



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

APRIL 2017

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

Happy Easter

The resurrected life of Christ on Easter morning can be ours too, even now today. What better connection than to a new life out of homelessness! Our very purpose for being here is to open our doors and invite in the hungry, homeless and hurting off the streets into a chapel where the Word of God is spoken mightily and songs of hope and praise sing out. From a life without hope or opportunity, the Mission provides an environment that encourages a rebirth of possibilities. There is forgiveness of the past and a brighter future ahead. Steps of success are attainable. Independence is conceivable. Faith is increasing, hope is fulfilled, love is displayed. You can be a part of this amazing process among the homeless of our community. Please share today.



Life Got Complicated

Holly had to be transported to River Bend in Springfield for an emergency C-section because of complications with the delivery of her baby. James was born in October. After four days, she was discharged with only one possible destination for the two of them to remain together as a family. The Child Welfare Program had intervened making it a requirement that she go to the Mission's Samaritan Inn. Returning to the home of extended family members in Roseburg was not an option. A past, vengeful boyfriend had called in a report of an unfit household. Going to an apartment or motel room was not acceptable either. For a few months, she would need supervision at our shelter because of concerns for her mental health, past drug use, and being a new mom with an uncertain skill set to take care of a newborn. Several state funded social service agencies would work with her to ensure a successful start to their new family.

Life for Holly had gotten complicated. Her early adulthood started out strong, achieving a GED at seventeen and completing two terms at UCC. She held a job as a gas station attendant for eight years. But she had boyfriend trouble. She experienced domestic violence through physical abuse, jealousy stalking at work, and the burning of her storage unit. Then, her mom, whom she had been living with, died. Holly was not eligible to remain in the apartment under her mother's HUD housing voucher. She subleased a room in a rented house, until the owner found out and evicted her. She stayed in a motel, then slept in her truck for a few months. Her complicated life caused her to lose her job. She bought a trailer with a tax return, then had to sell it, because a friend stole the rest of her money. That is when she moved into the home that was reported to CWP.

Holly's reports have been good, and she is now eligible to live independently with baby James. Her total wait for subsidized housing will be 9 to 10 months. When James is six months, she can look for work, and child-care will be provided through a state agency with a small co-pay.

EASTER DINNER & GIFT BAGS

- | | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Hams | Turkeys |
| Potatoes | Yams |
| Stuffing | Gravy Mix |
| Salad | Rolls |
| Pie | Coffee |
| Cranberry Sauce | |
| Mixed Vegetables | |

- Socks
- Razors
- Hygiene Items
- Wrapped Easter Candy
- Fruit Snack Packs

My Easter gift for the homeless

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

I'd like to contribute:

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please accept my donation by:

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



Exp.: _____

Card Number: _____



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

Homelessness Does Not Want To End

The personification of homelessness wants to continue to have its way with humanity. Addictions, mental illness, domestic violence, waywardness do not want to end. The devil does not want to stop his torment and deception. Homelessness has been with us since the beginning of mankind, even our own country. Jesus said, "For the poor you have with you always" Matthew 26:11. The root of our personal and social problem is common to all mankind; for some, it is manifested in homelessness. We cannot stop it. To think that we can is the pride of believing that we can save ourselves; indeed, we struggle to even govern ourselves. This is not a defeatist perspective, but one of looking realistically at the situation. We simply cannot get into the minds and hearts of everyone to stop bad thoughts and actions. We cannot stop medical or mental problems, accidents, natural disasters, victimization, birth defects, foolishness.

Homelessness wants to expand into new areas. This long-term problem requires that we step back and look at the big picture. We cannot have a narrow vision of treating symptoms. In Douglas County, people are not stuck being homeless because of a lack of housing or employment. Setting up tent cities, little house villages or baggage storage buildings will not stop homelessness; it will perpetuate it here. Larger cities have experimented with these ideas out of desperation and a lack of shelter beds; they are not examples for us to emulate. The Roseburg Rescue Mission is not full. Bringing such big city tactics to this small community will only make our situation worse. Those methods would enable homeless campers to continue to do so, people to leave the Mission for those camps, and bring in more homeless people from outside our community. By being over accommodating, Roseburg's homeless population would increase, and fewer people would be getting the help they need.

Larger cities have experimented with these ideas out of desperation and a lack of shelter beds; they are not examples for us to emulate.

Our social response needs to be meeting legitimate needs without empowering unhealthy lifestyles. Restraining the rate of people becoming and remaining homeless is the business of the whole community. Some entities fill the role of prevention, including government human services and even the Church. The Mission's position is to address it after the fact, when a person is homeless. We get people off the streets, out of dangerous living environments, and the temporary loss of housing. We rehabilitate and hold everyone responsible for their behavior and pursuit of a successful turnabout in the shortest, reasonable time. Our purpose includes reducing recidivism, the rate of returning to homelessness. We strive for a proper balance of provision with accountability, justice with compassion. We wrestle with the proper balance of allocating resources to increasing facility to accommodate more people, or staff to help move people along. In the case of Samaritan Inn for homeless women and children, we chose to focus on developing an adequate facility first; otherwise, we would have had an insufficient building with more staff and no funds to expand. This way, we are meeting the shelter needs now and can add staff as needed. For the men, who are more prevalent on the street, we have increased our dormitory, dining room, chapel, dayroom and program areas. As of this writing in the past ten years, our men's dormitory has only filled up on two nights in the same winter month. On those nights, we put mats on the Dayroom floor, not turning any men away. In both our men's shelter and the one for women and children, our next move is to add staff, not continue to add more buildings. Our success is not in how many people we are presently caring for, but in how many are now independent.

Homelessness is a part of the human condition, and we need to love our neighbor, without letting our sympathetic feelings enable them and homelessness to grow.

Rescue Roseburg

BASIC SERVICES

For Men, Women and Children

Food: 3 meals every day at Men's Mission and Samaritan Inn.

Clothing: Available to all who are staying at either shelter.

Housing: 128 beds for men in Dormitory, New Life Program, and Transitional Housing Program. 104 beds for women in Dormitory, New Life Program, and Family Rooms.

Recovery Program: Open to men and women.

Dayrooms: Open all day at both shelters. Restrooms, showers, laundry, telephone, social service help. No requirement to stay here to use these services.

SHOP OUR THRIFT STORE & FURNITURE STORE

Get great deals
all the time.

Vehicle Donations Accepted



Receipts for
Tax Deduction
Provided

