



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Mission Stores

*A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless*

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

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



## *A Safe Place To Sleep*

*Paul went homeless camping in the winter to be alone, because he felt discouraged with life. After a few weeks, law enforcement convinced him to go to the Mission. There was no need to camp in a public park. Mission beds for homeless men, women, and children go empty every night. Homeless camping has nothing to do with available beds. Campers stay well informed of their options. The issue is their choice of lifestyle.*

### *No need to camp in a public park*

*Chapel services and sobriety are required at the Mission. Paul benefited from both. Within a few weeks, he had regained his composure and confidence to hold down a job again. He said, "Chapels lifted my spirits, gave me examples in life, encouraged me to pray again." He is now renting a room in our Transitional Housing Program. Others could take advantage of the same opportunity, but they choose to not even have a safe place to sleep.*

# Restoring Personal Value

When people feel unworthy of success, they can self-sabotage their lives, making bad choices. Consciously or not, they can destroy relationships, education, careers, health, housing, freedom. It can be from personality, learned behavior, circumstances. They can be afraid of the pressure from responsibility, possible failure, criticism, expectations. Some cannot forget or forgive a war experience, personal tragedy, accident, crime. Some are victims, some make mistakes. A bad event can lead to another, spiraling out of control, causing some to be overwhelmed. Defeatism can become a lifestyle. Resulting consequences of dependencies,



handicaps, addictions, imprisonment, joblessness, homelessness, any negative social tag can cause loss of personal value. Some believe they deserve a negative condition, even punish themselves. Some actually enjoy self-destructive behaviors for a while, before being consumed by them.

Each person is first a human being, having value and worthy of restoration. Instilling value happens through forgiveness, trust, purpose. Being forgiven, then forgiving self and others begins the process. Investing with a trust or duty continues the healing through productive activity and purpose. There needs to be restoration from shame to worth, rejection to

acceptance, fear to faith, panic to assurance, giving up to joining in.

***Instilling value happens through forgiveness, trust, purpose.***

Aaron described himself as a person with low self-worth that used drugs as a coping mechanism. It started as a teenager and carried well into adult life. He said, "I wasn't being a good son, a good husband, or a godly man. I was lying, manipulating, controlling, abusive." Yet, he maintained employment. When the pandemic happened, he felt confined and relapsed in his addiction. He ended up living with his mother as a functioning addict in a co-dependent relationship. She turned a blind eye, because he was safe and not on the street. Those conditions led him to do something wrong, costing him a year in prison. He said, "I hit rock bottom and had no self-esteem." He completed drug and alcohol treatment while confined. Upon release, he needed to continue recovery. Aaron said, "I chose Roseburg Rescue Mission, because it's faith based."

***"It gives me the strength to do the next right thing."***

"It's important because I relied on faith a lot in prison and I wanted to continue the actual act of attending service (chapel), and that means being around other Christians. It gives me the strength to do the next right thing. I needed to be forgiven by the Lord, before I could forgive myself." He began building worth by doing the daily chore of washing dishes, being a part of the Mission community. He said, "I got the tools, support, structure that I needed to succeed." Yet, his criminal background turned several potential employers away, until a landscaping company provided a job opportunity. Aaron rented a room in our Transitional Housing Program. Months later, he is still free of addiction, employed, housed, living in faith, and has restored personal value.



## Recuperation

"I had a black eye when I was pregnant," Talea asserted. Her boyfriend was also emotionally abusive and refused to get a job. She worked, he took money. She said, "I actually had to run away, because he would not stop tormenting me." Talea and by then one-month-old Blaze, a diaper bag, and some luggage were on the doorstep of her adoptive parent's house. Both parties had some reluctance, as two or three foster children were still in the house with others coming and going. It worked for a while. She was employed and childcare was built-in to the home setting. She ventured out to share the rent on a house with friends, until it ended over a disputed electric bill. They moved back home. Then a new boyfriend led her from excessive alcohol use to illicit drug abuse. Instead of the promised stress relief, it caused a series of destructive events that ended in being convicted of a crime and sentenced to jail.

### ***"I like listening to the testimonies of people."***

Because two of Talea's adoptive sisters had been at Samaritan Inn previously, with good reports, upon release she followed their lead to our shelter. Bridges were burnt at home. She needed the environment of Samaritan Inn for accountability, social services, and a plan of direction. After six weeks of her recuperation, Blaze left his adoptive grandparent's home to rejoin his mother here. Talea then moved from our single women's dormitory to a private room with her son. She said, "Samaritan Inn is not stressful, its very enjoyable. I got knowledge of resources available. There is a support system of people to talk to here. I like listening to the testimonies of people." Hearing the stories of overcoming troubles encourages Talea to do the same, and the self-confidence to not repeat past mistakes. Mother and son are their own family set on a straight course.

## **Women & Children's Manager**

### **Samaritan Inn**

Manage staff & Programs. Christian ministry and social service position.

Full-time, salary, medical, live off-site.

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

## **Evening Supervisor**

### **Samaritan Inn**

supervise women and children during check-in, dinner, chapels showers, bed check, lights out. Part-time, hourly wages.

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

## **Mission Bike Shop**

used bike & part donations accepted & for sale in Mission Furniture. Some new bike trailers, parts, & accessories in stock.

## **estate planning**

leave a legacy of hope at Roseburg Rescue Mission.





## Moving Out Of Camp

Michael left his campsite, went to the Mission, and joined our Program. When he was satisfied with the accommodations, work assignment, and accountability that he wanted, he went back to his campsite to pack up his remaining belongings. He left the tents in Stewart Park. Michael knew he needed boundaries to get his life back on track. Like most Mission residents, he genuinely wanted help. Unlike the majority of our clients, he had been a homeless camper. Most arrive here from lost housing arrangements and have no desire to illegally and dangerously camp. When law enforcement sweeps through an area to move campers along, generally they just find another campsite.

### ***leaving 83 Mission beds empty every night***

In June of this year, our average nightly bed usage was 77 men, 46 women, and 13 children, for a total of 136 people. We have 219 beds, leaving 83 Mission beds empty every night. Bed usage is higher in the winter, although still not full. It's by no means close to our record of 199 beds used one night about four years ago, before homeless camping was made easier by laws lifting restrictions.

At the same time this past year, we began our Women's Transitional Housing Program by purchasing two buildings. There is a real need for this next step program to reduce the return to emergency housing. Our Men's Transitional Housing Program has operated out of two Single Room Occupancy Hotels for many years, and has a waiting list. So some of our no-charge emergency shelter beds go empty, while rented transitional housing rooms have waiting lists. There is clearly a need to add more low income housing to our community, but it will not significantly reduce homeless camping.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



### **items needed**

Macaroni & Cheese  
Spaghetti, Egg Noodles  
Tomato Sauce  
Diced Tomatoes  
Canned Pork & Beans  
Refried Beans  
Cold Cereal  
Spices, Salt, Mayo  
Canned Fruit & Veggies  
Pancake Mix  
Cornbread Mix  
Bottles of Water  
Bath Towels  
Women's Deodorant  
Diapers Size #5,#6

### **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, Kitchen  
Sporting Goods  
Electronics, Bicycles  
Walkers - Wheelchairs

*Items need to be in good condition and working order. Upholstered furniture and mattresses not accepted.*