



Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Thrift Stores

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

APRIL 2022

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Hope For New Life

This family has three homeless generations at a table in our Samaritan Inn dining room. They are victims of a horrific domestic violence episode. After months of readjustment, they are now settled into new routines in school, work, and independent housing. Each one has a new life and hope for their futures. The bondage has been broken and a freedom exists that can now even bring on smiles of gratitude. They know that in this fallen world, the Lord of Life and a caring community love them. They have heard the Good News message of Christ rising from death to new life on Easter morning.

"You have Words of eternal life" John 6:68.

Restoration is more than safety along with food, clothing, and shelter. Its more than empowerment in future relationships. Its knowing who the Lord created us to be. Then people can enter the community again, equipped to work through situations on their own.

Will you be a part of this life transforming blessing to the homeless of our community?

Lynn Antis, Executive Director

Happy Easter

Historic Perspective

The condition of homelessness and human nature have not changed. The Lord said, "The poor you have with you always" Matthew 26:11. About 30 years ago, the world said it would end homelessness in 10 years, then had to adjust their boast to just end "chronic" homelessness. Still, their self-inflicted deadlines have long passed. Historic perspective is important here, rather than an uncalculated response to a situation that is not new under the sun. Years ago, shelters were scorned for the so-called "enabling" of homeless people and being the cause of homeless camps at the edge of town. Shelter staff were threatened with harm. Campers were abused by an element of townspeople around the country, trying to run them out. Today, public sentiment has swung the opposite direction, allowing conduct that was not tolerated in the past. Now the same shelters and programs are blamed for holding homeless people too "accountable" for behaviors. Now homeless camps are provided at city parks in the middle of town!

opposite direction

The long success of Rescue Missions is even wrongfully said to be an institutional problem. So the world is experimenting with new ideas. They have decriminalized drugs, crime, and vagrancy. And the homeless camping problem has grown worse. We need to get back to basics that prove to work. The core issue in Douglas County is not housing, employment, or social service resources. The problem is addiction. The solution is the tough love of accountability that causes responsibility that works, not coddling in dependency and entitlement.



Bicycle Interest Motivated Him

As a youth, Kirk’s extra-curricular activity was BMX (Bicycle Motocross) dirt track racing and jumping. As soon as he could get on a bike, he tried to keep up with older kids in his neighborhood already in competition. It was good for his self-esteem, social development, physical health, positive behavior, even concentration. This was especially true, because he was raised by a single mother and struggled with attention-deficit (hyperactivity) disorder. Kirk helped other kids build a practice track in a nearby field. The summer between fifth and sixth grades, he had his first official race and took first place. It was almost too easy. Then he spent more time at the practice track than at home. It became their unsupervised hangout. Peer pressure became more powerful. His place of positive motivation became a negative one to smoke cigarettes and experiment with drugs. At the same time, ADHD medication slowed him down, further reducing his competitive edge. Kirk said, “It killed the one thing that motivated me and gave me drive and put a smile on my mom’s face.” By ninth grade, he dropped out of bike racing, ditched school regularly, and got in trouble with the law. He was in rebellion against the unfairness of life, trying to redefine himself. So the stage was set for an unsettled adult life.

Fast-forward to last year, Kirk’s mother suddenly passed away. He took the shock hard, and as he said, “went off the deep end.” His motivator was gone, and life was all the more empty. He remembers camping out at the river a few nights. When some campers invited him to go with them to steal items for drug money, Kirk said, “No, I want to get a job.” It was the campers that told him to go the Mission, if that’s what he wanted.

“I have been able to excel without one step backward.”

After three nights in our dormitory, he inquired about our program. He was placed in helping the maintenance man, working in the warehouse, and yes, repairing bicycles in our shop. Kirk said, “Bikes took me back to my happy place and time, remembering my mom smiling and cheering me on before and after my bike races.” He went on to say, “Since the day I got here, I have been able to excel without one step backward. Its the most solid progression in a long time. Chapels are awesome. Its a half-hour I focus on, look forward to, have peace of mind, get something to think about. The tools are here to succeed.” After a few months here, he was offered an employment position as our Bicycle Repairman. Before the arrangements could be made, a better position with more hours opened as a Mission Store Clerk. Kirk will still have the opportunity to work in and around the Mission Bike Shop, that he is pictured in above.



Lynn Antis, Executive Director

Easter menu

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|------------------|-----------|
| Turkeys | Hams |
| Stuffing | Potatoes |
| Yams | Gravy Mix |
| Pies | Rolls |
| Pineapple Glaze | |
| Cranberry Sauce | |
| Mixed Vegetables | |

Homemade pies and cookies can not have milk products in them. Pumpkin pies, cream pies, cream cheese have to be made in a commercially licensed kitchen.

Easter bags

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|----------------------|------------|
| Socks | Razors |
| Toothbrush | Toothpaste |
| Deodorant | Body Wash |
| Shampoo-Small | |
| Shaving Cream | |
| Brushes | Combs |
| Hand Sanitizer Gel | |
| Wrapped Easter Candy | |

Easter eggs

Eggs have to be from a recognized grocery store. Producers must have an egg handlers license. Eggs cannot be boiled in a non-commercial kitchen.

thrift stores

shop our stores to help homeless men, women and children.

used bikes & parts

are for sale in our Furniture Store. We accept donations of used bikes and parts.

