



Roseburg Rescue Mission

*A Beacon of Hope
for the Homeless*

MARCH 2019

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Push Restart

During Lauren's formative years growing up, there was chaos and a lack of proper guidance. She dropped out of school in seventh grade, with no parental consequences to her. Both parents were methamphetamine addicts. When she was 14, she stole some of their drugs to try for herself. When they found out, it just became normal for them to do drugs together as a family. She said, "I knew it was illegal, but I grew up that way. I thought it was normal. I didn't know there was another way to live." They avoided truant officers and social service people by not answering the door to anyone well dressed or unknown.

In the course of time, Lauren had two children by her longtime boyfriend, who was a part of the same drug culture. A third generation was in the same house, watching and learning and not going to school. The generational cycle of drug abuse was continuing. There was no moral compass pointing to truth. There needed to be intervention and rescue.

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There was no moral compass pointing to truth.***

That fateful day came when she was 24. The family lifestyle caught up with them. Authorities took her children to foster care. Her boyfriend's behavior had already put him in prison. Her parents left the state. Her world had collapsed, and she was all alone. A Department of Human Services caseworker told her to go to our Samaritan Inn as a requirement for

36 Degrees

The Mission's cold weather policy is like our general policies, there is a relatively low barrier for entry without removing the natural consequences to making poor choices. We remain a clean and sober living environment, so no one is triggered to relapse by another person's behavior. Yet neither a breathalyzer nor urinalysis is done here for entry into nonprogram areas. There can be no obvious use of drugs or alcohol at any time.

a relatively low barrier

When the temperature drops into cold weather, our concern for homeless men and women shifts from accountability to safety. Some homeless campers increase their usage of drugs and alcohol to combat the cold weather. Some actually relapse and leave the Mission when they know a warming center will be open. Our mens and womens' dayrooms are warming centers all day all year for people that expect and need a sober place.

When the forecast is for 36 degrees or less including windchill, people on a timeout of the Mission can receive all services, including spending the night here, as long as they have no obvious use of intoxicants or rowdy behavior. This is the balance between justice and compassion. We are here to support health and life, not to enable self-destructive behavior.

structure and supervision to get her children back. Then that drug house in a Roseburg neighborhood was left for the next opportunist or unsuspecting person or family to occupy.

DHS had already intervened, now Samaritan Inn was here to rescue. Lauren needed to push restart on her life. But it was not a matter of returning to a healthy, organized lifestyle; she needed to learn for the first time what that meant. Then she remembered the Vacation Bible Schools that her grandmother had taken her to years before. That generational influence was still there and now resurfacing. She was in a process of transformation. Lauren said, "At first, I didn't want to come here. I was not used to structure, but I realized I needed it. I was introduced back to God here, and it really helped. I don't know what I would have done without it. I wouldn't have been able to do it." She recalled a chapel service in her first week here. After the message, the chapel volunteer asked if anyone wanted to accept the Lord. Lauren publically repeated the sinner's prayer. After the service the volunteer prayed with her for encouragement, strength, patience, the ability to stay strong in her recovery, and to not give up.

Six months later, after taking required classes and having supervised visits here, Lauren (26) regained custody of her children, Matthew (7) and Paytience (5).

They moved from here into an apartment on their own, paid for by a state child welfare program. When that six month housing voucher ended, they moved back to Samaritan Inn. She said, "I would have been better staying here, because I thrive with structure. There was no structure out there, and I struggled with that. When I was away from here, I was drifting away from God. Now my relationship with the Lord is better than ever. It has been very humbling. This time, I am doing way better things. I am one test away from getting my GED and have applied to UCC to major in nursing. I want to replace my addiction to drugs with success, even return one day and speak in chapel."

For 16 months, she has been clean from drugs. Lauren said, "I honestly don't want to go back. It scared me to not want to use again. I don't want to lose my kids again. I'm not building my life on sand here. This place gave me hope, my way out of my old lifestyle. I give all the glory to God. This place pretty much saved my life."

And the generational cycle of abuse has stopped. Lauren reported that both of her children have been student of the month with really good attendance since being here.

Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director



Sources of Income 2018

Donated Income	60%
Individuals	49%
Foundations8%
Churches3%
Earned Income	40%
Thrift Stores	20%
Transitional Housing Room Rentals	12%
Recycling2%
Parking Space Rentals2%
Other4%
Government	0%
No Funds Requested or Received	

Rescue

"Do justice to the afflicted and destitute. Rescue the weak and needy."

Psalm 82:3-4

NEED CANS OF:

- Tomato Sauce
- Diced Tomatoes
- Corn, Green Beans
- Sliced Carrots
- Fruit Cocktail
- Peaches, Pears
- Mushroom Soup
- Refried Beans

EMPLOYMENT POSITION

Samaritan Inn Supervisor

Employee needed to supervise women and children. Looking for a mature woman, must be able to do chapel services, conflict resolution, work evenings and weekends, 20 hours per week, minimum wage. This is a domestic missionary position. Live off site.

Send resume to:
rsbgmission@aol.com