



Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Thrift Stores

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

JANUARY 2021

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Born Addicted

Drug babies develop under the influence of mind altering substances that affect their abilities in different ways including: attention, problem solving, language, academic achievement, emotional functioning, behavior regulation, and the child's own future drug use. Mike was abandoned in the back seat of a car at two-weeks-old, as his mother ran from police. He went to foster care. When Mike was three-years-old, his foster father got a new job in a different state. His foster parents moved, but Mike was still a ward of the state and could not go with them. Mike became catatonic, having no communication, reduced movement, and increased agitation, confusion, and restlessness. Three months later, his foster parents returned and Mike started talking again. He was adopted by them at seven and remained until 18. Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) was treated with Ritalin, a stimulant medication, until he graduated from high school. Withdrawal from that drug, Mike said, "left a confusion, could not think straight, mind not working, not focused." Replacing the stimulant medication with illicit drugs is all too common, and it causes problems with behavior, relationships, employment, incarceration.

Mike is now 43-years-old and has struggled with all of these issues. Through no direct fault of his own, he has had to cope with a disadvantage in life. On three separate occasions over the years, he has utilized services at the Mission. He has worked in mills, logging, and auto mechanics. His present job is in construction supply. When he has needed the opportunity to restart his life, the Mission has been here for him. Mike said, "The Mission is a solid stepping stone of which to get out of where I am at. It is a pillar in a stormy ocean. It is solid and a roof over my head, where otherwise, there would be none."

Faith has helped him manage life.

Attending Christian school was a part of Mike's upbringing. Faith has helped him manage life. Mike said, "I have a personal relationship with Jesus. (Mission) Chapel reminds me there is still a light out there." We are the continuation of the household of faith that helped him through childhood. Now as an adult, the same Gospel Truth is a part of his Mission family.

Making a productive life, when one has an inborn affliction, is challenging. It can be mistaken for a condition of choice or consequence of behavior. It is a matter of being a victim of someone else's actions, yet cannot be an excuse for not taking personal responsibility. We were not able to stop Mike's mother from using drugs while expecting him, but we can be here now to help him find his way in life.

Winter Rescue

Warm dayrooms and dormitories provide relief, day and night, from cold weather. At our Men's Shelter and Samaritan Inn, men, women, and children can stay indoors during the day, after a good night's rest in a warm bed. This is a healthy environment to promote the well-being of everyone here. Three meals are provided every day, warm winter clothing is freely given to guests, safe shelter from winter exposure is supplied, and hope from despair is here.

Often homeless campers increase their usage of drugs and alcohol to combat cold weather. Alcohol can give a false sense of warmth in the body, because it dilates blood vessels, increasing blood flow to the limbs. However it actually increases heat loss, lowering core body temperature. A person can feel warm and not dress appropriately. Alcoholics can pass out in frigid water or snow. And alcohol suppresses appetite, depleting nutrition that generates energy for warmth. Camping can cause hypothermia, frostbite, pneumonia, influenza.

day and night

Rescue from the danger of freezing and addiction is needed. Our Cold Weather Policy allows for a wider range of people to enter this refuge. When the forecast is for 36 degrees or less including windchill, people on a time out of the Mission can receive all services day and night, as long as, they have no obvious use of intoxicants or rowdy behavior. We are warming and recovering centers all year. Sobriety is required so no one is triggered to relapse by another person's behavior.

Winter rescue is not just providing basic needs to survive. True rescue is deliverance from the situation, redemption from the bondage of addiction, salvation from being lost.



Working For A Bed At Night

We were created with a purpose and need to work as a part of our identity and well-being. "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it" Genesis 2:15. Paradise had activity in it as a normal function of the body and mind. The opposite then is true, a lack of activity is unhealthy, even depressing. At the Mission, we strive to maintain and develop a strong work ethic. It is a needed distraction from dwelling on and being overwhelmed by problems in life. Work is therapy, as a treatment for a disorder. It produces a set of values, accomplishment of goals, focus, self-respect, organization, habit and strengthened character.

Homelessness, for many reasons, can cause people to stop working. Often times, they need a transition to ease back into the working world. There may be a need to learn a skill, keep a schedule, deal with others, take instruction, earn a job reference, or just have time for healing.

For able-bodied individuals, working for a night's bed is a requirement. If a person is not able to do regular work, a light duty assignment is given instead. If a condition keeps one from doing any sort of work, a medical voucher for the bed is given in place of the work requirement. When a person is employed, has off campus appointments, or any other legitimate reason for not being available for a normally scheduled task, he or she is given a chore with a flexible timeline. Work is not required on Sundays or major holidays.

Panhandling for money to stay at the Mission is not necessary.

The photo shows a portion of our warehouse where many of the men staying here work. This area is where donated clothing is sorted. Furniture and housewares are sorted and stored just beyond this area. There is an electronics testing bench to separate working items into the store and the rest to recycle. There is a machine to bail cardboard, as well as clothing that does not sell in our store. Men also sort paper, books, wood, metal, building materials for recycling. Hats, purses, belts, shoes, luggage that does not sell in our store is sorted for bulk sales. Upstairs is bicycle and holiday decoration storage. In addition to warehouse work, there are many chores done in our kitchen, dayroom, dormitory, restrooms, showers, laundry, grounds care. At Samaritan Inn, women do similar work on their own campus, not in our warehouse or stores. Mothers have to clean their own living areas, and children have to pick up toys after playing with them.

Panhandling for money to stay at the Mission is not necessary. Panhandling is not just a street corner behavior, it is done to churches, nonprofits, individuals. Not only is that money not needed here, it may well be spent on destructive behaviors. There is no shortage of work or beds at the Mission.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



items needed

Spaghetti, Macaroni
 Tomato Sauce
 Diced Tomatoes
 Mushroom Soup
 Refried Beans, Salt
 Oatmeal, Pepper
 Cooking Oil, Mayo
 Canned Fruit
 Baby Diapers #5 & #6
 Baby Wipes
 Warm Coats
 Umbrellas
 Disinfectant Spray
 Disinfectant Wipes
 Bottles of Water

vehicle donations

are accepted here.
 Receipt for tax
 deductions provided.

job opening

Employment Position
 Stores & Warehouse
 Manager
 Position is for a man
 to manage staff and
 men on our program.
 Ideal candidate will
 provide weekly chapel
 message.
 30 hours per week.
 Send resume to:
rsbgmission@aol.com