



Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Thrift Stores

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

JULY 2022

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



A Beacon of Hope

Kara said, "I just wanted the American dream: family, house, job, picket fence out front." However, life has dealt some setbacks. Troubles have been from heredity, circumstance, and poor choice. She has the obstacles of attention-deficit (hyperactivity) disorder (ADHD) and restless leg syndrome (RLS). She has taken medications on and off without any satisfaction. She attended special education classes and graduated from high school. Kara has a strong work ethic and a good job at a local retailer.

Life took a bad turn with an online relationship, wanting to believe everything. Unrealized expectations became disappointment, frustration, anger. Addiction was not an issue for either of them, but her new husband had an obsession with video games to the point of ignoring her and neglecting household chores. He spit in chew bottles left around and spent money on himself. He lost a couple of jobs. They argued, yelled, and he shoved her several times. Police were called by a neighbor. He was not supportive during her pregnancy, and refused to be present for delivery. Department of Human Services had already opened a case, and were at the hospital to observe her mothering ability. Afterward, DHS made unexpected house calls, finding unacceptable conditions. Again, police were called for loud arguing, then in front of a child, which is a form of domestic violence. Eventually, they lost custody of their baby. Kara was diagnosed with depression, anxiety, borderline personality disorder, PTSD, and codependency. In addition, she had no foundation of faith, especially after her trusted grandmother renounced her Christian beliefs.

Kara threw away her pentagram necklace.

She was broken, abandoned, without family support, unemployed, and homeless. She needed to be rescued physically, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually. Without addressing all of these needs, she would not know true healing. Samaritan Inn was here for her. Three days after arriving, she found a job and began rebuilding her life. Kara said, "Samaritan Inn positively brought me out of my funk, keeps me level headed. There are people to talk to, especially staff. I love worship time, music. I function better with music, its uplifting, makes me joyful." She said that when she arrived here, she was a Wiccan (a religion that worships nature) like her mother. At Samaritan Inn after a chapel service, Kara threw away her pentagram necklace (a five sided star used in Pagan belief, ritual, and witchcraft). She said, "I threw away beliefs, that I was not sure I had." She disowned that idol, a seed of Truth was planted, and she is now seeking the Lord. She has discovered "A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless" (our motto). Contentment is to be found first in the kingdom of God, then material goals will have new perspective.

Summer Rescue

At the same time many housed people are taking summer vacations, the unhoused increase their traveling and camping. Donations to the Mission can decline, as our client turnover rate increases. Summer is a time that homeless people search for meaning and purpose to life. Rescue is needed from the illusion many have that living a counterculture lifestyle in nature frees them from social pressures. Rescue is needed from addiction and mental illness. Well-meaning people will unintentionally enable the homeless to remain in peril by providing handouts. Rescue is a hand up into the Mission to receive the help needed. There are empty beds at our Men's Shelter and Samaritan Inn for women and children.

Cooling Centers

Cooling centers await the newly homeless and seasoned campers. Hot weather can be very dangerous, causing dehydration and heat exhaustion. Bottles of water and meals to go are available three times a day, for those not staying here, as a basic means of survival. Accountability to access our dayrooms is in the need to have spent the previous night here or have a referral from a social service agency or law enforcement. Open drop-in centers have shown to be like enabling handouts, with people just returning to their campsites. Our purpose is to provide a new, healthy living environment, not a means of remaining in an unhealthy one. Here, we have intake interviews to establish a plan of action for each person. There are meals, clothing, shelter, restrooms, showers, laundry, baggage storage, programs, resources. The Word of God is spoken in chapel to rescue the lost. There is hope.



Parking Lot Improvements

This is a City required project at Mission expense. We requested a Conditional Use Permit to change the use of two buildings on our downtown campus. The process began ten years ago in closing our old "Worn Again" thrift store on Lane Ave. to remodel it into a Dayroom-Chapel. Then we expanded our Dining Room into the old Dayroom-Chapel. It triggered a review of our handicapped restrooms in the affected buildings and all of our on-site paved parking spaces. We were able to do the requested facility improvements first, then do the Permit required work over a number of years in phases. This project is the last of it. The added project expense far exceeded our original facility remodel cost, with no government grants available to us.

Our parking lot and sidewalk in front of the office and store is being demolished and redeveloped. The purpose of this phase is to improve vehicle and pedestrian traffic safety on Pine St., which is Hwy 99. Drivers can no longer back their vehicles across the sidewalk onto the roadway. There will be parallel parking next to the buildings, a driveway running alongside the spaces, and trees in the sidewalk for a landscaping improvement. A single exit will improve safety for entering traffic.

This is a City required project at Mission expense.

Part of the cost of changing from straight parking spaces to parallel ones is the loss of available spaces. We went from 13 to 7 spots in front of our store and office. However, the Mission owns the whole parking lot around the corner, just north of our store. Customers can park in spaces marked "Mission Store" and in the new parallel spaces in front of the store. The north parking lot also has spaces marked "Mission Permit" for our staff and clients, and spaces marked "Reserved" that are leased to a local business. These leased spaces provide income to help cover the cost of all the paved parking, sidewalk, and landscaping improvements that have been required. After regular business hours, this parking lot is open to the restaurant across the street and special events downtown.

Paved parking spaces are a valuable commodity, in that, they determine the number of people that can access one's property. There is a formula used to calculate usage based on the type of activity in each operation. Capacity is limited by so many people per parking space. Its different for each our office, stores, dayroom, chapel, dormitory, transitional housing. Because our same clients use the different buildings and many do not have vehicles, determining the right number of paved spaces was adjusted by a survey of actual use. We have adequate parking for our current need with a little to spare. Future changes and expansion will be greatly affected by parking. On our downtown campus, we have a future building site and gravel lots that can be paved to support it.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



items needed

Corn Bread Mix
 Pancake Mix
 Pancake Syrup
 Oatmeal, Cold Cereal
 Macaroni & Cheese
 Refried Beans
 Pork & Beans
 Spices, Salt, Mayo
 Canned Fruit & Veggies
 Spaghetti, Macaroni
 Egg Noodles
 Bottles of Water
 Bath Towels
 Work Boots
 Twin Sheet Sets

used bikes & parts

are for sale in our
 Furniture Store.

chapel volunteers

Samaritan Inn &
 Men's Shelter
 Apply on our website
 or in our office.

vehicle donations

are accepted here.
 Receipt for tax
 deductions provided.

items accepted

at our dock
 806 SE Pine St
 Mon to Sat 9am to 6pm
 Furniture
 Household Items
 Kitchen Wares
 Sporting Goods
 Electronics
 Clothing, Bicycles
 Walkers - Wheelchairs
*Items need to be in good
 condition and working order.
 Mattresses not accepted.*