016

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An Environment of Hope

Amy was born in Roseburg. She is a part of the statistics of those not graduating from the local high school. Her self-evaluation is one of having a hard time concentrating, not getting into special education classes, not learning much in night school, doing poorly on GED tests. When she was 16-years-old, she went to work full-time at a fast food restaurant, holding that job for four years. But then, she fell prey to substance addiction. Amy said, "Its just so readily available. I skipped work because I was hungover; I didn't care. I no-call, no-showed three or four times, then they finally fired me." Daily parties and an abusive relationship followed. In the midst of the chaos, a daughter was born. She stayed away from addiction during her pregnancy, but the unhealthy, codependent relationship remained. She said, "I left when my daughter was nine-months old. I gave him custody, because I was majorly afraid of him; he was controlling and powerful. He was verbally abusive and threw things at me. I tried visiting rights, but he controlled that too. My life ran amuck."

In October 2014, Amy arrived at Samaritan Inn the first time. She said, "I didn't want to use (drugs) here, because there was support. My life didn't have to be the way it was. Every day I was here, my life got better and better. I moved out three months later with my mom. After leaving here, I went back to the same people; its what I knew. When I left, there was no guidance, no structure."

Then a window of hope opened for Amy. She said, "Child Welfare Program tracked me down in September, 2015. They told me that my daughter was in foster care. I made a decision to work on getting my daughter. I knew that the one place I could be clean (from addiction) was at Samaritan Inn." Her second stay here is at the new, larger women and children's shelter. But she said, "Samaritan Inn could have been a cabin, I just like the atmosphere here. I felt right where I should be." She went to thirty places looking for work. Without any practice and only keyboarding in early high school, she passed the words per minute test at a call center. She has been employed since September and now works full-time.

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I just like the atmosphere here."**

In early October, Amy began one hour supervised visits with Kambrea, her four-year-old daughter. Moving slowly and through counseling, she now has three hour unsupervised visits once a week. DHS has advised her to stay at Samaritan Inn for her daughter's return home plan.

Part of the atmosphere that Amy refers to is our Christian foundation. She said, "I started going to church the first time (as an adult) at Samaritan Inn. And I like the chapel messages here; its like they know what you need to hear. I started understanding what its all about. I am not a mistake; God put me here for a reason. Jesus loves everybody and loves you through everything. I am really grateful for this place and what it has done for my life."



Mission's parking lot is used by downtown business employees and customers routinely, and during special events.

Downtown Improvements

Now that our crumbling Bookstore has been safely removed from the corner of SE Pine St. and SE Case Av., improvements are being made to that corner of downtown Roseburg. The photo captures the new parking lot the day before vehicles will use it. The light pole base in the foreground awaits installation of the pole. An additional four globe light fixture will increase illumination for safety and aesthetic appeal. A couple of trees, some bushes and bark completed the project.

We want to be a good neighbor and provide an inviting look to this business district, even for our own Mission facilities and thrift stores. This is the first phase of paving and landscaping that will eventually include the whole block. This phase leaves existing driveways in place and increases

parking by three spaces. The next phase will reconfigure the parking lot, eliminating two of the four driveways, adding another five spaces for a total of eight additional spaces. Eventually, the parking spaces that allow backing directly out onto SE Pine St. will be replaced with parallel parking, reducing spaces by about the same number gained previously. Parking spaces are at a premium, required for our own operation, needed by surrounding businesses. The Mission's parking lot is used by downtown business employees and customers routinely and during special events. Regulation by permit is necessary, at least during normal business hours, for control and even paying for such improvements. The end result is a more attractive and functional lot for the Mission and community.

Dear Friends,

15 mothers and their children were living at Samaritan Inn recently. In addition other mothers, like Amy in this newsletter, are working to be reunited with their children. The process of regaining custody is long and arduous. The state Department of Human Services sets the requirements for each mother. The Mission helps to facilitate the relationship growth needed for parent and child to be a family again. Visitations, parenting classes, parental behaviors, self-support and housing are all reviewed. The nurturing bond between the birth mother and child is always considered to be best for the child, as long as the mother is able to fulfill her role. A greater sense of security and normalcy is given the child. The training needed for life should be given in our upbringing to secure lifelong habits of behavior and work.

“Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.” NAS Proverbs 22:6

Our new, larger, better equipped Samaritan Inn has become a greater part of this social effort of strengthening families. They are the foundation of society. When broken families are brought together, those individuals and the whole community are better off. And in the process, we share the Lord of Life with them, so that their lives and our work are much more than mere human effort.

Thank you, Lynn Antis Executive Director



Items Needed:

Pancake Mix

Syrup

Canned Veggies

Cooking Oil

Oatmeal

Coffee

Mayonnaise

Disposable Razors

Towels

Deodorant

Toothpaste - small