

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION IN MAY!

This year, Kerri Luther with RealtyPath, has once again donated \$10,000 for our May Matching Gift Challenge. Additionally, other generous donors have given another \$5,000 for a total match of \$15,000.

This is a true dollar for dollar match. To gain the \$15,000, the Mission is asking its supporters to give a generous gift in May. Any gift given in the month of May will be counted towards the match. If the Rescue Mission can raise \$15,000, it will be doubled! Every dollar 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.

Your May gift will provide:

- Double the number of meals
- 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 reach the matching 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.

We really need your help, so please consider DOUBLING your IMPACT with a generous gift today. Use the enclosed envelope, give securely online at RescueSaltLake.org, or call our donor relations line at 801.746.1006 to give via credit card over the phone.

MAY 2021 CHAPEL AND MEAL SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Chapel: Gospel Grace Kitchen: Gospel Grace	3 Chapel: First Baptist West Valley Kitchen: First Baptist West Valley	4 Chapel: Calvary Chapel Salt Lake Kitchen: Intermt. Baptist Youth	5 Chapel: SMCC Kitchen: SMCC	6 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	7 Chapel: Mt. Oly Presbyterian Kitchen: Email to	1 Chapel: Bible Baptist Kitchen: So. Valley Comm. Church 2 Chapel: Berean Bible Kitchen: Calvary Chapel Salt Lake
9 Chapel: Abundant Life Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	10 Chapel: Discovery Christian Kitchen: Discovery Christian	11 Chapel: Unity Baptist Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	12 Chapel: Northern Utah Mennonite Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	13 Chapel: Millcreek Baptist Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	14 Chapel: Hilltop United Methodist Kitchen: Hilltop United Methodist	15 Chapel: Southside Church of Christ Kitchen: Southside Church of Christ
16 Chapel: Abundant Life Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	17 Chapel: Bennion Christian Center Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	18 Chapel: K2 - The Church Kitchen: Compassion Call	19 Chapel: Missions Door Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	20 Chapel: New Begins. Christian Fellowship Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	21 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	22 Chapel: EV Free Salt Lake Kitchen: Email to Schedule*
23 Chapel: Grace Community Bible Kitchen: Grace Community Bible	24 Chapel: Living Waters Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	25 Chapel: Canyons Church Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	26 Chapel: First Methodist Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	27 Chapel: Missions Door Kitchen: Fresh Life Church	28 Chapel: Midvalley Bible Kitchen: Mudita Yoga	29 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*
30 Chapel: Lifeline Community Church Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	31 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*					

*Email DVaugns@RescueSaltLake.org to schedule your volunteer request.

RESCUER

MAY
2021

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

AMY MICHELLE GONYEA: A mother/daughter is welcomed home

Fifteen months ago my phone rang, and the call changed my life. On the other end was Teresa, the House Manager from the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake's Women's Facility. She told me the Mission was willing to give me another chance to connect with God and experience a changed life.

It was February, 2020 just before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and I was living in cheap Las Vegas hotels or on the streets, using sex to get drugs and money. I was at my lowest when that call came in, like a miracle.

I traveled back to Salt Lake and rejoined the New Life Program. I had been in the program a year earlier for a few weeks, but my ex-boyfriend had convinced me to move into a sober living house in Vegas with him, where we both soon relapsed and plunged back into meth and heroin addiction.

For some reason I kept in touch with Teresa and we would talk every so often. But I was encouraged that, nearly a year after I had quit, she said the Rescue Mission would welcome me back.

When I returned, I had no relationship with God and little idea of who He was. But I decided to focus on studying and soon learned about what He did for us in providing forgiveness through faith in Jesus. I learned He had the power to help keep me sober. I began attending Capitol Church and developed friendships and community there. I also attended mid-week Bible studies at Calvary Chapel and learned more and more about God's love and forgiveness.

As I learned, my heart changed, and I found my relationship with God helped me stay sober. When my relationship with God was on the right track, I began to focus on my



Amy Michelle Gonyea and her son have a renewed relationship now that Amy is sober, employed and following Jesus.

relationships with other people. I had hurt so many people because of my addiction.

I started using drugs heavily in 2017 after a series of friends passed away. I always hung out with people who partied and used drugs, but I often stayed sober or when I did use drugs or drink alcohol did so in what I considered

Please see "Amy" on page 3

Connect
with us

Web: RescueSaltLake.org

Social: [facebook.com/RescueMissionOfSaltLake](https://www.facebook.com/RescueMissionOfSaltLake) - [Twitter/@RescueSaltLake.org](https://twitter.com/RescueSaltLake.org)

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A CATALYST FOR DOING BUSINESS WITH GOD

A lot of our lives are spent “doing business” with others. We do business with companies when we buy things. We do business with individuals when we pay for services. We do business when we work and earn our salaries.

But of all the business relationships we have, it’s interesting to consider that our most important business relationship is with God. As I have thought about our

ministry here at the Rescue Mission, I believe one of our major purposes is to encourage people to do business with God. Doing business with God is hard work. God is never satisfied to leave us as we are, especially for those who are in bondage to addiction, leaving them destitute.



We encourage people to do business with God when we share the Gospel or show love by providing compassionate care like hot food, safe shelter, and warm clothes. Or it happens when we help the unemployed find jobs and provide counseling for those in need. Our most comprehensive effort to encourage people to do business with God is our New Life Recovery Program, a holistic plan where we take everything we have and pour it into a broken life in hopes that God and that broken person will start doing business together.

