



Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Mission Stores

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

OCTOBER 2022

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



Healthy Independent Living

Utahna was ousted from her home by her self-absorbed boyfriend. They had an argument over him drawing money from her account to pay his phone, internet, and game expenses, that left her unable to pay her own bills. To add insult to injury, she said, "My boyfriend decided that his cat was more important than I was, so I had to leave the house. He said, 'My cat is afraid of you and runs to hide when you are around.' He made me feel worthless. I was constantly in a bubble, couldn't talk to anyone else or open up about what emotion I was having. He was controlling, manipulative, abusive."

A learning disability has guided much of Utahna's life. She was abused as a child by a person known to her family. She said, "How I was treated as a kid, it got seared into my brain, that it was how I was suppose to be treated by guys. I was confused. My family told me that I was too stupid to work and too incompetent to amount to anything." Oregon Department of Vocational Rehabilitation has worked with her to find the right job that matches her skills, interests, and abilities. Over the years, she has been in sheltered workshops and now through job coaching has integrated into jobs in the community that pay at least minimum wage. She likes her customer service job now as a cashier in a retail store.

"I came out of my shell. I have grown. I am happy."

Her caseworker recommended that she go to Samaritan Inn for safe housing. She had never been in a homeless shelter before, was frightened, and did not know what to expect. She was greeted with a warm welcome, then felt at ease. The combination of finding a job that suits her personality with a living environment that gives her freedom to be herself has created a whole new person. Utahna said, "I am safe. I can talk to staff about anything going on. I came out of my shell and now I am a social butterfly. I have grown. I am happy. I came a long way." In a separate setting, Susan, our manager, said of Utahna, "She has blossomed." She arrived here completely dejected, now she is thriving, even encouraging other women.

Utahna said, "I know that there is a God, and He is real. I have fallen away because of events in my life. Chapel services here help me figure out what God is really about, the true meaning of things that I was not taught when growing up." As her dependence shifts to a relationship with the Lord, she will develop a greater sense of healthy independent living.



An anonymous woman arrived here that had been beaten so severely she had partial paralysis on one side. He hit her with his fists, causing nerve damage to her spine. Her right hand was curled up, so that she could not even move her fingers to open her hand.

He was grossly immature, very possessive, extremely jealous, a drug addict, a domestic abuser. One day, she went out the front door to get the mail. He was so enraged by the brief, friendly encounter with the mailman, that he punched her. Any prolonged eye contact with another man was reason for revenge.

A common thread among our women clients is abuse as a child. Its a pivotal point of orientation that can distort one's identity. There can be forgiveness and healing. There can be self-abuse in addiction. Some feel unworthy of a healthy relationship and are actually attracted to codependency. A fear of rejection, loneliness, and homelessness can develop.

October is domestic violence awareness month. Signs of abuse can be: excuses for injuries, personality changes to low self-esteem, constantly checking with partner, never having money, skipping work, school or events, wearing clothing to cover bruises. Ways to make a difference: donate food, clothing, money, wear purple ribbons and clothing, read and share written materials, encourage an abused person, volunteer, refer a woman to Samaritan Inn. We have 104 beds for homeless women and children in need of a safe place.



Mission Stores Provide Hope

Brian lived on the streets for years, supported by donations for playing a guitar and singing. The money went to his homeless addiction camping lifestyle. It ended with a series of strokes then a heart attack. The resulting slurred speech, limited use of one arm, and overall weakness caused him to enter the Mission with the motivation to change his ways. He needed a clean and sober living environment, nutritious meals, protection from the elements, safety. After one month here, he joined our Program working in our Mission Store. Brian said, "My health is better, I'm exercising, Its a good routine. I'm using social skills, talking more. I'm still embarrassed about my speech because of the strokes. Working helps me organize my mind better to do a good job. I'm physically stronger, not getting out of breath as fast or tired as quickly."

Mission Stores provide hope through a work program that is a needed distraction from dwelling on and being overwhelmed by problems in life. It produces a set of values, accomplishes goals, focus, self-respect, organization, habit, and strength of character. Work is done unloading, sorting, recycling, pricing, displaying, selling, cleaning. Its being part of an operation, interacting with others, preparing for employment, leaving homelessness behind. Nine of our overall staff were homeless clients, some of which now live off-site. Over half our paid staff man-hours are from men and women that were on programs. There is a lot of participation from people that directly understand the homeless condition and solutions to it. We offer a hand up to be self-sufficient.

We are a service driven operation.

Stores have been a part of the Mission since the early days of our existence. They do not define us as an organization; they complement our operation. We could exist without them, although at a significantly reduced level of service to our clients and the community. Last year, Mission Stores generated 22% of our income. As a nonprofit organization, stores are an earned income venture to balance donated income. We do not receive government funding. Still, maximizing income is not our purpose. Our furniture store, even the Bike Shop, do not generate the revenue that selling clothing produces. We are a service driven operation, that includes providing affordable household items and low cost transportation. Even the clothing racks are there to provide free clothing vouchers to homeless men, women and children staying in our shelters.

Mission Store and Mission Furniture are located at 738 and 806 SE Pine St. Donations can be brought to the warehouse dock located behind the furniture store. Our warehouse is a support operation to our stores, where donations are received, sorted, distributed, recycled. Our stores and warehouse are a vital part of rehabilitation for those participating in them, and revenue to provide hope for every homeless person here.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



ministry opening

Employment Position
Operations Manager
Position is for a man to manage staff, programs, & facilities. He will provide a weekly chapel message. Full-time, salary & medical. Opportunity for advancement.
Send resume to:
rsbgmission@aol.com

chapel volunteers

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

items needed

Egg noodles
Tomato Sauce
Diced Tomatoes
Mushroom Soup
Canned Pork & Beans
Macaroni & Cheese
Oatmeal
Canned Fruit & Veggies
Cold Cereal
Hygiene Items
Strollers

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.