

HELP US MAKE THIS A GREAT
EASTER FOR THE HOMELESS

Easter is coming early this year! That means we will be having our Easter Banquet for the Homeless next month, so we really need to start preparing now.



You can help us by giving, praying, and volunteering for this important event. After the holidays, we are low on some items we need to make our Easter Banquet complete so please consider using the enclosed envelope to donate today or via our website at RescueSaltLake.org!

On March 31, the Saturday before Easter, we will serve over 1,000 meals at our banquet in Pioneer Park, in downtown Salt Lake. The banquet will include music by local churches, messages of hope and God's love and give the homeless in our community an invitation to join the Mission's New Life Program – a free program that helps people get out of homelessness and into sobriety, employment and housing. There will be warm clothes, haircuts and we are planning an Easter egg hunt and carnival games for homeless and low-income kids.

So join us by giving, praying and volunteering for this Easter event. We want to see God change lives this Easter season. If you would like to help serve at our Easter Banquet please give us a call at 801.355.1302 or email Rachel our volunteer coordinator at Rachel@RescueSaltLake.org



FEBRUARY 2018 - CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	4 Gospel Grace - Chapel and Kitchen	5 First Baptist of West Valley - Chapel and Kitchen	6 Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake Kitchen: Intermountain Baptist Youth	7 South Mountain Community Church - Chapel and Kitchen	1 Salt Lake Christian Center	2 Mt Olympus Presbyterian	3 Bible Baptist
					Kitchen: Korean Presbyterian Church of Utah		Kitchen: South Valley Community Church
11 Calvary Chapel Salt Lake - Chapel and Kitchen	12 Intermountain Baptist	13 Unity Baptist	14 Northern Utah Mennonite Kitchen: Southeast Youth Group	15 Capital Church - Chapel and Kitchen	16 Risen Life	17 Southside Church of Christ - Chapel and Kitchen	
18 Alpine Church	19 Bennion Christian Center	20 K2 - The Church	21 Capital Church	22 Tooele Christian Fellowship	23 Midvalley Bible	24 Evangelical Free Church of Salt Lake	
25 Grace Community Bible	26 Living Waters Christian Fellowship	27 Canyons Church Kitchen: First Baptist Tooele	28 First Methodist				

RESCUER

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake

FEBRUARY
2018



RescueSaltLake.org

VICTORIA MOORE:
A Woman Becomes a Mother Again

This month I will be moving out of the Rescue Mission Women's facility into a townhouse with my 11-year-old son and my 8-year-old daughter. We have been looking at a townhouse over the past few weeks and my kids have been dreaming about how they are going to decorate their rooms and what kind of furniture we will have.

I can't wait to be a mom to them again.

I owe this new joy to how God changed my life at the Rescue Mission.

It was just over a year ago, when I dropped to my knees in open court before a judge. My life was a mess of drugs and crime. I was charged with various drug-related crimes and fell to my knees to beg for help. I told the judge that if I was released and went back out on the streets, I would just do more drugs and commit more crimes. I couldn't stop on my own.

The judge looked down at me and said, "OK, we'll get you help."

After that, one of the court case workers gave me the contact number for Lisa Wolfe at the Rescue Mission's Women's Facility. I called Lisa and told her I needed help to get sober and change my life. I cried my eyes out when Lisa told me that I could enter the Mission's New Life Program.

It seemed like she was a guardian angel God had placed

in my life at just the right moment to help me become the person God wanted me to be.

What I know now, that I didn't know then, is that God is on my side. God wants me to be successful. He wants me to be free to help others. Before I thought of God as only judging. Now I see He is a loving father who cares for me.



Victoria Moore was homeless and charged with several crimes before she came to the Rescue Mission. Now she has a job and is moving into a townhouse with her children.

Please see "Victoria" on page 3.

Connect
with us

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THE BLESSING OF HAVING PARENTS

Having a mother and father is so meaningful for kids.

One of the best parts of my job is getting to be part of a restoration process that sees mothers and fathers reunited with their kids. Victoria Moore’s story in this month’s Rescuer is just the latest example. Her children are so excited to live with her again.



Many of the men and women we help here at the Mission are estranged from their kids. Because of addiction and homelessness their kids might be in foster care, or, as it was in Victoria’s case, living with relatives.

So it’s a true blessing to see parents and kids reunited. The injury done to children from being separated from

their homeless fathers and mothers is truly one of the unseen tragedies of homelessness.

