



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Mission Stores

*A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless*

*JUNE 2023*

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



## Mission Bike Shop

*Kirk began working in the Mission Bike Shop when he was on our Program. Then he was hired into that position, became a Store Clerk, now the Mission Furniture Manager. Since our Bike Shop is located within the furniture store, Kirk still oversees that operation. He has trained and supervised several Program and Staff people to repair bicycles, providing needed stability and job skills for them.*

### ***Summer bike riding weather is approaching***

*Purchasing or repairing a used bicycle can be the difference between getting and maintaining a job, housing, or social services. Its also generally considered to be safer from predators than walking. Used bikes and parts for men, women, and children are for sale to the public. We sell some new bike trailers, parts, and accessories. Receipts with the recorded serial number are provided on every bike, and we do not buy or exchange used bikes or parts. Have a safe bike riding summer.*

# Transitional Housing For Women

Roseburg Rescue Mission opened Samaritan Inn with a single residential house in 1985, added a second house next door in 1999, acquired an adjoining third house in 2009. Then all three houses were traded as a down payment on a larger commercial property in 2015. Now, a house has been purchased to begin a Transitional Housing Program for women to be completed in 2023. The main campus of Samaritan Inn is an emergency housing facility with an optional program. Transitional housing is a step between that operation and independent living. Its a program that includes paying fair rent. Rules include no drugs, alcohol, or



men visitors. There is a required weekly chapel and nightly curfew. Such programs have proven to be successful in reducing the number of clients that return to the emergency shelter. Its an opportunity to learn independent living skills, like budgeting, buying groceries, cooking, cleaning. Its gaining confidence. Clients still have full access to the Samaritan Inn campus, staff, and services for support.

A screening process ensures that candidates are ready for transitional housing, without excluding some unnecessarily. Rental histories and background checks are not required; however, passing drug tests are a condition of acceptance

into the program. Priority is given to women from Samaritan Inn, where relationships of trust have already been developed. Yet, referrals from social service organizations can be considered. Clients can develop rental histories for referrals to future permanent housing and not have to be on long waiting lists for subsidized housing to gain greater independence.

***full access to the Samaritan Inn campus, staff, and services***

By the time this newsletter is mailed, the house should be open and applications accepted. Kelly is considering this option. She and her husband both had professional careers. Kelly worked in the medical billing field for many years. They were making payments on a home and a new car. When her husband passed away, she had to move from their house into an apartment by herself. She continued to work, paying rent, making the car payment, even saving some. In time, the stress of that major life change caused Kelly to have a heart attack, including surgery to implant stents. She was no longer able to work, so her income declined to just Social Security Disability benefits.

***She was no longer able to work, so her income declined.***

When she turns to 60 years of age, she will be eligible for Survivors benefits. In the meantime, she continued paying the ever increasing apartment rent, depleting her savings, living check to check. It was almost inevitable that something would go wrong to upset that fragile budget. When she could no longer pay the rent, she went to live with her sister. In short order, Kelly realized, "We just could not live together. I had not been around my sister in 30 years." Kelly went to Samaritan Inn, but she was ready for more independent housing, like our new program.





## Find A Place To Live

Carlos was released from prison two years ago in the middle of the pandemic. He was quarantined to a motel room for two weeks then permitted to leave. With a concern over congregate living situations at the time, he was simply instructed to find a place to live. His brother-in-law bought him a tent, that Carlos set up at the then popular Duck Pond. When the police did a sweep of that area to clean out campsites, they told him about the Mission. Within a couple of weeks of arriving here, he got a job as a gas station attendant, that he maintains to this day. After working a couple of months, he became a part of our Transitional Housing Program, renting a room in one of the Mission's Single Room Occupancy hotels for men. Carlos said, "The Mission helps people that want help. You can get whatever you want out of it."

***"You can get whatever you want out of it."***

Trouble has been a part of his life. He grew up in a rough area, fighting and skipping school. As an adult, he worked hard as a floor layer then as a foreman on a produce farm for many years. His life changed dramatically when he had a stroke. His speech was affected and was no doubt a part of the complicated and confusing events that resulted in a relatively short prison sentence. It was there, that he learned to walk again (after his stroke) and to read for the first time. Now at the Mission, he appreciates the independence and accomplishment achieved. He would rather work than collect a disability check. Carlos said, "I didn't want to hang around the Dayroom all day, it would drive me crazy." He is working on getting his driver's license reinstated, a car, glasses, paying off fines, and taking classes for an old DUI. He has a new life.

## Men's Caseworker

Client intake interviews, social work, determine candidates for our program, training, supervising clients.

Full-time, salary

Resume to:

[rsbgmission@aol.com](mailto:rsbgmission@aol.com)

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## vehicle donations

are accepted here.

Receipt for tax deductions provided.

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## Mission Stores

Shop our stores to help homeless men, women & children.

Stores generated 22% of Mission income last year.

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## estate planning

leave a legacy of hope at Roseburg Rescue Mission.

The impact on people's lives can be eternal.



## Links Of The Chain

On the wall mural, the cross of Christ's crucifixion is depicted as a sword breaking chains of bondage. It's a part of the human condition, until or unless they are broken and we are set free. Tim painted the image on our Men's Dayroom-Chapel wall a few years ago. He copied it, by request, from a similar one in a Men's Program living area. As he painted and contemplated the meaning of the mural, his own uncertainty came into view. Tim said, "I put the shackles on myself right after I got out of the (military) service. I could have written on each link of the chain, as I painted them, an issue in my life: disowned by parents, disliked, unworthy, alcoholism, no faith, peer pressure." Being homeless was not listed as a link in his heavy chain, neither was employment problems. They were issues of relationship, identity, addiction, faith. With a similar ability to express himself in painting murals, Tim articulated the fundamentals of his condition. He accepted his bondage, but struggled with the means of being released.

### ***relationship, identity, addiction, faith***

Jesus said, "He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives" Luke 4:18. He quoted and fulfilled the prophecy from Isaiah to be the One sent to announce and provide freedom to those who would believe and follow. Just acknowledging bondage does not release us from it. Freedom is not about having enough will power or coping skills, it's the opposite. It's taking the focus off the self, off the past. It's not masking over issues, it's disowning, separating, releasing, being made new. Homelessness is a symptom of the underlying issues that cause it. When the links of those chains are broken, one can have new life.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



### **items needed**

Canned Fruit & Veggies  
Egg Noodles  
Spaghetti, Macaroni  
Pork & Beans  
Refried Beans  
Mayo, Ketchup, Mustard  
Cold Cereal  
Cornbread Mix  
Bottles of Water  
Raisins  
Women's Deodorant  
Wash Cloths  
Bath Towels  
White Twin Sheets  
White Pillowcases

### **chapel volunteers**

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

### **items accepted**

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