



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

48 *Years*
1964-2012

OCTOBER 2012

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A New Opportunity For Life

It was Shannon's fifth attempt at suicide. The hospital was ready to discharge her, but this time there was no place to go. Even her codependent relationships were broken. Her parents, who up to this time were always an option, took the "tough love" approach, wanting their daughter to mature and be more independent. The social worker at the hospital recommended the Mission's Samaritan Inn.

Shannon was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. She was abused as a child. As an adult, she said, "It affected the type of men I was drawn to; they were

controlling, manipulative, abusing. Anger and depression ruled every decision I made. Drugs, alcohol and tobacco were never an issue. I locked myself out of the world, lost within myself, suicidal, ready to shut self down. It was a cry for help, because I know the difference between right and wrong. It was the only way I knew to release my pain. I just wanted it to stop, nothing else seemed to work. I have insecurities. I don't have a good image of myself. I felt unworthy of love, happiness, respect, so I was self sabotaging in relationships. I'm not used to comfort, never really had safety, scared of someone seeing me in a different light than I see myself, that I could not measure up to their expectations."

That was a lot of emotional baggage for Shannon to carry through the door of Samaritan Inn. Suddenly, she was on her own, terrified of being without family and of the stereotype she imagined a homeless shelter would be like. But she said, "I was greeted with

open arms; they did everything possible to make me safe and comfortable." Then she added, "After my first restful day here, I met with Kim (the manager) and set goals. That evening in chapel when Scripture was read, I got goose bumps as God was speaking to me. It made me accept the responsibility of my action and helped me to forgive. Before, I couldn't let go of my past and focus on failure. I was forgiven and then able to forgive others. I don't dwell on it anymore, like I used to. Before I got here, I didn't feel I was ready or worthy to accept God in my life. Now I welcome Him freely."

Shannon has learned relationship boundaries. She has grown in maturity, gained self-respect and is no longer tolerant of abusive people. She has made good friendships at Samaritan Inn. She has a new identity in life and in the Lord. As her relationship with the Lord is growing, so is her ability to have healthy relationships with other people. She has reconciled with her parents and her grown children just in time to be a grandmother very soon.

In the photo, Shannon is wearing her work uniform. She has had a housekeeping job at a hotel for months now. Its been years since she had a job, always being supported in relationships. She said, "I go to work every day accomplishing a purpose. This job has taught me independence. I'm no longer a codependent person."

The key to Shannon's success was in accepting the love of the Lord in her life. Her favorite Bible verses are in I Corinthians 13, especially, that love keeps no record of wrongs.



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Items Needed:

Potatoes
Onions
Powdered Milk
Cooking Oil
Laundry Soap
Toilet Paper
Bicycles
Toothbrushes
Razors

**DONATE A CAR
OR TRUCK**



Donations
are tax
deductible

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are many ways to be
“A Beacon of Hope for the
Homeless”.

*Here are some of our current
needs:*

Samaritan Inn

Chapel Services
Bible Study

Men’s Mission

Chapel Service
Thrift Store
GED Tutors

*Apply on our website or
in our office.*

BASIC SERVICES

For men, women and children

Food: 3 meals every day

Clothing: Available to all

Recovery Program: 20

Transitional Housing: 36

Client Shelter: 120

Emergency Shelter: 24

Total Beds Available: 200

Dayrooms: Open all day
Laundry, showers, phone, etc.

Thrift Stores: Items vouchered
to those in need, sold to others

Chapel: A part of our daily lives.



Larry, TC, Michael

3 Men In Wheelchairs

Three men are currently in wheelchairs, others use crutches, oxygen devices. Sometimes the Mission resembles a convalescent center. Larry suffered a stroke, leaving him partially paralyzed on one side. He is giving himself a form of physical therapy until we can work out a long-term medical plan with him. He is growing stronger, taking small steps at a time, determined to walk again. TC was walking along Hwy 138 just after dark. When the headlights of a passing car temporarily blinded him, he stepped off the shoulder of the road, fell down an embankment and broke his leg. He is waiting for surgery to put a metal plate and screws in his leg. Michael is a veteran that has been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, a degenerative condition that causes one to shake without control. He is working on getting a non-service related VA disability. We are working with him to get into a care facility that helps with meals and medical care as needed.

The Mission is a place to recover from illness, to regain strength and health for the homeless. We are not a medical center or hospice for the terminally ill. We have no medical staff. We do not dispense medications. Each person seeking shelter here has to be able to meet their own personal needs of mobility, hygiene, eating. We are accommodating, sometimes even beyond reasonable expectation. Our staff advocate for client’s medical care, medications, placement in care facilities, independent living. We work with other social service organizations in an environment that does not always have easy solutions for every situation. If a person leaves a care facility, can go back to it and it is safe, our policy is to require them to go back. We are an emergency shelter, not an alternative place to live.

“I was sick and you looked after Me.” Matthew 25:36

In ministering to the needy, we serve Christ. This is not about working for the Lord (as if He needs our help), working for salvation or even reward. This is about the Christian’s natural response of Jesus’ love within to flow out in acts of love to others. The motivation to do so is directly tied to the personal relationship with Jesus Christ, without ulterior motives like recognition or self-fulfillment. This is about caring for the needs of people in troubled situations, without preconceived judgment of how they got there, as if each person was indeed Christ Himself, or Christ within that person. The Lord loves His creation, us creatures, every one. His desire is for each one to use his freewill to respond in a loving relationship back to Him. By putting our faith in action, we show the Lord’s love to others and open doors to share the Good News of salvation.

Lynn Artis, Executive Director

