



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

51 *Years*
1964-2015

JUNE 2015

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

Accountability And Relationships

Jeremy was in the Oregon National Guard for six years in the military police. He helped with Hurricane Katrina relief. He tried to transition to civilian police, but there were too few openings for everyone looking at that time. So, he searched for contentment playing music in a band, but ended up seeking it in a bottle. He said that alcohol was never a problem for him in high school or in the service. But within just a couple of years after receiving his liberty from military life, drinking had consumed him. He lost his marriage, family and job.

Jeremy said that for him, "Drinking alcohol was like medication. It gave me confidence to play in the band, numbed the mundane living stresses of bills to pay, commitments, responsibilities. I used alcohol to avoid dealing with things, then alcohol keeps you from dealing with problems, relieves problems and continues then to excess and then unable to escape. I avoided years of obligation and the weight of it grows. Wife leaves you. Hey, it doesn't work anymore. You wake up and realize you have to take care of it. But you have been left with abandonment and need God in your life."

Recovery groups, whether Christian or not, did not seem to have the solution he needed. He relapsed time and again. He had an awakening to the presence of the Lord in his life. Still, he would return to his addiction. He said that for him, the primary missing elements were accountability and relationships. Even so, Jeremy said, "I had to reach a place of total brokenness. The best thing that ever happened to me was alcohol taking me to the very bottom. I would not be walking with God today."

Of the Mission he said, "The Mission is a foundation for me, a solid place for me to lay my life upon, safe atmosphere. Women are not allowed (except in Dining Room), and no alcohol. I'm fed. It's a community. I make myself available to minister to other men and pray with them. I don't see this as a homeless shelter. I see this as a campus. I have men around me that are real, faced with reality, not hiding. This is my home, a home for anyone here. We are all homeless, those of us that recognize that this world is not our home. We are of a different kingdom. Regarding our evening chapel services he said, "I can see (volunteer) people's hearts are trying to minister the Gospel to (homeless) people, relate, to show the men something about Who Jesus is. I'm noticing minds opening up."

Through his ups and downs, Jeremy has now had the stability of holding the same full-time job for three years. He came to the Mission directly into our Transitional Housing Program, having been referred by a local church. He has the independence of renting his own room here, yet the accountability of sobriety and curfew. He has developed relationships, comradery, even reminiscent of a more stable time in his military service.

"I don't see this as a homeless shelter, I see this as a campus."



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Chapel Services
Bible Study
Thrift Store
*Apply on our website or
in our office.*

BASIC SERVICES

For men, women and children
Food: 3 meals every day.
Clothing: Available to all.
Housing: 250 beds
Transitional Housing: Rentals (Men)
Recovery Program: Open to Men and Women.
Dayrooms: Open all day.
Restrooms, laundry, showers, phone, etc.
Thrift Stores: Items vouchered to those in need, sold to others.
Chapel: A part of our daily lives.

CHURCH LOBBY FOOD DRIVES

We receive no food from the Food Bank.

Items Needed:

Canned Fruits

Canned Veggies

Egg Noodles

Gravy Mixes

Powdered Milk

Cooking Oil

Salt

Disposable Razors

Bath Towels

DONATE A CAR OR TRUCK



Donations are
tax deductible

Preparation For Moving Samaritan Inn

As of this writing, the general contractor is still in the middle of remodeling the old Umpqua Medical Center. There have been some unexpected problems, resulting in delays and added expenses. By the time this newsletter is mailed in early June, our hope is that we will have already made the move, or be very close to it.

For now, preparation includes packing boxes and ordering additional beds, mattresses, lockers, tables, chairs. Polices are being reviewed and modified to fit a new, larger facility with different routines. New program positions are being created and job descriptions written. Volunteers are being coordinated to make the move and set up new equipment. And our level of staffing is being evaluated in light of our budget and expected increase in clients.

Jennifer has been added to our staff. She recently graduated from our New Life Program and was hired into a part-time position. She will live on-site and receive a salary, room and board. Her job is Night Supervisor, overseeing the evening routine from dinner to lights out. Jennifer's background includes addictions and an interest in the occult. But while staying at Samaritan Inn, she accepted the Lord and left that old lifestyle behind. She has had an amazing transformation. Now, she wants to help rescue others still in darkness. Jennifer said, "I am so excited and blessed to be a part of this ministry, to come alongside these women and children, share God's Word, pray, lift them up and give them hope."



Jennifer, Night Supervisor

"A certain Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, and came to him, and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an Inn, and took care of him." Luke 10:33-34

From the very early stages of planning, a new budget for Samaritan Inn was needed. A pro forma financial statement was done, showing projected income from donations and thrift store sales for the next few years. Likewise, estimates were done for expected increases to expenses for food, utilities, maintenance, staffing. But since then, the dynamics have changed. In the past few months, the number of women and children that we have turned away for a lack of room as skyrocketed far beyond the level that prompted this project or the budget for it. Calls are now coming in from all over the state and beyond, from women desperate for any available bed. The new maximum capacity of 119 beds is based on the city's formula of the size of the property, not on our projected need for Douglas County. Yet, this ministry is not, by its very nature, just a locally exclusive operation; because, women flee both to and from here, seeking safety away from abusers. Still, opening a shelter with an increase in available beds, when most women's shelters are full, could open a migration of homeless women and children to Roseburg. From a social services standpoint, that would put an undue burden on our donors and community.

Readiness requires an awareness of the homeless environment, honest evaluation and prayer. Our plan is to move our existing 50 women and children into the new, better equipped facility. It will take a little time to get used to the new place and routines. Then, we will increase the number of clients until we observe our optimum operating level. Our hope is to continue to add staff to increase the quality and quantity of care to an appropriate measure of local responsibility, even to our maximum capacity if necessary.

Lynn Antis, Executive Director