

TURNING A TOUGH SUMMER INTO A HOPEFUL ONE



collaboration with churches and volunteer groups. While out at camps and on the streets, we share about our New Life Program, in hopes that some may want to come to the Mission and leave homelessness behind.

The last two years have been hard for their own reasons, but here at the Rescue Mission we are preparing for what we expect to be the Toughest Summer yet.

First, the heat. Each year Utah temperatures steadily increase and this summer has the potential to be the hottest on record. It's hard to make enough ice for all our needs and we run to the store to purchase more. It's even harder to keep the swamp coolers working, and keep everyone from overheating. We have already had to replace one swamp cooler and repair another two.

People who depend on getting food out of dumpsters find the food spoiling quickly. If they are camping, it's hard to keep everything cold enough to not spoil. Without other options for food, more people come to our doors for help.

Knowing the danger of the heat, we are going to homeless camps and to those living on the streets with cold water and other life-saving supplies such as hats and sunscreen. We made similar, "Seek and Rescue" efforts last year and have enjoyed close

We have purchased 2,000 refillable water bottles to share with people on our streets to help them stay hydrated. We are launching Operation Hydration early this year, with water bottles, hats, sunscreen, non-perishable snack items. We would like to turn the Toughest Summer into a Summer of Hope. Hope for a new life of faith, sobriety, housing and employment.

Thank you in advance for your support of our summer outreach during what we expect to be the Toughest Summer we have been through. Please support our summer outreaches as you are able. Our current needs list is on our website RescueSaltLake.org, and you can also get updates by following us on our Facebook page. We remain committed to ensuring that everyone stays safe and fed during this dry, hot summer.

RESCUER

JUNE
2022

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

SARAH ELIZA: Restored to be a mother again

Note: Sarah Eliza first shared her life story in the August, 2020 Rescuer. Since then, she has had several struggles, but the spiritual grounding she experienced at the Rescue Mission led her back to the Mission when she needed help again. This is the story of how God worked in her life over the last two years.

I messed up after I graduated from the Rescue Mission in 2020. I'll share more about that later, but first I want to share about the catalyst God used to bring me back to the Rescue Mission to ask for help once again. It was my elementary-aged daughter who God used to put me back on track.

I had reunited with my husband. In the past we have had an abusive relationship, but I thought if I were sober, things would be better. They weren't. The abuse continued and our relationship turned even more toxic as my husband and I began using drugs together, living out of motels. We were unfaithful and my daughter went to live with my brother in the small-town of Henefer, Utah.

I saw her in October of 2020 and we talked about my relationship with my husband, who is not her father. She told me, "mom, you are not good for each other. I am never going to live with you as long as you two are together. I am not going to be in your life if you choose him, so choose him or choose me."

My daughter is nine years old but she could see what was happening to my life. She just had to work up the courage to speak the truth to me. My sister called me later and told me she talked with my daughter. My daughter told my sister that she regretted confronting me. She felt bad about it and wished she could take it



Sarah Eliza is back on her feet and employed and looking forward to a reunion with her daughter.

back.

But I am so glad she did. I know the parent is supposed to take care of the child, but in that moment God reversed it, and the child took care of the parent.

I told my daughter she was absolutely right to say what she said, and I told her that I choose her. I knew she was never going to feel safe around my husband,

Please see "Sarah" on page 3.

JUNE 2022 CHAPEL AND KITCHEN SERVING SCHEDULE

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

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

CONNECT WITH US

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TRYING TO HELP THE POOR SURVIVE INFLATION

We are all struggling through the impacts of inflation. Whether its cancelling that summer road trip, putting off some remodeling, or taking up a

second job to make ends meet, the financial pinch is real.

As we all feel that economic pressure, I wanted to turn our thoughts to the very low-income individuals and families here in Utah. These are people who even before inflation took off in 2022 were barely scraping by. They are often struggling families, with

parents who have low income jobs and, in some cases, only one parent can work because there are young children at home.

Inflation hits low-income people the hardest and can push them over the brink into homelessness. As costs of food, transportation, clothes, rent, and other necessities go up and up, there is only so much a low-income family can bear before they are on the streets.

At the Mission, we are doing everything we can to help these families remain in housing. Every day we distribute family food boxes to low-income friends who come to our doors for help. These boxes are designed to feed a family for seven days, but the size can adjust to meet the needs of the family. Additionally, individuals and families are always welcome for our 365-days a year breakfast, lunch, and dinner service. Beyond food, we have both adult and children's clothing that we share for free and our job coordinator is always available to consult with people so they can find pathways to better-paying jobs.

