



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

JUNE 2016

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Searching For Something Missing

Denise has left a string of broken relationships in the wake of seeking contentment in life. She even doubted her own soundness of mind for a while. She started wandering, traveling about, searching for something that was missing. Things really began to fall apart three years ago, when she lost a job and moved in with her mother. She got into an argument with her mother, then moved out and lived in her own small pickup truck. A man friend put her up in a motel by herself for a week. She said, "Then he abandoned me. I was expecting something more. I was on my own then. I left the motel. I didn't know about the homeless shelter. There were lots of moves, rooms with friends, a couch." There were sporadic jobs. Then a domestic violence incident with a boyfriend really set her life in turmoil. Her means of finding contentment was the source of greatest disappointment, abuse and fear. Three months later, she married a man that she considered to be safe, an old friend. Still, life was unstable. He drank, was rowdy, unemployed, homeless.

In mid-December, Denise arrived at Samaritan Inn. Ten days later, at a different location, he threw a cell phone, breaking a window in her pickup. She had spent those first ten days here diligently looking for employment. Her work experience is in serving tables in restaurants. She landed such a position by persistently returning to selected restaurants, showing the managers her sincerity. As she was beginning a new opportunity at success, her husband was leaving the state. She was alone again.

Her very means of finding contentment was the source of greatest disappointment, abuse and fear.

Of Samaritan Inn, she said, "Coming here has been my godsend. I have totally turned around. I finally realized that it was time to take care of things, where I didn't have to depend on anybody. I am different here. I chose to take the higher road to do what needed to be done, to take care of me, to get a job, save money. When the time comes, I will be able to make it on my own. Samaritan Inn allowed me to do that. I am taking care of business, my business."

The difference here she said, "I read my Bible every day. I write down every Scripture given in chapel. I think that is where I have gotten a grip on life, by letting the Lord back into my life. I was brought up in the Lord. I just didn't know what it meant. Coming here and going to chapel gave me the chance to rediscover what it means, Who He is and what He can do for me. Its a whole new identity. I am in awe. My favorite Scripture verse is John 3:16, 'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.'"

As of this writing, Denise has found an apartment and will be moving out soon. She said, "I want to give my thanks and gratitude for being there for me. I probably would not have a job or be here, and still be living in my truck."



Mission Drop-In Center

Our drop-in center (known as our dayroom) for homeless men is just a couple of blocks from what is considered downtown Roseburg. We opened it, in its present location, more than four years ago. This 3,200 square foot portion of the Mission was our old Worn Again thrift store. That store was closed and incorporated into what we now simply call our Thrift Store. Prior to this shift in building use, our drop-in center was across the street in what is now an expanded dining room. Prior to that, it was in what is now an expanded dormitory. The need and concept is not new, but the size and extent of services has grown to meet an ever changing people group. This long-term experience is needed to facilitate real improvement in people's lives without just enabling a lifestyle. Accountability and sobriety are necessary for an encouraging environment.

At 6am during the week and 7am on the weekend, our drop-in center opens to

both those who spent the night here and anywhere else. It does not close at any time during the day. It is a triage unit that assesses need and

It's open all day.

directs solutions. Social service information is provided at a supervisor's desk. Our Operations Manager's office is located

there. He is there for counseling and information for services we provide for transient men, our New Life Program, our Transitional Housing Program and even for those we hire into staff positions. There are restrooms and showers, with toilets and towels provided. There is a laundry room, telephone, drinking fountain. For men staying overnight, there is a secure baggage storage room and US Mail service. Across the street, three prepared meals are served every day of the year. All the same services are provided to women at Samaritan Inn.



Sustainability

Donors want to know that their contributions are going to an organization that has sustainability, that is the ability to keep the operation going even through economic or political adversity. Roseburg Rescue Mission is well diversified, not too dependent on a single source of income. We are not supported by a single church or denomination, but by individuals of the community. Compared to most secular nonprofit organizations, we would not be directly affected by government budget cuts, because we do not receive their money. Relative to other missions in Oregon, we have a high level of earned income, meaning we have to provide a service for the income. Some missions do not have thrift stores, few have rental units. For a mission providing 232 beds, our budget is substantially less than other comparable operations, primarily because we maintain an efficient level of staff and high client involvement. We run 24/7 with five full-time and eight part-time staff.

Sources of Income 2015

Donated Income	53%
Individuals	47%
Foundations	3%
Churches, Businesses, Civic Groups	3%
Earned Income	47%
Thrift Stores	30%
Transitional Housing Room Rentals	11%
Recycling	2%
Parking Space Rentals	2%
Other	2%
Government	0%
No Funds Requested or Received	

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