Sometimes encouraging people to do business with God is staying in touch with them over months and months when we know they are lost in addiction. These consistent touch points are what caused Amy, who shares her testimony in the Rescuer this month, to come back to the Mission and start doing business with God all over again.

One man I knew for several years named Will would sit outside my office window. I would talk to him almost every day, encouraging him to join the New Life Program. One day, just before he learned he was about to have a grandson, he decided to join our program. He said his son (his grandson’s father) had never known Will to be clean

and sober. Will decided he would seek God’s help for a changed life so that his grandson would never know him as an addict.

For each person a different catalyst might introduce them to God and begin His business. There’s no one button we can push to cause people to change, but we encourage that business to take place and when it does, we celebrate and praise God.

We thank you for helping us to be the “business catalyst” between broken people and God. Our three locations along the Wasatch Front serve as the storefronts for people to start doing business with God and for God to start doing business with people. When a person and God truly start doing business together, transformation occurs.

This month, we have a special opportunity with our May Matching Gift. Several generous donors, including Kerri Luther with RealtyPath, have provided a dollar-for-dollar \$15,000 matching grant to support the business of transformation at the Rescue Mission and challenged Rescue Mission supporters to match it.

So, with all my talk about business, I’ll suggest one more way to do business. Please make a donation to the Rescue Mission and double the meals, double the shelter, and double the business of transforming broken lives. If enough people give it will mean \$30,000 for the Rescue Mission. This is funding we need to survive the summer months when donations often decrease, and we struggle to cover our monthly expenses.

With \$30,000 in May, it will help us be the business catalyst that allows for more and more broken people to do business with God. Thank you so much for supporting, praying for, and volunteering with our ministry, we would not be here without you.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

	March 2021	YTD 2021
Professions of Faith	1	10
Meals	9,289	18,326
Family Food Boxes	123	308
Nights of Shelter	3,983	11,177
Clothing	4,324	14,698
Day Service	1,861	4,997
Hygiene items	5,375	14,698
Jobs Obtained	3	10
Housing Obtained	4	14

Our Stats

how your gift helps

AMY: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

moderation. But when my friends would overdose or lose their lives because of drugs, the pain grew in me and I looked to meth and heroin to stop the pain.

As I started using drugs on a regular basis, I lost a good job with a large national finance company. Then, because of neglect that came with my addiction, my son (who is now 13) went to live with his aunt. Soon I had lost my car, my house, and was living on the streets. My father and other family couldn’t bear to see me sleep on the streets so they would give me money for hotels. But as I kept taking advantage of them and using them for money, even they cut ties with me. Little did I know that this would help me hit bottom.

There were a few times where I tried to end my life (once I purposefully flipped my car while traveling at a high rate of speed on the freeway). I walked away with just a tiny scratch and, looking back, I truly feel like God had His hands on me protecting me from myself.

“This change has meant the world to all of us.”

It was after six months of sobriety at the Rescue Mission that my son came to visit me. He had been so hurt by me abandoning him and didn’t really know how to express that pain towards me. So, he ended up treating me really poorly at first. I am happy to report that he treats me so much better now. I think he is learning how truly sick I was and that I needed help. I hope he is finally able to trust me again.

My dad is trusting me as well and is willing to have a relationship with me. In fact, this month I will go over to my dad’s for an overnighter visit (something that hasn’t happened in years) and my son is going to come and sleepover as well. It will be the first time I will be sleeping under the same roof with both of them in as long as I can remember.

Beyond restoring my relationships, God has provided me with a great job. I have a lot of experience in customer service and when I was able to enter the job phase of the New Life Recovery Program, I applied for a job doing telephone customer service for a large, national supplier of glasses, contacts, and eye exams. During my first interview I told the women interviewing me about my past and how I had achieved sobriety. The women shared how the same thing had happened to her brother. He was clean and sober now and was doing well

with his business.

Praise God, she hired me. I love being able to work and support myself again. I am saving money so I can move into the Hope House, the Rescue Mission’s transitional home for women. I told my son that when I move to Hope House he will be able to come and sleep over anytime he wants. The only question he asked me was whether the house has wifi or not (Ha! Teenagers).

After staying several months at Hope House and stabilizing into a more normal life, I hope to get my own apartment with room for my son. I want an extra room so that if he wants to live with me permanently again, he will be able to. Or if he just wants to visit sometimes, I want to have room. I don’t want to pressure or force him, since he has a fantastic aunt who loves him and has been taking care of him all this time.

I have paid off all my fines and am ready to get my driver’s license and hopefully a car. During my addiction I lost most of my teeth, so another goal is to save up to try and get dentures or new teeth. And who knows, if I achieve enough stability, I may even jump into the dating pool again and try to settle down with a husband and family.

I can’t thank you enough for supporting the Rescue Mission. I was alone and in a deep dark hole in Las Vegas, when the Mission’s love and compassion touched me and allowed God to change my life. I know if it wasn’t for your support, the Mission could not exist and could not help people like me experience a changed life. I thank you, and my family thanks you. This change has meant the world to all of us.

Do you want regular updates about the ministry of the Rescue Mission? Wait . . . don’t answer that, it was a rhetorical question. Of course you do! Visit our facebook page @ [facebook.com/RescueMissionOfSaltLake](https://www.facebook.com/RescueMissionOfSaltLake). There you will find our regular posts and our Friday “Minute at the Mission” videos that will lift your spirits and help you know about all the great work that your support and God’s enabling is doing here at the Rescue Mission! Don’t forget to let us know what you think by leaving a comment.