



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

49 *Years*
1964-2013

JANUARY 2013

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Back To Work Again

Jason had a well paying job at a specialty manufacturing facility. The company was expanding and he was a supervisor training new employees. The future looked bright and promising. Then the unexpected happened; the company went bankrupt and closed down. When his unemployment benefits ran out, he lived on his savings, until they too were gone. He had no friends in a situation that could board him. Jason's parents, being in a tight financial spot of their own, left to drive a long haul truck. Hello homelessness!

Jason had never been to a mission before and did not know what to expect or even where exactly to go. His first contact was in our kitchen that he wandered into. He said the guys were friendly, explained how the Mission works and comforted him by saying, "You don't need to be nervous, this is a really great place." Jason said, "I never felt scared. That first night here, I laid in bed, took in my surroundings and knew I was in a safe place. Nothing was going to happen to me here. There are a lot of great guys here that just have a physical ailment or whatever. This has opened my eyes to the homeless community and their situation. I had that stereotyped thought of what a homeless person is like. Now I have more compassion and understanding."

After just a few days, Jason joined our New Life Program. He kept busy here while continuing to look for

employment. On the program, he was a cook. His only cooking experience had been at home. He said he just needed to find all the pans and utensils in the kitchen, after that it was second nature. He went to Bible study classes, addiction recovery (he has no drug or alcohol issues) and life skills classes. As a child he went to after school Bible studies and was baptized at fifth-grade church camp. As an adult he went to Bible college for a while, majoring in

psychology with the idea of helping people. He said the Mission is a "refreshing atmosphere where I reconnected with God and gained a burning desire to have a closer relationship with the Lord." He has new Christian friends that encourage each other, study together and joined a local church together.

Three months of Mission life later, Jason landed a job. He had gone directly there shortly after arriving at the Mission. Someone quit, the job opened and Jason was qualified. It's in the same specialty manufacturing field he was in before, no doubt making some product his previous employer would have made. He said, "It's a good

paying job, not as much as my last job, but it's nice to have an income again. It's a blessing."

The Mission has truly been "A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless" to Jason, giving him opportunity, encouragement, insight, fellowship and a rekindled faith in the Lord.



**Opportunity, encouragement,
insight, fellowship and a
rekindled faith in the Lord**

Items Needed:

Pancake Mix

Syrup

Powdered Milk

Cooking Oil

Laundry Soap

Toilet Paper

Pajamas

Quilts: Adult 60"x90"

Crib Size 36"x42"

Winter Coats

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.



Mission Books & Bargains

The store at the corner of Pine St. and Cass Av. became available because of a poor economy. We moved quickly to secure it. We were blessed, not only to buy it, but at a very good price and financing package. Our purpose in purchasing the building was for future growth. Homelessness is increasing with no relief in sight, despite all our efforts to assist people into housing and employment. We needed the parking spaces, to meet city code requirements, to add beds or increase other services. It gave the Mission ownership of the whole block to better design a master plan for the future.

Jesus said, "For the poor you have with you always." Matthew 26:11

We did not purchase the building with the idea of even opening a third thrift store. After remodeling two stores, we closed a third one, the old Worn Again store, almost three years ago. We went ahead and repaired the newly purchased building so it could be used if needed, even just for storage. But as repairs were nearing completion, we realized the need for the Mission to actually occupy the whole block. We needed to have a greater vitality in the Mission and the downtown business district. Roseburg did not need another empty building, especially one with such prominent storefront windows.

Several options were considered for a new store. We had a lot of great ideas, but for some there would not be enough demand, for others not adequate supply. It had to be a product or service that we could manage with our clientele, not too specialized or dependent on a single person. The concept had to fit our requirements of contributing financially to the Mission ministry, providing a service to the community and generating work for our clients even if just in the warehouse. The conclusion was to do what we do best, thrift store, but not to compete with our other stores. So we moved the section of books, movies and music, along with some knickknack bargains. And we have been met with success.

Start up costs were minimal. Fixture remnants from four closed Roseburg Stores display our merchandise in this store alone. It kind of feels like our book store has risen from the ashes of four failed businesses. The building itself has had several different shops in it over the years, even a Christian book store. Some people have come in this store hoping it to be such a store selling new books, but everything we sell is donated. We do have a Christian book section. Scripture and related study material is now more readily available. Bibles are always free.

The manager of the store, Jim, is a Mission program graduate hired to this part-time staff position. He was actually hired months before to explore the expansion of existing departments or creation of new ones within our stores. Opening "Mission Books & Bargains" is the conclusion to that search.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director

