



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

49 *Years*
1964-2013

MARCH 2013

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

Easter Dinner and a Message of Hope

Easter is one of the times of the year when more people attend church and are more open to the Gospel message of hope. So it is at the Mission. Many have lost hope because of lost jobs, homes, relationships, health. Hope can begin with a single hot meal, a traditional Easter dinner with all the trimmings. A chain reaction of healing and hope can be set in motion. We have a year-round provision of food, clothing, shelter, a New Life Program and the Good News that God loves us all. Together, we can transform hopelessness into hope for today and eternity. Please send a life-changing gift today. Have a blessed, Happy Easter!

When Tragedy Strikes

Suddenly, tragically, Dianna's husband died. She was left in shock, depression, fear. She had two children and was just a couple of weeks pregnant. It was too emotional for them to stay in their home. To make matters worse, her children were temporarily taken from her during an investigation into the cause of death. She quickly ran out of money with no place to go. Today the situation has been resolved. She has her children back, is receiving widow's benefits and they have their own home again. Her husband had been a professional forester and she was a retail store manager. She was on unpaid leave at the time due to a medical condition. Circumstances had collided into a terrible storm in her life.

What Dianna needed was a temporary, safe, stable environment to reunite with her children. She needed time to mend emotionally, time for the courts and children's services to process her case. She needed grief support. Her needs were met at the Mission's Samaritan Inn. Dianna said, "Without this place, there was no way I was going to get my kids back. They said, if I moved into Samaritan Inn, I would get my kids back." She had a room of her own in one of our houses, a place big enough for her and her children, a place approved by children's services. Kim, our Samaritan Inn manager, went to Family Development meetings to help make a plan for getting the family back together. It started with visits here and ended with full custody.

When tragedy strikes, where is the hope to see us through the crisis to a new normal and a better future? Dianna did not need to hope in hope itself, but in a solid, assured knowledge, experience, relationship. Kim was able to relate to her through her own life's tragic experience. Dianna was directed to the Scriptures and to the Lord. She said, "I've been a Christian since childhood, but as an adult I stopped everything. The tragedy brought me back. It turned me closer to God, where there is hope. Now I have conversations with God." Her children, River (6) and Ruby (4 - not pictured), learned Christian songs they love to sing throughout the day. She befriended another woman guest here. They go to church together, fellowship, encourage each other. Baby Andrew is three months old in the photo, a reminder of her late husband and a son to raise knowing the Lord Who heals when tragedy strikes.



Dianna, River (6), Andrew (3 mos.)

My Easter gift for the homeless

Yes! I want to help homeless men, women and children in need.

I'd like to contribute:

- \$25
 \$50
 \$100
 \$ _____

Please accept my donation by:

- Check:** PLEASE ENCLOSE
 Credit Card: CIRCLE ONE



Exp.: _____
Card Number: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Thank you for using the enclosed envelope. You will receive a receipt for your tax deductible gift.

Roseburg Rescue Mission

PO Box 1937 • Roseburg, OR 97470-0438



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.

Help First, Housing Next

When a personal crisis occurs that dislodges a person from their living arrangement, as a general rule in Douglas County, homelessness does not result because of a lack of rooms for rent, apartments or houses. Neither is there a shortage of beds at the Mission. This year, we are working on adding more men's beds and acquiring a larger facility for our Samaritan Inn for women and children. We are keeping up with the need. Homelessness can be caused by making poor choices, being a victim, medical and psychological issues, accidents and natural disasters, broken relationships, lack of employment, domestic violence. Homelessness is not caused by a lack of housing, shelter beds, food or clothing.

Randomly or even selectively choosing a homeless person off the street or out of the Mission and putting him or her into independent housing does not address the underlying issues. Housing alone, or the Housing First model, does not address addictions, mental health, barriers to employment. First, help is needed to overcome these issues. Housing First can actually compound the problem by ignoring the fundamental source of the problem and providing a living arrangement without accountability. A lack of housing did not cause the homelessness, nor will housing solve the problem.

Homelessness cannot be stopped anymore than human behavior can be controlled. The Mission is not in the business of preventing homelessness; we address the problem after it happens. And we are plenty occupied with that task! Much of homelessness is a matter of the mind, heart and soul. No one can enter into every person and situation to make changes to stop homelessness. The Lord can, given the conditions of our freewill and the fallen world. There is hope.

If there is an institution that works on preventing homelessness, it is the Church, through helps, prayer and evangelism. The community and fellowship of a church congregation provides support. Family and friends provide a safety net. The government has social welfare programs. When these preventive measures are not able to meet every need, the Mission welcomes people in broken life situations. We try to mend them to health and establish them in independent housing. We do address the mind, heart and soul, so people will not return to us again. We take responsibility, as much as is possible, for recidivism, that is relapsing to old behaviors. A true rescue operation includes instruction in prevention.

"I rescued the poor who cried for help." Job 29:12

Mission policies do not cause homelessness, poor behavior does. For every person, that on occasion, has to leave the Mission for a behavior problem, at least one more person comes in behind him to stay in the drug free and sober living environment he or she expects and deserves. We hold people accountable, even when that tough love appears too much to a casual observer. We are concerned for proven long-term results. We balance accountability with compassion, and do it with a sense of humility. We do not want to enable anyone in dysfunctional behavior by denying that it exists or compensating for it in some hurtful way.

A mission can be like running a household of strong-willed teenagers. You love them, want the best for them, cannot control them and separate housing will not solve their problems. So we help first, work on housing next.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director



Easter Dinner Menu Items Needed:

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|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Hams | Turkeys | Potatoes | Coffee |
| Gravy Mix | Stuffing | Yams | Pie |
| Green Salad | Hot Rolls | Mixed Vegetables | Ice Cream |

Remember the Roseburg Rescue Mission in your Estate Planning

DONATE A CAR OR TRUCK



Donations are tax deductible

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10:9

