



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

OCTOBER 2017

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I Am Priceless

A car pulled up to the front of our Samaritan Inn. Tammy awkwardly stepped out from the back seat with nothing more to carry than a single duffle bag and her cane. The front seat was occupied by her husband and his latest girlfriend. Tammy said, "I was abandoned like a bag of trash." She was 50-years-old then and the mother of 10 children, yet very much alone. She was addicted to drugs and alcohol, a victim of domestic violence, and something worse – a common thread shared by most of our women clients, a victim of childhood sexual abuse. Its a pivotal point of orientation and can distort one's identity. One woman here described

it this way, "You cannot stop playing that out in your mind, so you try to numb it with drugs. You learn to use your body to control men. It attracts you to the wrong kind of men. You emotionally and mentally check out. You think what's the use anyway, so you abuse alcohol, drugs, food. Life spirals, trying to find a numbing effect. Trust is gone. You need Jesus to heal those wounds. We have a heavenly, loving Father. When healed, there is forgiveness. Otherwise, your 'man picker' is broke. Let the Lord pick the next man (if there is to be one)."

Tammy was only 13-years-old when such a cruel fate was forced upon her, through no fault of her own by an immoral man. The world had changed her. No longer would she be the object of bullies. She pushed back, indeed she became a part of a different social group. She identified with rebellion, promiscuity, drugs, alcohol. She said, "I was in rebellion to authority figures. I thought foster parents didn't love me." She kept running away until at 16, she said, "I was dropped from being a ward of the court. Then I camped on people's couches and had a job." Tammy was still a child, yet set free in a

world without parameters that wanted to consume her.

She met her first husband at a recovery meeting. Instead of being a support for one another, they were codependent. Fifteen years later, she said, "He abandoned me and the kids, and eventually I lost my kids to Child Protective Services. There was the generational cycle. Her father had been an alcoholic and passive; her mother had been addicted to pills and violent.

Then Tammy had a relationship with a partner that had the textbook behaviors of domestic violence. There was name-calling, isolation from family and friends, money control,

limitation of leaving home, threats, physical harm, stalking, intimidation. His temper would flare up out of nowhere and always apologize with promises. She said, "I would walk away. He would drive his truck up on the sidewalk to get me in the truck. I had to hide from him."

Then she met her second husband at another recovery meeting (not a dating service), and the cycle continued to the day he left her at Samaritan Inn. Jennifer (a staff member here) saw the scene unfold out front and greeted Tammy with what she would later describe as, "one of the best hugs I've ever had." Here, she learned a Bible based recovery process that helped her to understand the reasons behind her behavior. She said, "I learned what God's truth is about me. He says I am priceless. I have purpose and I'm an overcomer." Its been more than two years since Tammy arrived here. She said, "This clean time (from drugs) is the longest ever in my life, and it is different because I am a new creation." Now Tammy has a job in a grocery store and continues to serve others at Samaritan Inn.



8 Staff From Programs

We have our own vocational rehabilitation and employment services for the homeless at the Mission. It is supported by financial donations and sales from our thrift stores, not from government grants. Eight of our ten part-time employees came from programs. Six are from our own New Life Program; two are from an employment training program outside the Mission. We also have four full-time staff. Together we operate the Men's Mission, Samaritan Inn, administration office, warehouse and thrift stores. By any standard, we have a small, efficient staff for a mission that averaged sleeping 152 men, women and children per night last year. This management style suits the extent of our services and budget for now.

"Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody."
1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

Steve is the newest member of our staff that graduated from our Program. His position is Staff Supervisor, a purposefully nonspecific title with a job description to fill in where needed, including cook, store clerk, warehouse supervisor, driver, duty supervisor or other positions as needed. It includes recruiting and training people for those program positions. Because of client turnover, having a multitasking person in such a position is a great benefit to the operation.



Every person staying at the Mission is in one of our programs. Both our men's and women's facilities have a New Life Program of rehabilitation and a separate program of social services for those sleeping in the dormitories. In addition, the men have a Transitional Housing Program of Christian accountability, and the women have a program for mothers and children. Some form of work

therapy is required of every able bodied person staying here; exceptions are made for medical reasons. Men and women in our New Life Program have a full-time schedule of work training plus four group classes per week. For those in our dormitories, they have daily chores and a requirement to live up to their potential or move along somewhere else. Mothers are to care for their own children and keep their living quarters cleaned up.

There is opportunity here, when the right person and need come together with a budget to support it, that client can become a part of the solution. Most of our employees enter these positions with the intent of using this work experience as a reference to gain an outside job and place to live. Hope is restored.



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.

8964 MEALS SERVED IN AUGUST

ITEMS NEEDED:

Large Cans of
Fruit & Vegetables
Rolled Oats – Spices
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Elbow Macaroni
Corn Starch
Small Toothpaste
Small Deodorant
Disposable Razors
Diapers & Baby Wipes
Children's Coats
Twin Sheets

Vehicle Donations Accepted



Receipts for
Tax Deduction
Provided