

OUR NEW LIFE PROGRAM MEMBERS SHARE THEIR THANKSGIVINGS



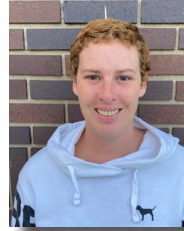
I am grateful for the Rescue Mission taking me in off the streets. It has been awesome seeing my life change. I am also grateful for the support of my family, five consecutive months of being clean from meth, and the possibilities before me. ~ Doug Snow



I am grateful to God for my sobriety, being on the recovery program and off the streets. I am grateful for the Rescue Mission and to you, for making it all possible. ~ Richard V.



I am grateful to be alive, growing closer to God, being sober and at the Rescue Mission. I am grateful that my kids and people who are close to me still believe in me, and I have their support, and a second chance in life. ~ Houston H.



I am thankful for the recovery program. The program has drawn me out in such unique ways it surprises me. I am thankful for the staff that knows of my struggles and continually praises and encourages me. ~ Marissa



I am grateful for a life I once dreamed of living when I was addicted and broken. I know that I am a valuable, lovable person and God loves me more than I comprehend. I have a bright future, surrounded by friends who encourage me. ~ Nichole



I am grateful for my life, and the transformation that God has done in my life as I keep surrendering to Him more and more every day! I love God! He is omnipotent! ~ Virginia

RESCUER

NOVEMBER
2021

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

KENT MAKIN: Employment and housing after years on the street

Editor's Note:

While we usually share testimonies from members of our New Life Program in the Rescuer, we occasionally like to share stories of how God is using other parts of our ministry to help the homeless. This month, we share the story of Kent Makin, who had struggled with homelessness for five years before getting help through the Rescue Mission's Transitions Program. The Transitions Program helps people who are struggling with homeless because of low wages, unemployment, mental health, or other reasons not related to addiction and substance abuse. Please enjoy Kent's story about how the Transitions Program changed his life.

Today, I have an apartment and a good job. I have a budget that I stick to so I can continue to pay rent and stay off the streets. I know I still have a lot of room to grow, but I am grateful to the Rescue Mission for helping me get this far.

I spent the last five years dealing with homelessness. I am not a person who struggles with substance abuse, but I do have mental health diagnoses and other addictions that have impacted my life and caused me to live a homeless lifestyle.

One of my problems comes from a manic disorder. When I would get anxious or depressed in the past, I would purchase nice things to make me feel better. I bought high-end electronics, or expensive food and entertainment that were way beyond my budget.

Reckless spending led to missed rent payments and




Mental health and other struggles kept Kent Makin homeless for years. Now he has an apartment, good job, and hope for the future.

evictions. Even though I would be working (albeit in low-wage jobs), I would spend over my budget and end up homeless again, and again.

Another problem I had (which I didn't realize until I came to the Rescue Mission) was that I had no connection to God. I had never really believed there was a God, but when I joined the Rescue Mission's Transitions Program, I started to read the Bible. Even believing that God existed helped me and as I learned more about Him, I felt like He helped change me.

Please see "Kent" on page 3

NOVEMBER 2021 CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Chapel: First Baptist West Valley Kitchen: First Baptist West Valley	2 Chapel: Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake Kitchen: Intermt. Baptist Youth	3 Chapel: SMCC Kitchen: SMCC	4 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	5 Chapel: Mt. Oly Presbyterian Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	6 Chapel: Bible Baptist Kitchen: So. Valley Comm. Church
7 Chapel: Gospel Grace Kitchen: Gospel Grace	8 Chapel: Discovery Christian Kitchen: Discovery Christian	9 Chapel: Unity Baptist Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	10 Chapel: Northern Utah Mennonite Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	11 Chapel: Millcreek Baptist Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	12 Chapel: Hilltop United Methodist Kitchen: Hilltop United Methodist	13 Chapel: Berean Bible Kitchen: Calvary Chapel of Salt Lake
14 Chapel: Abundant Life Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	15 Chapel: Bennion Christian Center Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	16 Chapel: K2 - The Church Kitchen: Compassion Call	17 Chapel: Missions Door Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	18 Chapel: New Begins. Christian Fellowship Kitchen: Lifeline Community Church	19 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	20 Chapel: Southside Church of Christ Kitchen: Southside Church of Christ
21 Chapel: Abundant Life Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	22 Chapel: Living Waters Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	23 Chapel: Canyons Church Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	24 Chapel: First Methodist Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	25 Chapel: Missions Door Kitchen: Fresh Life Church	26 Chapel: Midvalley Bible Kitchen: Mudita Yoga	27 Chapel: EV Free Church of Salt Lake Kitchen: Email to Schedule*
28 Chapel: Grace Community Bible Kitchen: Grace Community Bible	29 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*	30 Chapel: RMSL Kitchen: Email to Schedule*				

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

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with us

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FEEDING THE POOR THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

I look forward to this holiday season with nervous excitement. I love the holidays (a word which I always remember has its etymology in the Old English “Holy Days”) of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s.



