

HELP TWICE THE NUMBER OF OUR HOMELESS FRIENDS THIS MONTH



DOUBLES YOUR GIFT IN MAY

Your support this May will have double the impact.

To make it happen, all you have to do to is make a donation to the Mission this month. ImpactHomes.us and an anonymous donor, will match every donation the Mission receives in May, dollar for dollar, up to a total of \$15,000. So every dollar donated turns into two!

This opportunity means Rescue Mission donors can double their impact, having their gift go twice as far to help homeless and hurting men, women and children off our streets

Just imagine your gift providing:



Double the number of meals provided • Double the nights of shelter • Double the hours of Christian counseling • Double the hours of job coaching many • Double the number of people off our streets

If we can match the ImpactHomes.us and the anonymous donor's challenge it will mean \$30,000 that will help hungry and hurting people in our community. This amount will be part of what we need to sustain the Mission's life-changing ministry during the hot summer months when donations to the Mission fall off, and our costs, like water and electricity, soar.

So please take up this important challenge today. Use the enclosed envelope to donate, give securely online at RescueSaltLake.org, or call our donor relations line at 801.746.1006 to give via credit card over the phone. Together we can make this happen!

P.S. We want to give a special thanks to ImpactHomes.us for providing this opportunity. They have been a great partner and, along with Terri, Kerri and Nichole at Equity Real Estate - Solid, were instrumental in helping the Rescue Mission find and purchase Hope House, our new transitional housing unit for women. Since opening last year, Hope House has become an important part of our ministry, helping women transition to full independence and reestablish parenting responsibilities for their children.

MAY 2018 - CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake Kitchen: Intermountain Baptist Youth	2 South Mountain Community Church - Chapel and Kitchen	3 RMSL	4 Mt Olympus Presbyterian	5 Bible Baptist Kitchen: South Valley Community
6 Gospel Grace	7 First Baptist of West Valley - Chapel and Kitchen	8 Unity Baptist Kitchen: Alpha Tau Omega - U of U	9 Northern Utah Mennonite Kitchen: Southeast Youth Group	10 Millcreek Baptist	11 Hilltop United Methodist Church	12 Berean Bible
13 RMSL	14 Intermountain Baptist	15 K2 - The Church	16 Capital Church	17 RMSL Kitchen: Capital Church	18 RMSL	19 Southside Church of Christ - Chapel and Kitchen
20 RMSL	21 Bennion Christian Center	22 Canyons Church Kitchen: First Baptist Tooele	23 First Methodist	24 Tooele Christian Fellowship	25 Midvalley Bible	26 Evangelical Free Church of Salt Lake
27 Grace Community Bible	28 Living Waters	29 Bennion Christian Center	30 Fresh Life Church - Chapel and Kitchen	31 RMSL		

RESCUER

MAY 2018

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

**MINDY IRAZOQUI:
A mother's mind and soul are healed**

God didn't just heal my soul at the Rescue Mission, He healed my mind.

I really didn't think I would get my mind back. When I came to the Rescue Mission I was enrolled in Mental Health Court, with diagnoses that included ADHD, Schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder and psychosis. For a good part of 2016, I lived inside a large bush near 7200 South and State Street in Midvale. My mind had been destroyed by years of meth abuse, and I really believed my brain was too far gone to recover. I had lost everything and had no house, job or place to go. In my heart, I thought I would never be the "real me" again.

But somehow, God miraculously healed my brain at the Rescue Mission. Most of the people in Mental Health Court are put on Social Security disability because they are not able to work. I believed that would be my lot as well, to never work and instead live off a small Social Security check each month.

But since God healed me, I am proud to report I have a good customer service job, taking and placing pick-up orders for people who place them with a group of restaurants across the nation. It's a blessing to be able to support myself and I can imagine moving up to even better jobs in the future.

It was really the daily bible studies, chapel services,



Mindy Irazoqui has a clear and sober mind, a good job and is working to rebuild a relationship with her children.

prayer, and personal bible study that God used to heal me. While I had grown up in a religious home, I had never learned even the basics of the Bible. Understanding who God is and knowing His forgiveness changed me from the inside out. The counseling sessions helped as well because I carried around a lot of guilt, especially related to my four children. One is 19 now and the others are 11, 10, and 5. I

please see "Mindy" on Page 3

Connect with us

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MAKING MORE MOTHER'S DAYS

Everyone, at some point, has had a mom. The vast majority of us have loving moms we cherished throughout our lives. For some

people their mother is no longer in their lives. The curse of sin causes death and hurt feelings that leave some without their mothers or estranged from them.



At the Rescue Mission, we are in the business of making great Mother's Days happen (Father's Day too). Many times, the women we help haven't had the best moms in the world and have been hurt. In turn, some have not been the best moms. Because of addiction, and life struggles, they

have neglected their kids, sometimes securing other family members to raise their children when they can't.

It's hard for kids to see moms lost to addiction. Children can't understand how a mother could choose a life of drugs or alcohol over their own children. But that is just how strong the grip of addiction is, tearing even the strongest bonds of mothers and children apart.

