



Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Thrift Stores

A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless

APRIL 2020

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Hope For New Life

Easter is a time of celebrating new life and breaking the chains of bondage. For many this will be their first Easter being homeless. There will be memories of childhood Easter baskets, candy, egg hunts, even going to church one of the few times a year. Then there is the reality of today, whether by circumstances or poor choices. This is a season for restoration. There is hope to overcome the darkness of depression, addictions, domestic violence.

“He Has Risen” Matthew 28:6

The resurrected life of Christ on Easter morning can be ours too. What better connection than to a new life out of homelessness! The Mission provides an environment that encourages a rebirth of possibilities. There is forgiveness of the past and a brighter future ahead. We rejoice with a special Easter Dinner and gift bags for every hungry and homeless person present. And here is a place of meals, clothing, shelter, and recovery programs.

Will you be a part of this blessing for the homeless of our community?

Lynn Antis, Executive Director

Happy Easter

Samaritan Inn

Our shelter for homeless women and children opened in 1985 in a house. Thirty-five years ago, there was an occasional need for a woman or mother and child to have a safe place. The reason for the need was domestic violence, the same social problem we continue to address today. In the first few months of operation, there were one or two women per night. A year later, the average was five. Four years after opening, eight women and children found safe shelter each night. In 1997, the house was remodeled adding more bedrooms. In 1999, the three bedroom house next door was purchased. At that point, there were 34 beds. Then in 2009, a two bedroom house was added. After more beds were set up in each house, the capacity was 50. Still, we overflowed, having to use couches and mats on the floors, as well as, turn some people away.

grown over the years

In 2011, we began a long, convoluted process of examining our options. We looked at buying a fourth house, a church, and commercial properties. The cost of building a new facility was out of the question. We discovered the Umpqua Medical Center for sale. It had been 12 medical-dental units. In 2012, the City approved its use. We purchased a portion of it from one owner in 2013, and the rest from a different party in 2014. After a long remodeling process, we moved into the new Samaritan Inn in August 2015 with no debt on it. We now have 110 beds, averaging 70 women and children per night, with a high count of 98 total and one night with 32 children. Families have changed a great deal in our society, changing the face of homelessness and the operation of the Mission.



Homeless At Any Age

At 82-years-old, Phyllis is homeless because of age related issues. She is not the only octogenarian, 80-something person, at our Samaritan Inn for women and children, nor at our men's shelter. She had been living alone in a subsidized apartment for 20 years. Her rent was 30% of her minimal social security income. She does not drive a car but was able to walk, with the aid of a walker, to the grocery store across the street. She still cooked meals, although not always balanced for nutrition, and some days she just did not care about eating. Phyllis was lonely. She said, "I like people around the table." There was some memory loss, like forgetting a doctor appointment, and that time she left the stove on starting a small fire. Family wanted her to live closer to them. She has 3 children, 12 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. She was feeling her own mortality and still had family relationships to mend. So, she took the leap of moving into a family member's household. All parties had the best of intentions. She loves them, but they were not compatible. Instead of being an endearing member of the family, she was seen as a burden with age related problems. She lived there nearly a year in what became known as the "war room." The tension and her rent kept increasing until it was time to move out.

"I like people around the table."

In reality, it was time to get on waiting lists for the same kind of housing that she used to have. But the wait could be a year long. Home life was in crisis mode now. Phyllis needed to be rescued. She was already feeling vulnerable, then the thought of having to go to a homeless shelter at her age put a fear of being harmed into her. She imagined the worst and was only relieved after arriving at Samaritan Inn. In comparison she said, "It is peaceful here." She found a safe, uplifting environment. She met other women in similar situations and staff to help. As of this writing, she has been here more than six months and is still rising to the top of the subsidized housing lists for an apartment of her own. She is physically and mentally independent enough to not qualify for assisted living.

In the meantime, Samaritan Inn is her temporary home, indeed a place with more of what she was looking for. She has "people around the table," even three prepared meals daily. Her living quarters are in our special needs area that has four bedrooms with two shared but private restrooms, a separate shower room, and living room. Her bedroom is shared with two other women. And she really appreciates our evening chapel services, saying they are great and the volunteers are awesome.

She likes the prayer time, messages, and singing. It reminds her of when she used to sing in a choir and play a guitar in church. Phyllis said, "When I am feeling down, chapel cheers me up." The outcome has been an encouraging experience of community rescue.



Lynn Antis, Executive Director

Easter menu

Turkeys	Hams
Stuffing	Potatoes
Yams	Gravy Mix
Pies	Rolls
Pineapple Glaze	
Cranberry Sauce	
Mixed Vegetables	

Homemade pies and cookies can not have milk products in them. Pumpkin pies, cream pies, cream cheese have to be made in a commercially licensed kitchen.

Easter bags

Socks	Razors
Toothbrush	Toothpaste
Deodorant	Body Wash
Shampoo-Small	
Shaving Cream	
Brushes	Combs
Hand Sanitizer Gel	
Wrapped Easter Candy	

Easter eggs

Eggs have to be from a recognized grocery store. Producers must have an egg handlers license. Eggs cannot be boiled in a non-commercial kitchen.

thrift stores

shop our stores to help homeless men, women and children.

used bikes & parts

are for sale in our Furniture Store. We accept donations of used bikes and parts.