If you think about it, there is a specific “holy” purpose for each of these days. Thanksgiving is a reminder to set aside a holy day “as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens,” as Lincoln wrote in his 1863 Proclamation declaring the fourth

Thursday in November a national holiday. Christmas is, of course, a great encouragement of God’s gift to us—Jesus, who brings forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life to all who believe in Him. And New Year’s reminds us to refocus on God’s spiritual priorities and purposes for us in the coming year. A restart, if you will, with God’s grace being new every morning.

The holidays excite me because, each in a unique way, they repurpose my heart and mind upon God. But, you might ask, why is it nervous excitement this year?

Like all of you I read about supply chains and inflation. As I write this I do not know if our normal grant of turkeys that we need to help feed the homeless will be fulfilled this year. I feel anxiety about whether the Mission will be able to meet all the needs of our community.

But as I feel nervous, I hear God telling me, “Chris, if you feel anxious, think about how the poor and the homeless and hurting feel. Think about how the families who are struggling to pay rent, buy diapers, and pay the heating bill feel.” I and know the answer is, “I am sure they feel a lot more anxious than I do!”

These are families who, for whatever reason, might

not be able to attend our annual Thanksgiving or Christmas Banquets but instead need support from our Family Food Box program. They are grateful to have food, to be greeted warmly by our staff and volunteers without judgement, and to have the items necessary to prepare a holiday meal at home. And frankly a working poor family should be at home as a family around their own table. A day filled with family memories, rest, and rejuvenation to build a better future.

So, as we ask God to supply the means, it is our hopeful expectation that we will be able to help our homeless friends and the poor families who come to our door this holiday season. Despite inflation and supply chain concerns, we are prayerfully relying on God to supply the means to allow us to give hundreds of family food boxes to low income families who need to use their minimal resources to stay in housing or repair a car instead of spending on food. Over the holidays, we expect to provide over 600 Family Food Boxes, which will make more than 12,000 meals for these struggling, poor families.

I know that one way God meets our needs is through His people. As you feel anxious about your resources this holiday season, remember to pray for the poor, who are likely the most anxious of us all. Pray that God would supply their needs and, if you are able, give to the Mission so we can have enough food to share.

I know that worry is not good for any of us, so pray also that God would remove all uneasiness from our hearts and instead remind us what the Holy Days are about: A refocusing of our anxious hearts towards thanksgiving to God, the gift of Jesus, and godly priorities for the new year.

God bless you,
Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

Our Stats

how your gift helps

These are not just numbers, they are lives impacted!

	September 2021	YTD 2021
Professions of Faith	25	90
Meals	14,327	135,478
Family Food Boxes	180	2,208
Nights of Shelter	4,290	37,226
Clothing	3,955	46,029
Hygiene items	4,757	45,734
Day Service	1,891	16,585
Jobs Obtained	9	38
Housing Obtained	7	37

KENT: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I realized that all the people who helped me at the Rescue Mission had a relationship with God. It was a real family, something I hadn’t experienced before. Everyone knew my name and talked to me. There was a brotherhood and, even when I was struggling to do what I was supposed to do, they would encourage me.

The best thing for me has been the Rescue Mission’s continued encouragement that I need to work to support myself. Working hard through employment is the thing that seems to help my mental health the most and keeps me grounded. It’s a wonderful feeling to be self-sufficient.

Believing in God has also helped me deal with the loss of my father, who died a few years ago. Before, I did not really believe that there was anything after this life. Now, I have hope that my dad is in Heaven and somehow, I feel a connection to him that I have not had before.

The Transitions Program has not only helped me stick to my budget, but through job coaching, leads, and other help, the program helped me find a good job as well. I am now a Shift Leader at a Maverick Country Store. It’s a great job for me with benefits such as health insurance and retirement savings. It’s also great that the Maverick I work at is just a half block from my new apartment, so

it’s an easy walk. I am working on paying back money I owe for past evictions and rent payments, so my budget is still tight. I also know that I can get food boxes at the Rescue Mission if I end up not having enough money for food one month. But if I can stick to my budget, I will be OK and be able to stay off the streets.

The best thing for me has been the Rescue Mission’s continued encouragement that I need to work to support myself. Working hard through employment is the thing that seems to help my mental health the most and keeps me grounded. It’s a wonderful feeling to be self-sufficient.

My goals moving forward are to continue to stick to my budget, keep working hard, and stay connected to my friends and brothers at the Rescue Mission. I am so thankful for my new apartment and my new life outside of homelessness. It’s refreshing to be off the streets and have a plan to stay out of homeless life for good.

I have a Husky dog that used to live with me, but I lost custody of him due to homelessness and other circumstances. I really love that dog and am working to try to get him back, so you could pray that God would help reunite us.

Thank you so much for supporting the Rescue Mission and making a place where people who need help off the streets can find love, support, and a real plan that works. Your support has made all the difference in my life!

With just a few weeks until Thanksgiving, we are still in need of many items for our Thanksgiving and Christmas Banquets. Our biggest needs are hams, turkeys, and warm winter clothes such as coats, hats, long pants, and gloves. Donations and support for these items would be greatly appreciated. Through November and December (and really the entire winter) we see a huge demand for food, shelter, and clothing. With uncertain economic conditions, we expect this winter’s demand will be especially high. Please help today! You can give using the enclosed envelope, calling our donor relations office at 801-746.1006, or by going online at [RescueSaltLake.org](https://www.RescueSaltLake.org).

