



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Mission Stores

*A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless*

*JANUARY 2026*

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



## Meals To Go Every Day

*When the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), otherwise known as food stamps, had a government delay in providing benefits recently, the Mission's Meals To Go Program continued to provide three meals everyday. There was an increase in the number of breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals handed out at the door of our kitchen at 513 SE Lane Ave. in Roseburg. We are completely community supported, receiving no USDA food nor food bank donations. Bottled water is purchased by the pallet load. Donated food is generally sufficient to fill the need, but is purchased to meet the demand. So no one ever has to go hungry.*

***So no one ever has to go hungry.***

*New SNAP benefit eligibility rules will soon apply. Most "able-bodied adults without dependents" must meet work requirements to keep SNAP for longer than three months. Recipients are required to do 80 hours of work activities a month through employment, volunteering, or training program. Homeless people are not exempt from the new rules. This is expected to increase the number of meals to go from the Mission. They are for those who are homeless or just hungry. It provides a point of contact at the Mission, so people can know the services that are available to them. There is hope and a community that cares.*

## Needed A Safe Place

Tracy camped in a permitted campsite of ten tents for four months. It was fenced and screened from public view. She said that alcohol and drugs were present. She camped with her boyfriend. Tracy said, "He was verbally, mentally, and emotionally abusive, and no one there tried to stop it. I was broken. It was depressing. I wanted out, but I didn't know how to get out of camp." For a lack of information, she did not know her options. There were no casework services at the camp. Finally, she left because of the abuse and went to Samaritan Inn.

### *Didn't know how to get out of camp*

For 15 years, Tracy worked as a caregiver, then for another five years she cared for her husband. She said, "He became abusive, so I left." For a few years, she worked at a restaurant and rented a trailer on her parent's property. She became disillusioned with the mundane job, so she quit and took classes to go back to caregiving. There were arguments with her parents about not paying rent. She became homeless and drank. Tracy said, "I felt like I was abandoned by God in camp. After being at Samaritan Inn, I realized that God was with me all the time. I'm getting closer to God and understanding the Bible more. Now, I know I'm worth something to someone, worthy of being loved." She is doing well in her sobriety and working on returning to her career as a caregiver.



## Mission Mobile Outreach

Above is a conceptual drawing of a Roseburg Rescue Mission Mobile Outreach Van. By the time this newsletter is mailed, we hope to have this outreach ministry in operation. Its purpose is to rescue men, women, and children off the street and bring them to our Men's Shelter or Samaritan Inn. It's not to supply and enable addiction camping.

In the past few years, the world of homelessness has changed greatly. Now, we need to alter our approach to meet the current conditions. The Covid pandemic affected government spending, Mission security screening, and homeless camping. Several new government funded programs have developed, the Mission had to tighten security to screen for viruses, and homeless campers were given supplies to camp in place. Lawsuits at every court level have decided new rights affecting law enforcement, shelters, and homeless people. The government wanted an alternative to the Mission's so-called barriers of sobriety and chapel messages. Now a shelter like that exists. There are three City permitted campsites of ten tents each and a large sanctioned, though not permitted, campsite. The City is searching for an urban campground

(tent city) complete with restrooms, showers, and other provisions. Campsites are no longer allowed to be hidden away in brush, they have to be out in the open and limited to approved areas. Law enforcement is present on regular campsite clean out days. Deplorable conditions exist in the present camps and people need to be rescued. False rumors about Mission conditions need to be dispelled. Relationships need to be developed.

Our evangelistic outreach will have a new way back to the streets where this ministry began. In 1964, Norman Williams, our founding director, moved his shoe repair shop from Winston to downtown Roseburg across the street from what was then the train depot and rail yard.

His purpose was to establish an outreach to the homeless in the area that they frequented. Then the train depot closed, the railyard moved, and homeless people no longer hitched rides on trains. Our location remains well suited, but the conditions of the last few years has caused some to concentrate in camps. Now, we need a mobile outreach to go to homeless people, so we can extend a personal invitation for a new life.

***To go to homeless people,  
so we can extend a  
personal invitation  
for a new life***

## Move To Mission

Darrell was camping in an unauthorized area along Deer Creek in Roseburg. He was there about a week before being discovered by a police officer. He received a Prohibited Camping Citation with a fine of \$100 dollars, that could be paid at the rate of \$25 per month. The judge advised him, that if he went to the Mission, the fine would be waived. Currently, the first camping offense is a fine of \$100, second offense is \$250, third offense is seven days in jail. The law allows for commuting a sentence if the defendant accesses social services after their violation.

### *Camping fine would be waived*

Because of a disability, Darrell receives a monthly SSI payment. Three years ago, when the benefit was \$841, his rent was \$500 per month plus utilities for a one-bedroom apartment. Certain unexpected expenses caused him to not pay the rent, and he was evicted. He camped until he found a friend to share rent with. When their rental house sold, he returned to camping. Then, he was cited and moved to the Mission. We are now helping him to replace his lost ID's from the VA and DMV. Affordable housing options are being reviewed, including the Mission's Transitional Housing Program. In the meantime, all of his needs are being met in a safe, warm, dry, and legal place.

We are rescuing homeless campers through our mobile outreach van and by accepting them if they receive a citation and want social services here.





## Bicycle Outreach

Mission Bike Shop is a nonprofit service to homeless people and the whole community. It provides low-cost transportation to help mobilize people out of homelessness. Bikes do not require a driver's license, registration, nor insurance. There are no costly operating expenses for fuel, maintenance, and repairs. We have a good supply of used bicycles, new and used parts, and some new accessories including bike trailers. We accept donated bikes and parts but never buy or trade them. Our repair shop is right on the sales floor, and we can install minor items. A receipt with the bicycle serial number is provided.

Bikes are a means to get social services, employment, and housing without enabling anyone. It's like our Mobile Mission Outreach Van in that it provides a way out of camping. And our van will have a rack on it to bring bikes back to the Mission with the people. It's like our Meals To Go Program in that it provides a needed service and invites people to the Mission as a point of contact.

### ***To help mobilize people out of homelessness***

Robert is pictured above in the Mission Bike Shop. Soon after arriving here, he joined our Program with a position of working in the warehouse. His Program sustenance allowance afforded him the ability to purchase a good quality bike from our shop. Then he bought a bike lock and lights here. He said, "It gave me freedom because walking hurts my legs. I can ride to social services, DMV, grocery stores, and get my medications." Robert has moved up to be our Men's Check-In Supervisor and newest employee. Now, he is saving to buy a car.

*Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director*



## **Men's Caseworker**

Christian Ministry  
Do client intake interviews, social work, follow-up, encouragement.

Part-time, hourly wage.

Resume to:

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

## **chapel volunteers**

Samaritan Inn &  
Men's Shelter

Apply on our website  
or in our office.

## **warm quilts**

72" x 90" quilts  
go on every bed for  
men, women, children.

## **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  
Men's & Women's PJs  
Winter Coats  
Diapers #4,#5,#6  
Deodorant  
Twin Sized Sheets