



# Roseburg Rescue Mission

Men's Shelter • Samaritan Inn • Thrift Stores

*A Beacon of Hope for the Homeless*

*MARCH 2021*

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## “A Breath Of Fresh Air”

After nine months of full-time school, Cybil graduated with a certificate as a Certified Pharmacy Technician CPhT. She is certified to compound medications and to work in a pharmacy or facility that distributes medications. She accepted a position at a pharmacy in Roseburg to work full-time as a relief person. She knew it would not be easy making \$15 per hour and paying for a motel room.

Immediately, Cybil ran into a problem. For a low income family, the State will only assist with child care expenses in a licensed facility. The coronavirus and physical distancing requirements have made the existing shortage in child care facilities even worse. She was only able to get unlicensed care in a private home, weekdays at a cost of \$640 per month. She lost her job that required weekend work. Cybil then went to work for an adult care giving company, working in client's homes. Even at that, it would be three weeks before her first paycheck. Her new job is 35 hours per week at \$12 per hour, giving her about \$1,680 gross per month. The inexpensive motel was about \$55 per night (\$1,650 per month) plus child care at \$640 per month. She was not able to find a suitable apartment and pay required deposits.

### Child care availability and expense caused her to lose her job and housing.

“Samaritan Inn was a breath of fresh air,” Cybil said, “because I don't have to worry about rent, financial concerns, food. I feel safe here too, for a lot of reasons, because of precautions to prevent covid and surveillance. Kitchen staff make us feel welcome. They bend over backward to make sure that we are well fed, because we arrive at 7:30 pm (after work). In raising her three-year-old, Cybil said that when she was expecting, she determined, “to raise her son, Wises, in a church community and having that faith. It makes me feel a lot more comfortable here and better as a parent knowing that kids can only watch “G” movies that are family friendly and Veggie Tales.” Her favorite Scripture verse is, “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you...” Isaiah 43:2. She said, “It has brought me comfort, because sometimes it does feel like being in a river. At the end of the day, God is there. He sees every tear and knows what is happening. This place has brought me a lot of peace.”



## Income Sources

2020 was a year of uncertainty for the Mission's income because of the coronavirus. In times of crisis, individuals and organizations consider various nonprofit operations as well as their own needs. Using caution, we postponed our planned major project to focus on protective equipment and policy changes. Last year, our income increased as the community responded to these added expenses.

Our sources of income are well diversified. More than half our income came from numerous individuals. We are not supported by a single church or denomination, nor are we overly dependent on foundations. We have a relatively high level of earned income, meaning that a service has to be provided for it. Our thrift stores and Transitional Housing rental units provide a significant amount of funding.

### Sustainability

It is highly unusual for the Mission to receive government grants, but the pandemic knew no religious restrictions and in this case neither did the government. This funding model has sustainability.

Our budget is less than comparable operations. We run the Men's Shelter with 113 beds, Samaritan Inn with 104 beds, two thrift stores, and a warehouse with four full-time and eleven part-time staff, and significant client participation. We are blessed as we stay focused on our primary purpose of evangelism.

### Sources of Income 2020

<b>Donated Income</b>	<b>66%</b>
Individuals .....	56%
Foundations .....	7%
Churches.....	3%
<b>Earned Income</b>	<b>30%</b>
Thrift Stores .....	15%
Transitional Housing .....	10%
Recycling .....	2%
Parking Space Rentals .....	2%
Other.....	1%
<b>Government</b>	<b>4%</b>
CARES Act COVID-19.....	4%

# “Barriers” Are Core Values

“Sobriety rules” and “chapel messages” in homeless shelters have been judged by the federal circuit court of appeals as “barriers” to entry, that deny individual’s rights. The court does not want homeless camping to be a crime. They want local law enforcement to be able to tell a person improperly loitering on a public sidewalk or camping on public property to go to a “low barrier shelter” or be cited or arrested. In the absence of a “low barrier shelter” in Roseburg, law enforcement cannot move such people out of their place. They have a legal right to squat on public property, be under the influence of intoxicants, and not attend religious services. So Roseburg and Douglas County are working on opening a “low barrier shelter” to bring some order to an out of control camping situation. It will probably be some form of a tent city.

A greater divide is happening in serving the truly homeless and the campers. The coronavirus has exaggerated the difference in that we have had to implement new screening procedures to keep our clients safe. This situation is not anyone’s particular fault. We want to work together and stay focused on a mutual goal of helping people in our community. At the same time, we declined the offer to operate the “low barrier shelter” as something inconsistent with our purpose. We have empty beds.

## Sobriety Rules

This is a “no obvious use” shelter, not a “zero tolerance” one. We want to be as inclusive as possible, yet no one’s behavior can trigger another person to relapse. Drug tests are done to join programs and upon suspicion of use. There is accountability. Our clients expect and deserve a clean and sober living environment, a place of order and hope. On occasion when a rule is broken and a person has a time out of the Mission, it does not reduce our population. At least one more person comes in right behind, looks around and realizes that this is a safe place to get the help they need.

Our clients appreciate rules. They do not want to be afraid, tempted, or around rowdy behavior. They want peace and safety. Scheduled routines put order to life. Mothers learn parenting skills that they take with them when they leave. Curfew is a protective measure from late hour behaviors. Rules attract people that are serious about sobriety.

## Chapel Messages

Let it not be said of us, “Why didn’t you tell me about the Lord, and a better way to live?” Surveys show that the far majority of homeless people prefer a spiritual emphasis. They want to know that the Presence of the Lord is in this place. Even secular Alcoholics Anonymous teaches a “higher power,” otherwise self attempts are hopeless.

***“For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.”***

***Romans 1:16***

Chapel is as much a part of Mission life as it is to Christian primary and secondary schools, Bible colleges, foreign missionary schools. Chaplain staff are as essential to Mission life as they are to hospitals, military, police and fire departments, correctional institutions, even halls of government. Chapel is an evangelistic outreach to the community done by staff and volunteers that invite clients to their own churches.

The Mission’s logo is a lighthouse that warns of the dangers ahead if one steers in the wrong direction, and it guides into a safe harbor. We are the homeless person’s biggest advocate, providing for the majority to have a place that is uplifting and hopeful. We are grateful for the freedom to preach the Gospel in public. The so-called “barriers,” we are said to have, are our core values.

*Thank you, Lynn Antis, Executive Director*



### items needed

- Quilts 60” X 90”
- Egg Noodles
- Tomato Sauce
- Diced Tomatoes
- Mushroom Soup
- Refried Beans
- Pinto & White Dry Beans
- Salt, Mayo
- Canned Fruit & Veggies
- Pancake Syrup
- Warm Coats, Umbrellas
- Disinfectant Spray
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Bottles of Water

### used bikes & parts

are for sale in our Furniture Store.

### job opening

Employment Position  
Caseworker at Samaritan Inn  
Position is for a woman to interview and assess client needs, develop plan of action, provide weekly chapel message. 20 hours per week.  
Send resume to:  
rsbgmission@aol.com