We also have staff available to help people find emergency or long-term affordable housing. As the cost of housing rises exponentially here in Utah, it is more important than ever to help poor families find affordable and safe places to live.

Our Transitions Program, for people who are non-addicted and economically homeless, is filling up. Several have reported that their rent was raised, and they could no longer afford it. Others have reported their apartment building was sold and everyone asked to move out for remodeling and higher rents. People have called

to make appointments to check into the Rescue Mission, knowing the date of their eviction and homelessness.

Our efforts to help during this inflationary period could not happen without your support. Even as I am sharing about this great need, I realize that inflation is impacting all of you, our faithful supporters. But even as I know many of you are impacted, I ask that you prayerfully consider what you might give. If you are able, please donate. If you have a stash of canned food or other non-perishable items that have been sitting in your pantry for a year or two, please donate them. If you have clothes in your closet that are out of style or that you will probably never wear again, please donate them. If you have time to pray for those most impacted by inflation, kindly take time to pray.

Please consider how you can help at this time of great need. Ultimately, God is the one who we must depend on, but I know He works through His people—you, the hands and feet of His work here on Earth. I thank you in advance for the support you can share with the Rescue Mission as each day we see more and more individuals and families are being pushed towards homelessness.

Thank you and God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS

OUR STATS	2022 TOTALS (THROUGH APRIL)
Professions of faith	131
Meals	72,187
Family food boxes	499
Nights of shelter	21,775
Clothing	29,482
Hygiene Items	24,498
Day service	9,080
Jobs obtained	32
Housing obtained	18

SARAH: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

who is in and out of prison. I had wanted to make our marriage work and know that God hates divorce, but I have Biblical grounds for divorce and am currently pursuing a divorce. My husband, from his prison cell, is fighting the divorce, so please pray that God would work it out. We have no property, no children, and no assets, so the only reason he is fighting the divorce is to keep control over me.

Nothing has come from our relationship but abuse, betrayal, addiction, and misery. I know God can restore all things, but I truly believe this relationship needs to end. If God somehow restored our relationship later, it would be a true miracle. I want God's will to be done, so pray that He would do His will in this situation.

It was my relationship with my husband that caused me to come back to the Mission last December after initially graduating from the New Life Program in August, 2020. I did well for about a month after graduating but when I reunited with my husband, who also struggles with addiction, we devolved into a life of drug abuse, infidelity, and homelessness.

I was still working so we had money to live in and out of cheap hotels. But by April, 2021 my job performance (I processed rental applications for an apartment company) had declined so much that I was let go. Without much money and my husband in-and-out of prison for parole violations, my life turned to homelessness and hopelessness once again. It was at that point that I reached out to the Rescue Mission, asking for another chance.

The Mission took me back and helped me get back on track. They took me back based on real love that is dependent on God to make change in my life. They knew I had the tools I needed to stay sober and succeed, I had just abandoned them. With the Mission's help I was quickly able to return to God-enabled sobriety.

I connected with a good local church, New Creation Church in Sandy, and am encouraged by the people and teaching there. With a refocus on healthy relationships, counseling, Bible study, and prayer I have been able to stay sober for six months.

I secured a good job with Salt Lake County's Housing Connect program, which helps people secure vouchers for housing and get Section Eight housing opportunities. Currently, I am the case manager for over 300 individuals seeking housing through the Housing Connect program. It is a rewarding job as I know the realities of worrying about housing and fearing homelessness. By providing my clients with true housing opportunities that they can afford, I believe I am making a difference in their lives.

I am working on getting housing of my own and soon will have enough money saved to get into a place I can afford. I have enrolled my daughter in a charter school nearby my future apartment and hope she will be back living with me in August.

She has thrived in Henefer with my brother's family. She plays volleyball has a great friend in her cousin. I truly appreciate what my brother and his family have done to care for her. At the same time, I want my daughter and me to be a family again. Please pray that our reunion would be a smooth one. Pray that I would depend on God to keep me sober and employed and that God would help my daughter fit into her new school and situation. It is a big step for both of us, but as I told her back in October, "I choose you" and I have done everything possible to choose her ever since.

Thank you so much for supporting the Rescue Mission and giving me not only a first chance, but a second chance at redemption. Your support has meant everything to me and my family and I cannot thank you enough for how you have helped me.

OUR LOCATIONS

Rescue Mission Homeless Service Center (Downtown Salt Lake)
Men's shelter, men's recovery program, and corporate office

Rescue Mission Women's Center
Women's recovery program and shelter (domestic & homeless)

Hope House
Transitional home for women graduating the New Life Program

Ogden Rescue Mission
Recovery Program and shelter for men and women

Freedom House
Transitional home for men graduating the New Life Program