We’re launching Operation Hydration to make sure our homeless friends survive this hot, dry summer and have enough water to drink.

Many homeless people do not have access to enough clean water, if any at all. Without fluids, dehydration sets in and bodies suffer from thirst pains, fatigue, irritability, poor immunity, dry mouth and more. Without relief from the heat, many of our homeless friends get sun poisoning, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Operation Hydration is our mission to supply cool, clean water to the homeless. We are purchasing water bottles and have water coolers in our kitchen and foyer. Additionally, we’re opening our chapel (chilled by our swamp coolers) as a respite from the summer swelter. Besides cool air and water, our homeless friends receive hats, sunscreen, reusable water bottles, and lip balm, along with kind words and love.

You can help by donating to the Rescue Mission today. Use the enclosed envelope, give online at RescueSaltLake.org or call 801-746-1006 to make a secure credit card donation over the phone. Besides your financial support, we are also in need of brimmed hats, SPF lip balm and sunscreen, school-sized backpacks, and hygiene items so we can help our homeless friends beat the heat this summer.

Help make Operation Hydration a success and save a life from being lost to extreme heat. Donate today!

JULY 2019 - CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
1 Chapel: First Baptist West Valley Chapel: Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake Chapel: SMCC Chapel: Mt. Oly Presbyterian Chapel: Bible Baptist Chapel: Food for Life
2 Chapel: Intermountain Baptist Chapel: Unity Baptist Chapel: Northern Utah Mennonite Chapel: Millcreek Baptist Chapel: Ripple United Methodist Chapel: Granger BM Church
3 Chapel: Church of Christ
4 Chapel: K2 - The Church
5 Chapel: Discovery Christian Chapel: Discovery Christian Chapel: Discovery Christian Chapel: Discovery Christian
6 Chapel: K2 - Church of Christ
7 Chapel: Discovery Christian
8 Chapel: Southside Church of Christ
9 Chapel: Lincoln
10 Chapel: Discovery Christian
11 Chapel: First Methodist
12 Chapel: Valley Christian
13 Chapel: Food for Life Church
14 Chapel: First Baptist
15 Chapel: West Valley Christian
16 Chapel: Discovery Christian
17 Chapel: Valley Christian
18 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!
19 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!
20 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!
21 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!
22 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!
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38 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!
39 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!
40 Chapel: Volunteers Welcome!

JIM FARLEY: The left turn that made all the difference

It’s a sad admission, but I have only cried three times in my life. As you might expect, refusing to cry causes emotions to build up and remain unresolved. It’s probably not a surprise, then, that I turned to alcohol to numb the pain of my unresolved emotions.

The good news is that Jesus lives to heal broken lives, like mine. I believe His hand was on me when, in the middle of a hot July day last year (2018), I made a left turn and came to the Rescue Mission. I had just been released from the hospital after another near fatal encounter with drugs and alcohol. As I came into downtown Salt Lake, the public housing shelter, which is an easy place to get drugs and alcohol, was to my right. I was tempted to turn that way. But I knew the Rescue Mission was on my left and something gave me the strength to turn that way and ask for help.

Since turning left that day, God has changed me.

When I came to the Mission I had a colostomy bag on my hip and was tending a broken back. The bag was from an intestinal surgery I had about a year earlier and my broken back was from a drunken fall I had a few months earlier off an apartment balcony. I was a mess. I was a slave to addiction with multiple physical problems. The fact that I had to carry a colostomy bag around made me depressed. I couldn’t go swimming or really have a normal life, on top of the hopelessness I felt from my addiction.

But once I was at the Mission my heart started to change. I reconnected with God. I came to realize that, through faith, Jesus lives within me. I have been filled with the Holy Spirit.


**THE POINT IN TIME**

There are many important "points in time" in a person’s life. The point in time someone decides to put their faith in God. The point in time a person decides to get married, have a baby, accept that job, or take that dream vacation.

For the chronically homeless, the most important time may be when they decide to leave the streets. For those interacting with the homeless, it’s hard to know when that point in time may come. In the many years I have worked at the Rescue Mission, I have talked with hundreds, if not thousands, of people on the streets. Recently I have been talking more frequently with two specific ladies, Jamee and Sara.

I, as well as many on our staff team, have spoken to both of these women about getting off the streets, but none of our appeals ever seemed to make much difference. I often wondered if we were just spinning our wheels.

But in the last few weeks, I believe I have seen the marking of a point in time when they will get off the streets. Jamee, who was recently released from jail, has now been sober for 31 days. As part of her jail release she must see her probation officer and take a drug test. Last week, Jamee gave her first ever clean drug test to a probation officer. She is working with one of our counselors, Cassie, to find housing as she continues to stay sober. I never thought I would see the day that Jamee would spend a day sober, let alone 31. I also never thought she would want to live in stable housing, let alone 31. I also remember crying as a child only once, when my grandfather died when I was 12. Later in life I would cry two more times—when my mother died and when my father died. But other than that, I kept my emotions in check and never let them out.

Because of the hurts and lack of emotion, I used alcohol to hide my feelings. I drank so I wouldn’t feel pain. Sometimes I could stay sober and hold down good jobs. Other times my drinking would grow so bad that I would lose everything and live on the streets or in homeless shelters until I could get sober again. I do believe that at age 56 God has changed my heart and that I will not turn to alcohol again. I have realized it was the pain I felt as a child that caused me to drink and I believe that through my counseling, God has helped me to forgive and move forward.

Today I am working as an intern at the Rescue Mission. I help wherever I can. Whether it’s fixing a broken sprinkler pipe at the Rescue Mission’s Women’s Center or talking to a homeless man who needs a listening ear, I serve where I can. As someone who has spent many days on the streets, I feel I know what the homeless need. What they need is hope. I share my story to let people know that they too can experience a changed life by joining the New Life Program. If God can change me, He can change anyone.

I fully understand that the one thing that people need in this world is hope. I also fully understand that hope is only found in Jesus. I have completed some training to become a counselor and want to find a part time job as an addiction counselor when I graduate from the New Life Program later this summer.

Because of my broken back, I receive a small disability benefit each month, but I am allowed to work part time while still keeping my benefit. I do not know what God has in store for me, but I trust Him because he has blessed me to this point.

I have a great home church at Calvary Salt Lake and I meet with my community discipler each week to attend bible study. I was even given a car that a generous donor gave to the Rescue Mission earlier this year. I cannot believe I am the same person who walked into the Rescue Mission with a colostomy bag, a broken back, no hope, and a lifetime of baggage. I feel so free now and the joy is overwhelming. Please pray that God would continue to direct my steps and that He would keep me close to Him. I see a future of hope in front of me and it makes me excited. Thank you for supporting the Rescue Mission so it was there when I turned left. Please keep me in your prayers as I try to give back and help other people who are struggling with homelessness to get off the street. Thank you again.

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**Our Stats**

**How your gift helps**

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
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<th>YTD 2019</th>
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<td>Housing Obtained</td>
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Jim Farley has hope after finding a new life at the Rescue Mission.