As a faith-based and privately funded organization, the Rescue Mission is not actively involved with the legislative process. Yet, personally, I am excited about a bill being proposed in this year’s Utah Legislative Session. Each year I try to review the different bills that may impact homelessness and addiction.

One such bill this year, HB 207, seeks to create the “Utah Commission on Fatherhood and Healthy Relationships.” If passed, the bill would establish this commission to promote the importance of fatherhood, especially among populations where fatherhood may be diminished. One of those

populations is men with substance use disorder (addiction) and another is individuals experiencing homelessness. Both groups are key clients of the Rescue Mission.

The commission will “promote public education concerning the financial and emotional responsibilities of fatherhood” and “encourage a father, regardless of marital status, to foster his emotional connection to and financial support of his child; [and] establish support mechanisms for a father in his relationship with his child, regardless of his marital or financial status.”

I appreciate the bill’s sponsor, Rep. Mike Winder, for promoting the idea that fatherhood, even among communities like the homeless and addicted, is important. It’s imperative for children to have healthy relationships with their parents, even if those relationships are not perfect.

And while the bill this session focuses on fathers, hopefully as you read Victoria’s story you can see that mothers matter to kids too. For the men and women in the New Life Program, time and time again, being mom and dad to their children is the reason they turn their life around and stay turned around. We are actively trying (and succeeding with God’s help) to reunite mothers and fathers with their kids in healthy ways. It’s one of the key ways we are restoring broken lives.

Thank you for supporting our work here. Your prayers and giving help power the work we do.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

	December 2017	Total 2017
Professions of Faith	17	439
Meals	26,141	159,301
Family Food Boxes	120*	1,953**
Nights of Shelter	4,944	53,819
Clothing	7,820	69,703
Day Service/Hygiene	1,393	11,464
Jobs Obtained	5	41
Housing Obtained	4	57
	*2,400 meals	**59,060 meals

Our Stats
how your gift helps

VICTORIA:
Continued from page 1

One of the things that helped me was having a community mentor, Marge Berry. She has a lot of life experience and can give me advice about things I go through. She has been a great friend and mentor to me. I am enjoying going to Capital Church and am encouraged by the messages and the people there.

I am now in the employment phase of the New Life Program and have a great job working as a housekeeper at a senior living center. I love the residents there. They make me happy and I enjoy helping them. They have so much wisdom to share with us younger people, so it’s a good place with a great environment. It feels good to support myself through honest work. I started selling meth several years ago and, although I made a lot of money doing it, eventually I became a drug addict myself. I was into the gang culture, so I would scheme ways to make money by shoplifting, opening fake bank accounts with forged checks and stealing from people.

One part of my new life will be sharing my story with other people who are struggling with addiction. I believe God wants to use me to give hope and a spark of faith to others, who just need some help, like I did, to get off the streets.

It was a horrible life and caused me to miss most of my kids’ childhoods. When I started selling meth my son was two years old and my daughter was just an infant. I couldn’t have them around all the people who were constantly in and out of my house buying and using drugs. So I called my mom, who lives here in Salt Lake, and had her take them. They have lived with her since then, because I have never been able to get my life in order enough to be a mom. I am so thankful that my mom was a mom to my kids when I could not be.

When I started injecting meth a few years ago, my life really spiraled out of control. I would walk the streets at night with nowhere to go. I would walk and walk all night. Sometimes I would break into an empty house and spend the night, just to have a place to lay down.

It really was a blessing to get arrested and end up on my knees before the judge.

Now, I am excited to try and make up for lost time with my kids and it blesses me to see how excited they are to move in with me. I know I still have a lot of work to do. There will be new challenges to face and lots of forgiveness.

I do have another 5-year-old daughter who lives with my husband in Texas. I haven’t seen her since my husband, who was fed up with my drug abuse, took her and left Utah about four years ago. He hasn’t wanted to reopen communication lines with me, so I don’t have any contact. I know that the situation is in God’s hands and He will

work it out in a way He knows is best. I hope that one day I can be involved with my youngest daughter’s life as well.

As I settle in to my new life, I need to stay connected to my accountability team and my church family. I also need to keep away from old friends. I only need about eight credits to get my high school diploma and then I want to become a dental assistant. I have always wanted to be a dental assistant because I love to help people smile.

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Thank you for supporting the Rescue Mission and please pray for my kids and me. We need God’s help to be a family and I need His help to be a good mother. Pray that God would take care of us.



Now employed and sober, Victoria Moore wants to finish her high school degree and move on to dental school. Why? Becasue she loves to make people smile. With God in her life now, Victoria has plenty to smile about too.