

Roseburg Rescue Mission

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

JULY 2017

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

## Summer Rescue

Hot weather can be very dangerous to the homeless. They are exposed to the intense elements as they work and travel. Extreme heat can cause dehydration even heat exhaustion. The Mission is an oasis of services, offering hope in a parched landscape of options. There is no vacation time for the homeless, no reprieve from their situation or striving to overcome it. Their conditions remain for some unknown time. Homeless men, women and children need to be rescued. They need prepared meals, clothing, showers and safe shelter. Summer is also a time of working on projects. We have roof repairs, painting, and other remodeling to do. And summer is a difficult season on our finances. Without your help, we could not provide all the services available. Would you take a moment to consider those less

## **The Trouble With Roommates**

Roommates are unpredictable. Anthony had four of them in a two bedroom apartment. \$200 a month afforded him the couch downstairs as a bed. At the time, he was working part-time at a minimum wage job. After child support was garnished

from his paycheck, there was little left to live on. While he was at work one evening, the roommates had a party that ended up with uninvited guests. The arguing and yelling resulted in an eviction notice. They had 72 hours Anthony's to vacate. innocence was irrelevant, especially because he was not named on the lease, but was illegally subleasing in an over occupied apartment.

Rather than chancing another problem with roommates, he chose to live in a tent near his place of employment. It was convenient for work, but not for showers and laundry. Even there, he had unwanted tentmates, bugs that were biting him. It was nothing contagious

and the effect of the bites was easily resolved with soap and a shower. That was his first experience living in a tent, although he did sleep in doorways of businesses a couple of years ago before he knew about the Mission.

Since Anthony graduated from Glide

High School in 2011, he has not had a stable living situation for more than a few months at a time. He said that problem stems from an Attention-Deficit (Hyperactivity) Disorder with related memory difficulty and anger problems because of abuse as a child. Now as

an adult, those issues have complicated relationships as well as an already tough market for both housing and employment. He has workedfastfood, storeclerk, seasonal work, day labor, restaurants, retirement home, food processing plant and lumber mill. He has had a variety of roommates, including one with unwanted sexual harassment, who was his employer. He slept in his truck for a while. Of the two, he has had more success at employment than housing.

Last year, the Mission averaged 99 men per night in our three programs on our downtown campus. That would be 98 housemates for Anthony. The difference is that here, there are no wild parties, no uninvited guests, no illegally over occupied

areas, no bugs, no alcohol or drugs, no harassment – like his previous experiences. We have a controlled environment with accountability and Biblical teaching. He is not paying rent here, but he will have to use that saved money to move out in a few months.



# Roommates are unpredictable

Jesus said,
"For I was
thirsty and
you gave Me
something
to drink."
Matthew 25:35

fortunate?

| <b>Yes!</b> I want to help homeless men, women and children in need. |                               |                          |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| I'd like to contribute:  | Please accept my donation by: |                          |
| □\$25  | ☐ Check: PLEASE ENCLOSE       |                          |
| □\$50  | ☐ Credit Card: cIRCLE ONE     | VISA MasterCard DISCOVER |
| □\$100   | Card Number:                  |                          |
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**Roseburg Rescue Mission**PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470-0438

Thank You!

You will receive a receipt for your tax deductible gift. A return envelope is enclosed.

He arrived here underemployed. Within a couple of weeks, he was able to get a full-time job. He said, "The Mission helped me to set future goals for myself and to get closer to God. Its made me realize that I do not want to be on the streets anymore; its miserable. I have food to eat and a roof over my head. Its helped me see my kids more. My son looks up to me; he even had his hair cut to look like me." Anthony likes our chapel services, especially the singing, and is encouraged by them. His favorite Bible verse has become, "You know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance" James 1:3. He concluded, "The Mission has provided greater stability than moving around every couple of months." Here, he has opportunity to recommit to the Lord, save money, get independent housing, and have a reunited family with his son as his next roommate.



## **Food Service And Evangelism**

The Roseburg Rescue Mission exists for the purpose of evangelizing homeless men, women and children. We provide meals, clothing, shelter and programs for the privilege of preaching the Gospel. We have not been called to do good works, but to preach. To only retrieve a person off the streets is not the rescue work of salvation. Rescue is evangelism with accompanying social service.

Government programs and secular foundations prohibit "proselytizing", which means to try to convert a person to one's religion. For Christians, it means no "evangelizing", the preaching of the Gospel to convert to Christianity. A few years ago, we were given an ultimatum to sign a contract swearing that we would not provide Bibles, Bible tracts, chapel services, prayer, or a Word of encouragement in order to continue to receive government food. We declined. That agreement would have been contrary to our identity. So we receive no government food and no donated food from the local food bank. We only needed to change our source of food, not our purpose. Individuals, organizations and businesses provide our food, and the rest is purchased. It is more appropriate for a church to have a food box program, inviting recipients to their church, than for a mission to have that program, ending our evangelism.

#### We only needed to change our source of food, not our purpose.

The Roseburg Rescue Mission is a mission field to the homeless in our community. Last year, men, women and children averaged receiving 269 meals and 117 chapel services or Bible studies every day. Three prepared meals are served each day of the year at both our downtown facility and at Samaritan Inn. There is no qualifying application, no requirement to be living here, no working for meals, no charge, no use of food stamps. It takes

a great deal of food to maintain these two commercial kitchens, feeding the hungry and homeless of our community.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



# 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.

### **ITEMS NEEDED:**

GARDEN PRODUCE
SALAD DRESSING
INGREDIENTS:
MAYO, RELISH
KETCHUP, LEMON
RANCH POWDER
OIL, VINEGAR
SALT, PEPPER
CORN BREAD MIX
CANNED FRUIT & VEGGIES
BICYCLES

Remember the Roseburg Rescue Mission in your Estate Planning

