



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

JULY 2016

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Rescue Roseburg

This summer more homeless men, women and children will be on the move. They will come to the Mission for hot meals, clothing, showers and safe shelter. Each one carries some burden: broken relationship, lost job, depression, loneliness, illness. The circumstances of their lives are beyond their control, but at the Mission there is hope. Some will join our New Life Program, others will immediately be looking for jobs and apartments. All will hear the Good News that God loves them. Summer is also a time of working on painting, roofing and remodeling projects. And summer is a difficult season on finances for nonprofit organizations. Without your help, we could not provide all these services. Would you take a moment and consider those less fortunate?

*Thank you,
Lynn Antis
Executive Director*



Denise in Cubby Room where personal items are kept overnight and towels handed out.

A Seed Was Planted

Imitation of role models is natural. Denise followed the example provided to her as an impressionable adolescent, bad seed that it was. Drugs and alcohol, she said, "I had seen my whole life; it was the family god. Once I tried it, I loved it. It made me feel good, laugh, because that didn't happen a lot. It was an individual thing, not social. I had a lack of relationship with my parents."

The mold had been set. There would be no high school graduation. Denise said "I was having fun. Everybody in my family was into drugs and alcohol, that is the way I thought it was going to be. I knew other people were not in the drug culture; I didn't care what they were doing. I worked the whole time; I was a functional alcoholic. I wanted to be a better alcoholic, to keep drinking and using, and live a normal life, and not get beat up and have friends. It was not possible, because I was a hot mess, because I couldn't keep my family. People stopped trusting me. I couldn't work or care for myself." That was her summation of thirty years of reaping the lifestyle that had been sown. Choices had to be made along the way, even responsibility for actions, but the bondage of addiction is very powerful.

"My first black eye from him brought me to Samaritan Inn in 2011."

Denise said, "There were a lot of failed relationships including friends and family. All of my relationships (with men) have ended up verbally and physically abusive. My marriage lasted one year before I got beat up. I raised my first daughter, but gave up the second for adoption." Years and friendships followed, until the last one. She said, "I met a man four years ago. If I had been sober, I never would have dated him. The thing we had in common was alcohol. It lasted a month before verbal abuse, six months for physical abuse. I stayed with him because I loved him. Nothing was clear. It was stupid, no excuse, immaturity, insane behavior. My first black eye from him brought me to Samaritan Inn in 2011." She stayed here for several months,

**"And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd."
Matthew 9:36**

My Summer gift for the homeless

Yes! I want to help homeless men, women and children in need.

I'd like to contribute:

- \$25
- \$50
- \$100
- \$ _____

Please accept my donation by:

- Check:** PLEASE ENCLOSE
- Credit Card:** CIRCLE ONE



Card Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Thank you for using the enclosed envelope. You will receive a receipt for your tax deductible gift.

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then moved out to live alone, but the relationship continued. She just drank more and used readily available prescription pain pills. In November of 2014, she returned to Samaritan Inn, after being beaten up again.

This time things were different, yet the struggle remained. Later she admitted, "I was still drinking. He was still calling and coming around. I was still going out with him, but at Samaritan Inn there was a curfew and safety involved. I stopped seeing him, because I was growing, and he was still doing awful things." She realized that her bad behavior was jeopardizing her ability to stay here. She joined our New Life Program. Denise said, "When I was here four years ago, a seed was planted about God, and I just needed so badly, I just wanted to explore what that was. I was ready. Samaritan Inn saved my life, gave me purpose; it made me not want to die anymore. I started to love Linda (our manager), not hate her. I have learned how to have relationships, how to work without being drunk or high. I learned how to forgive, including myself. I have my relationship with God I never had before. He is my provider, answers my questions, corrects me, my calmer." In describing the difference now, she said, "You can never consume enough alcohol, ever. God filled a void that has been in my heart, a hole."

"I just needed so badly, I just wanted to explore what that was. I was ready."

After being in our program for a year, Denise got her old job back. She is now renting a small house by herself. She said, I come back here all the time, because I need these women. Whether I've had a good day or bad, I come here to share it with them. I love them. I have friendships. They hold me accountable." When Denise acknowledged the conviction of the Lord on her life, a new seed was indeed planted. She is now reaping a new harvest.



Shelter Beds Open

The photo above is one of our dormitories for homeless men. We utilize all of our areas, but the equivalent of the beds shown are empty on an average night. Bed usage has seasonal fluctuations, but the average nightly count has stayed constant for several years.

Roseburg Rescue Mission has three separate programs for men: transient men, New Life Program and Transitional Housing Program. There are a total of 128 beds for men. Last year, we averaged 93 men per night. So an average night had 35 unused men's beds, 30 of which were in the transient men's dormitories. There is no need for more transient men's beds, no demand for more positions in our New Life Recovery program, no waiting list to rent rooms in our Transitional Housing Program.

We average 30 open beds in men's dormitory.

Samaritan Inn for homeless women and children has three separate programs; single women, mothers with children and New Life Program. There are a total of 104 beds for women and children. Last year, we averaged 45 per night. In the first few months of this year with our new, larger facility, the average has been 70 women and children per night. On an average night, there are several empty beds at Samaritan Inn.

Men and women are not stranded at the Mission. No one is here because of a lack of employment opportunities available in the community. There is underemployment, some even work two part-time jobs. No one is here because of a shortage of places to rent locally. There is inadequate housing, some accepting places with shared living quarters or that might otherwise be considered less than ideal.

Our community has shelter beds, employment and housing. Homeless men and women are successfully making the transition to independent living all the time. They are just not as visible as those on the street, who are not taking advantage of the opportunities provided to them.

Items Needed

**Garden Produce
Canned Vegetables
Canned Fruit
Oatmeal
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Macaroni
Tomato Sauce
Coffee**

**Disposable Razors
Deodorant
Diapers
Baby Wipes
Women's Pajamas
Wheelchairs
Bicycles
Bicycle Parts**



**Thrift Store Sale – Graffiti Weekend
Wednesday to Saturday – July 6-9
50% Off Clothing**