For moms struggling with addiction, the guilt over not caring for their children can be suffocating. Like Mindy Irazoqui, who shares her testimony in this month's Rescuer. The weight of not being there for her kids was overwhelming and only exacerbated her addiction, as she turned to drugs even more so she wouldn't feel the shame. But when she gave her life to Jesus, and experienced forgiveness, she was freed to live in the present and look to the future, instead of being crippled by her past.

This Mother's Day I will be pondering my blessings of having a loving mom who sacrificed for her family. I will also be pondering that no matter how difficult a relationship has been in the past, God can heal it, create forgiveness and make it brand new. We share a version this message with all the mothers who come through our doors. We say, "God can help you get sober. God can help you be a healthy person and the spouse and mom you really want to be."

So join us in praying for the mothers still living in addiction on the street and the ladies striving to rebuild their lives at our Women's Center. It's very easy to judge them, and many do, but realize they are often judging themselves too. They need our help to once again be healthy moms to kids who will often welcome them back with open arms, just like the father who embraced his Prodigal Son. It doesn't happen overnight or without many tears, but it does happen. It blesses me to see God make it happen and I hope it makes you rejoice when we share stories about mother's being reunited with their kids. Your support is a key part of that process.

If you have been blessed with a great mother, remember to thank God and thank your mom this Mother's Day. And even if your mother is no longer in your life, I want you to know that you can celebrate Mother's Day too, as you pray for and support the Rescue Mission. Your prayers and support are making great Mother's Days across Utah as women whose lives have been changed at the Rescue Mission become moms again.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite

Spring Cleaning?

If you are cleaning out your closet for Spring, remember the Rescue Mission is a great place to bring your old clothes. We especially need men's underwear and socks, but all clothes help. If you have things that don't fit or are out-of-style bring them to the Rescue Mission and we will pass them on to some of the neediest people in Utah. Drop by anytime, we are always open.

MINDY: Continued from Page 1

signed my parental rights for three of them over to my father, and my 11-year-old I gave up for adoption. It's an open adoption and she is doing well. I get to see her often.

But I felt overwhelming shame for not being a good mom to my two youngest kids. When I was on meth I neglected them. I would sleep in until three o'clock in the afternoon and didn't do the normal mom things most mothers enjoy. I kept no schedule for them and the guilt I felt for being a neglectful single parent overwhelmed me at times.

But accepting Jesus as my Savior, while embracing God's forgiveness, healed me from this guilt. Not that I don't remember it and am sad about it at times, but the paralyzing guilt is gone and living free from shame, in light of God's grace, freed my soul.

Today, I have been sober for 17 months. While most people are required to be in Mental Health Court for three years, I am doing so well that I think they are going to let me graduate a year early. I have two months left until I complete the Rescue Mission's New Life Program and once I graduate the Mission's program, the judge will likely graduate me from Mental Health Court as well.

Another thing that has helped me is the great support I receive from my home church, Calvary Baptist, and the Rescue Mission staff and volunteers. I was baptized at Calvary Baptist on Easter and my community mentor and I meet twice a week to talk about how I am doing.

The Mission's staff helped me to understand that life is not all about me. While at the Mission I oversaw our clothing orders, so I was able to put together clothing packages for women and children who couldn't afford to purchase clothes for themselves. Helping others, instead of always thinking about my own life and

mistakes, was a mental game-changer for me and was another step towards becoming healthy.

Looking to the future, I can see myself working in a field that helps low-income people or those struggling with addiction get back on their feet. I am considering schooling to become a counselor or other type of social-worker. But these goals are far in the future. For now I am working on getting my driver's license, something that will open up opportunities for me.

Also, I am still working through custody questions with my dad. He wants me to prove to him that I can be sober outside of a structured environment like the Rescue Mission. I will need to continue to make progress in sobriety and personal growth once I leave the Mission before he will let me have regular contact with my kids again. For now, I am only able to talk to them on birthdays or special occasions. And

while I really appreciate my dad stepping up and becoming like a parent to my children, I do hope to one day be their mom again.

I love my kids and want to be there for them in the future.

So please pray for me. God has changed me so much but I am still a work in progress. Pray that I would make a smart decision about where I move when I graduate from the Rescue Mission. I need God to show me the right place for me. Also, pray that I would continue to do well at work and stay sober. God has given me a second chance and healed my mental health issues. I need His continued help so I won't go back to where I was, when I had truly lost my mind because of addiction. Pray I would stay connected to Calvary Baptist, my home church, and that I would continue to build strong relationships.

Accepting Jesus as my Savior, while embracing God's forgiveness, healed me from this guilt

Our Stats how your gift helps

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

	June 2017	YTD 2017
Professions of Faith	27	82
Meals	13,124	32,921
Family Food Boxes	131*	379**
Nights of Shelter	4,838	14,424
Clothing	6,730	15,441
Day Service/Hygiene	1,302	4,574
Jobs Obtained	2	11
Housing Obtained	7	16
	*2,620 meals	**7,580 meals