



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

NOVEMBER 2016

752 SE Pine St • PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470 • (541) 673-3004 • www.roseburgrescuemission.org



A Thanksgiving of Hope

Erika is a homeless, single mother with hungry children. Right now, she does not have to worry about feeding her children; they are safe at Samaritan Inn and well cared for. Whatever our current circumstances, Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the blessings in our lives and be thankful for them. Even in the midst of being homeless, there is hope. There is provision of daily food, clothing and shelter, and on this special day, a traditional Thanksgiving meal. There is a community that shares their blessings with homeless men, women and children. The Lord has provided abundantly; His people share with those in need. An end to a person or family's homeless condition is in sight. And an awesome eternity awaits the faithful.

You can be a part of this blessing to those that hunger for more life in Douglas County. Together, we can have a tremendous impact on our community, one person and one family at a time, even stem the generational tide of homelessness.

*Have a Happy Thanksgiving,
Lynn Antis, Executive Director*

My Thanksgiving gift to feed the hungry

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



Exp.: _____ Security Code: _____
Card Number: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



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

Roseburg Rescue Mission
PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470-0438

Dinner Menu Items Needed:

- Turkey**
- Potatoes**
- Stuffing**
- Gravy Mix**
- Yams**
- Salad**
- Rolls**
- Pie**
- Ice Cream**
- Coffee**
- Cranberry Sauce**
- Mixed Vegetables**



Forgiveness And Healing

Some guy down the street in their neighborhood gave two 13-year-old girls marijuana to try, because they asked him for it. Briana remembers thinking, "I had no concern about what it might do to me. Everyone else was doing it; you just start smoking to fit in. At 15, I started using crank (a form of methamphetamine). It stole my life. I couldn't hold a job. I was still using meth when I was pregnant. She was born fine physically, but has attention deficit (hyperactivity) disorder. My parents took custody of her. A year later I quit meth; it had taken so much from me." Briana stayed clean for a time. She had a son.

Some guy she was dating struck her son on the head, because he wanted him to stop crying. Briana's son died from brain damage when he was 32 months old. She went through a period of shock. She said, "I started drinking heavy, using prescription pain meds. That didn't work, so I started using meth again. I couldn't figure out, if we have such a loving God, how could He let something like this happen? I was mad at God for letting me wake up in the morning. I got evicted; it was more important to get drugs than pay rent. I camped out by a river for bathing, used food stamps for food and water. After three months, it started getting cold. I tried going back to my grandma's, but it was bad only because of other people with drugs. If I used enough meth, I didn't have to sleep anywhere. It was easier for me to get drugs than to buy food and take care of myself."

**"If we have such a loving God,
how could He let something like this happen?"**

Years came and went, so did jail time. Finally one day, she said, "I was tired of running. Its hard to be out when you are on probation; you have to watch for cops. Its like not having any freedom. You get tired of doing the same thing over and over and not getting anywhere, so you turn yourself in." But even after 42 days of incarceration the last time, she went right back to her old ways, until her probation officer caught up with her. She was given an ultimatum, go to Samaritan Inn or go back to jail. The idea of going to a homeless shelter scared her. She said, "I didn't know them or if my stuff would be safe."

Once Briana settled in, she said, "It wasn't as scary as I thought. Samaritan Inn gave me back my motivation. I learned that I didn't have to be the crackhead that I had turned myself into. For a long time, I didn't have any self-worth." After a few

Go to Samaritan Inn or go back to jail.

months, Linda (our manager) handed her a New Life Program application. She said, "It was the first time in a long time, anyone put any responsibility or opportunity in my way. There was authority and benefits, but I didn't know if I wanted to work or stay." The turning point for Briana was a chapel service dedicated as a memorial to her son. She said, "Everything for me that day changed. I was no longer working for me or anybody else, I was working for God. He made me, He knew me and was everywhere. It was hard for me to realize that God could love a sinner like me. His forgiveness goes a long way. I learned to forgive people, like the man that murdered my son. I pray for his salvation." She rededicated her life to the Lord. She said, "I saw people turning their lives around, and I wanted that too. A chapel speaker just brought it out." She learned that God did not let her son be murdered; God blessed each one of us with freewill to go astray or to turn and receive Him openly.

Briana grew. In time, she became a program supervisor. She was one of the two women entrusted to move into the new Samaritan Inn a couple of months early for security and work assignments. She was among the hardest working people during that transition to the new location. Then she became one of the few selected for a staff position. Months later, she used her employment reference here to get a job outside. She had three job offers in her first week of looking. She has new friends that are good influences for each other. She has now left her temporary home here to start a whole new life.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner at 1PM

Men, Women & Children
at Mission Downtown
516 SE Lane Av.

Women & Children Only
at Samaritan Inn
544 W Umpqua St.

Rescue Roseburg

"Is it not to share your
food with the hungry
and to provide the poor
wanderer with shelter...
then your light will rise
in the darkness, and your
night will become like
the noonday."
Isaiah 58:7-10

After Road Construction

Road construction slowed Mission store sales for several months. Revenue has been down enough to cancel a scheduled project for this year. When the new roadway is complete, we hope that our Thrift Store and Furniture Store sales will improve, indeed that our regular customers would return. Funds go to helping the homeless become independent. Thank you for your business.