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# Give Thanks

Mother and children fled life threatening domestic violence. He went to prison. The remaining, fractured family went to our Samaritan Inn. Before a whole room full of women and children went through a food service line, a congregate prayer was said. It was a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for His provision even in such uncertain times. This broken family and other guests were safe, there was peace, and Thanksgiving was not lost.

## "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good." Psalm 107:1

We have so much to be thankful for. Here is a country with the freedom to preach the Gospel and have a Christian, nonprofit organization for the homeless. Here is a place with safe shelter day and night, three meals a day, clothing, programs, social service help, and opportunity. Families are being re-united and kept intact.

Thank you for giving hope to the homeless.

# **Happy Thanksgiving**

# **Done With Camping**

Zack had trouble finding work and providing for his girlfriend. His drug habit did not help matters. He is the product of a broken home, and the negative influence of a grandfather. Zack was taught drug use as a coping mechanism and way of life. He met his girlfriend through an online social media site by a friend. He said, "The camera doesn't tell you everything. It doesn't show you their personality. Its like having a co-worker, but outside of work, they're not the same." He moved in with her and her parents. His lack of income did not affect his housing, until her parents divorced



and sold the house. Zack and his girlfriend couched surfed for a couple of months, until they wore out their welcome. Then they went camping. She stayed a couple of weeks, but conditions became unbearable.

"I felt abandoned, depressed, lost. I needed companionship, somebody there. Its scary to be out there alone and camping. You don't realize how noisy nighttime is. It was hard to sleep," Zack recalled. "I would rather smoke a bowl than deal with life." He missed meals regularly, and lived on food box handouts. He said, "I've had canned, stewed tomatoes for breakfast, cold spaghetti sauce for lunch."

# *"I didn't know how to put a*

## resume together"

Enough was enough, Zack was done with camping. He said, "I didn't know how to put a resume together. I didn't know where to start." While out and about, he met a Mission staff member who directed him here. We helped him with his resume, which was more impressive than expected. Zack said, "I joined the Program because I needed a place to grow, and I have skills that could help here. I needed to work on me for a while, helping me with my mind-set. The Mission is like a misfit family. I appreciate the fact that you get a chance to get somewhere, a step up. I'm thankful for this place to stay, structure. I have rules teaching me how to live, to have a normal lifestyle."

"Chapel is getting me to think about life, and what I've done wrong, and why I need to get back in my faith. I used to preach in a church and was going to go to Bible college. I know that God is always there to help me, and I'm not alone," Zack stated.

# Be a part of completing Zack's success of being free from camping.

Rehabilitation is taking place. Faith is restored. Value is appreciated. Contributing to a greater good for many people is happening. Zack is on a fast track in our program and is a candidate for an employment position here. He has bills to catch up on, owns that responsibility, and wants to work.

This Thanksgiving, be a part of completing Zack's success of being free from camping.

# Notes of Gratitude

*"I'm thankful for Samaritan Inn, it's guests and staff." Chelsea* 

*"I'm thankful this place is here. It saved my life, got me off the street and off of drugs." Jimmie* 

> "I'm thankful for my life and God's role in it." Gerald

*"I'm thankful for waking up and getting to start a new day." Crystal* 

"I'm thankful that the Mission exists, and my needs are met." David

*"I'm thankful for my family at Samaritan Inn, the little ones here, my Heavenly Father, my life." Leah* 

"I'm thankful for a healthy body, food, housing, and going to chapel which centers me and gets me closer to God." Charlie



# No One Should Go Hungry At Thanksgiving

Nate had a bright future. He was a paramedic and had started a family. Then snap! While out with friends, one of the men slapped his own girlfriend. Nate reacted to defend the woman, assaulting the man. "My instincts were wellfounded, but I was in trouble," he recalls. "I had to go to jail, lost my job and EMT Certification, and couldn't see my daughter. It was difficult to find work with my record. It wasn't long before I was at the Roseburg Rescue Mission.

Nate completed the required anger management course, but passing a background check for work was a huge hurdle. In time, he was able to get his criminal record expunged. Meanwhile, Nate learned to cook from the Mission's Kitchen Supervisor.

"The Mission helped give me a sense of rebuilding and purpose," Nate says. "Chapel was so positive, and it helped me overcome the negative thoughts about my life's strange twist." Nate found hope in an unforgiving world. He has reunited with his family. "I don't think I could have made it without the help of Mission staff and volunteers," he says.

# **Mission Buys A House**

#### For Samaritan Inn Transitional Housing

A picture of the house and its location are not provided here. We have a concern that property values in that area would increase greatly, if it were known that we have an interest in future purchases. Still, we want to share this good news of a significant development here. Donors deserve to know what events are happening in their Mission. The down payment was made from an estate planning donation, and the remodel costs are covered by a private foundation grant. Loan payments are being made from the transitional housing rent income. In that sense, no general funds were expended on this house.

#### down payment made from estate planning donation

Transitional housing for homeless women and children at Samaritan Inn is an important link in the continuum of care to permanent housing. Recidivism of clients that fail after launching will be reduced. This supportive housing stabilizes people with mental health issues, substance abuse disorders, domestic violence trauma, justice system involvement, illness, disabilities. There is more private space and less common space. Yet clients still have full access to our Samaritan Inn campus, staff, and services. Its a step of learning independent living skills and gaining confidence. Unlike our shelter, one has to buy groceries, stock shelves and a refrigerator, cook meals, clean dishes, have a budget plan, pay affordable rent. Accountability is present, but the level of independence is increased.

#### a step of learning independent living skills

Some mothers with children, that are ready to leave our shelter, are still required by the Department of Human Services to have a Safety Service Provider. They cannot move to an unsupervised location and maintain custody of their children. Our transitional housing has that supervision. Many mothers are with their children here, because four requirements of having custody are met: 1) to have a home like setting, 2) have a safe environment, 3) have a Safety Service Provider, 4) the mother engages in her treatment program. We are also a place for DHS to have observed visits of a mother with her child working on getting custody restored. As DHS Foster Care struggles to have enough parents, Samaritan Inn has a greater role in meeting the needs of families.

Future expansion of the Mission is with increasing services to women and children. It is to be more proactive in reducing homelessness and

restraining the generational cycle of abuse. Samaritan Inn has 104 beds, consisting of 17 family rooms, a single women's dormitory, a special needs section, and a program area. In addition to that, we now have a house, yet to be remodeled and occupied, that will have about six more beds.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



## Thanksgiving items needed

Turkeys Potatoes Stuffing Gravy Mix Yams Rolls Pies Cool Whip Fruit Cocktail 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.

### ministry opening

Men's Caseworker Do intake interviews develop personal plans for success, encourage. Part-time. Opportunity for advancement Send resume to: rsbgmission@aol.com

#### chapel volunteers

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

fall harvest decorations in mission store