



Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Mission Stores

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

MAY 2024

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Able To Accommodate

A homeless mother with six children has a lot of responsibility and limited options for places to go. Our Samaritan Inn was able to accommodate the size of their family and keep them together. They had a private room to themselves. From the needs of twin toddlers to that of a teenager sporting an attitude, her mothering skills were stretched, especially not being in her own home. On the other hand, three meals were served to them every day on time. There was no rent nor utility bills to worry about. She had no vehicle to transport so many around, so we provided a new, two seat stroller for her to keep.

Mother's Day is a time to honor and appreciate the work and sacrifice mothers make for their children. Motherhood is challenging enough, but being homeless too makes it all the more demanding. We celebrate the day with a special meal and gift items for mothers.

Happy Mother's Day

Women's Transitional House #2

Pictured here is the old doctor's office that the Mission purchased last year. We now refer to it as House #2, because it's our second Transitional House for women. The first one opened next door in June of 2023. Finally, we have a Conditional Use Permit, Site Plan Permit, and a Construction Permit on this second house. Because of the size, construction, and location of this old commercial building, it's now considered a residential house with those building code requirements. The building design will keep remodeling to a minimum.

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The doctor's waiting room will be the living room, the receptionist area is to be the dining room, the kitchenette will remain, three exam rooms and a large storage room will be bedrooms, and a shower is being added to one of the restrooms. Already, there is a new roof, all the windows have been replaced for energy efficiency and some for fire safety, and the siding has been repaired. Remaining work includes painting the exterior and interior, as well as new lighting and flooring.



Because this property had not been used for 15 years, the purchase price was low, but the site and building renovation was higher than usual. When the remodeling is done and renters move in, this transitional housing will be self-sustaining.

Transitional housing will be self-sustaining.

Rent income will pay the loan payment, utilities, and maintenance. In the meantime, remodeling costs are a direct expense that depend on donor support.

Transitional housing for homeless women is about freedom and independence. They do not have to remain homeless, in addictive habits, abusive situations, codependent relationships. There can be hope to have their own permanent housing with the help of this transitional step. Many need to develop their own source of income. Some need help re-entering the job market. Some are unable to work, so they receive SSI or need assistance applying for it. Others have or need age related Social Security. Additional hurdles of having poor rental histories, credit scores, and savings can make finding housing difficult. Another problem is the long waiting lists for subsidized housing.

a waiting list of women at Samaritan Inn ready to move into this house.

The result of this situation is a waiting list of women at Samaritan Inn ready to move into this house. They know that this is a great opportunity to re-establish themselves. At the same time, they will still have full access to our Samaritan Inn main campus, staff, and support services. There is still accountability of behavior, visitors, curfew, chapel, as well as a safe, healthy environment to gain confidence. When they are ready, they can then launch into independent, permanent housing.



Rescued From Lost Housing

Tamarah arrived at the locked, front gate of our Samaritan Inn with her personal advocate, who was there to ensure that she and her three children had a safe place to be. She needed to be rescued from lost housing. The family was stuck between the short notice of having to move out of a time-limited, transitional housing unit across town and the long waiting list for HUD housing. In addition, her infant has a special medical need of formula that has to be refrigerated, then warmed every hour during the night. Access to a refrigerator and a microwave was not a normal provision in emergency shelter housing. After inviting them into the Samaritan Inn office and having a brief conference to understand their situation and need, a solution was developed. We purchased studio-sized appliances for their private room, so Tamarah could care for the medical needs of her family. The stress and fear subsided to an assurance of their housing and safety.

Her infant's special medical need was met.

Tamarah said she slept much better here, because there is no immanent concern over a looming move out date. In our Mission provision of Emergency Shelter, Program, and Transitional Housing, we have no timing out of housing. With Emergency Shelter and Program, our clients are assisted in preparing for permanent housing, because they cannot stay in those areas long-term. As long as they are diligently working on independence, they can stay until there is a suitable place for them to move. With our Transitional Housing, there is no time limit, because for various reasons they are better off staying here. Whether they have a concern over background checks or want to stay within the accountability of our Transitional Housing Program rules, they can remain here in their rental rooms. They have been rescued and can stay rescued.

Rescue

Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.
Psalms 50:15

Mission Bike Shop

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

Mission Stores

Shop our stores to help homeless men, women & children. Stores generated 27% of Mission income last year.

vehicle donations

are accepted here. Receipt for tax deductions provided.

estate planning

leave a legacy of hope at Roseburg Rescue Mission. The impact on people's lives can be eternal.



Homeless Camping

In 2011, homeless campers all across the country joined the Occupy Wall Street movement, occupying streets and parks, demanding authorized tent cities. In 2019, a northwest federal court imposed laws restricting law enforcement from moving campers off public property. In 2020, the pandemic brought the encouragement of camping in place to reduce virus spread. In 2021, a new Oregon law legalized small quantities of illicit drugs, further increasing homeless camping. Now, it's become a commonplace part of the social landscape. The solution is to take a bigger picture view of the situation with the goal of reversing the steps that have caused the problem. Cities experimenting with authorized tent cities, complete with support facilities, have become homeless camping friendly cities that actually attract more campers.

They can be successfully rescued off the street.

Between the pushing by law enforcement of the homeless out of campsites and the pulling by Roseburg Rescue Mission of them into needed services, they can be successfully rescued off the street. The pushing is more direct, because it has the force of law and results can be seen right away. The pulling is indirect, because it remains a choice of the individual as to where and how to live. When I ask homeless campers what finally caused them to enter the Mission, the most common answer is that they got sick and tired of living that way. And they get tired of being forced to move from campsites. Also reported is how easy it is to camp, because all the supplies are so freely given away.

At the point of this writing, there were 165 men, women, and children sleeping at the Mission. All were sober and all were in chapel. That hardly seems like any barrier to receiving services. There is a desire within people to live orderly lives.

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
Ground Coffee
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Quilts 72" by 90"
Strollers 1 & 2 Seat
Diapers #4,#5,#6
Baby Wipes

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.