

## OUR NEW LIFE PROGRAM MEMBERS ARE THANKFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

### ASHLEY

I am thankful to be sober and for the staff at the Woman's Center. I'm thankful to be alive and to have my kids back in my life. I am thankful most of all for God and for Him keeping me safe all these years. I would not be here today if it weren't for God.



### REBECCA

I am thankful for a warm place to sleep, for the provisions that are provided for us, like clothing, food, and for the Christian based New Life Program.



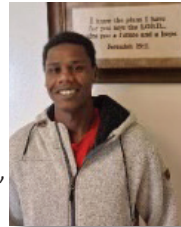
### MARIA

I am so grateful to be here in the New Life Program, in this house, under the leadership of the staff who give their lives to God, serve Him, and love us the way He loves them. I'm thankful for the roof over my head, a full belly, clothes, and our daily bread.



### MARKO

I am grateful for the opportunity to change for the better in a safe, healthy and positive environment, and for a bed to sleep in and full stomach. I am grateful to be on a journey with of like-minded men taking control and improving our lives, with God's help.



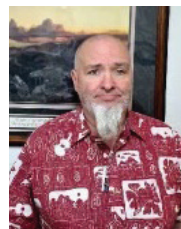
### FRANK

I am thankful for new opportunities to live a Godly, sober life. I am thankful for the New Life Program introducing me to God, since I have never had a relationship with Him before.



### JAMES

I am grateful to God for the Rescue Mission, the New Life Program, and a renewed relationship with Him. I hope people see a change in me and that I can lead more people into a relationship with Christ to find real joy in their life.



## HELP US MAKE SURE EVERYONE HAS A BLESSED THANKSGIVING

It's not too late to support our annual one-day early "Hope Renewed" Thanksgiving Banquet coming up on November 22. In addition to all our Hope for the Holidays efforts to help hurting people off the streets, we still need many items, including: **Turkeys, canned vegetables, disposable razors, shampoo, body wash, socks, hats, coats.**

Our friends from R&R Barbeque will be smoking turkeys for us again this year, helping to create a savory Thanksgiving meal to remember. Yet we need the turkeys to smoke first! Of course, you can always give towards our banquet by **donating online at [RescueSaltLake.org](https://RescueSaltLake.org), scanning the QR Code in this newsletter, calling our Donor Relations Office at 801-746-1006, or by using the enclosed envelope.**

The Rescue Mission's Thanksgiving Banquet is "street famous" for not only great food, but all the other services we provide, including flu shots, live music, haircuts, warm clothing and footwear, and love and support from our staff for those in need of counseling or emotional support. Our goal is that people would feel the love of Jesus, hear the Gospel, and join our New Life Program. Then they can have their hope renewed, get off the streets, and experience a restored life.

**We are running out of time before Thanksgiving so please give today!**

# RESCUER

NOVEMBER  
2023

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



[RescueSaltLake.org](https://RescueSaltLake.org)

I am amazed how God used a visit from my dad and uncle and a simple internet search to change my life. It wasn't long ago that I was thinking about ending my life, but then God put little miracles in my path that led me to the Rescue Mission and into a relationship with Him.

I was born and raised in Ohio, but moved to Washington state for work, while my family moved to Utah for their careers. In Washington, I found good jobs as a heavy machine operator. Despite the scars I felt from growing up in a house where both my parents abused alcohol at times, I felt like I was doing well. Then, I was in a car accident.

This was before the opioid epidemic created significant limitations on the amounts of opioid pills that doctors could prescribe to their patients. I was prescribed large doses for my significant injuries and became addicted. Soon I was doing anything I could to get money for drugs, including committing robberies. I was eventually caught and spent eight years in a Washington state prison.

After I was released, my mother died and I started using opioids again to numb the pain. I was so depressed one day that I decided to take my life. Providentially, it was this very same day that my father and my uncle, who had driven up from Utah, showed up at my door. There was no call ahead, no notice that they were coming, they just knocked at the exact moment I made up my mind to end my life.

They said they loved me, were worried about me, and wanted me to get help. Every recovery center we searched in Washington was full, so they suggested I

Please see "Darryl" on page 3.



**Darryl Stewart was ready to end his life, until a "chance" visit from his father and uncle and an internet search led him to the Rescue Mission. Today he is sober, has faith in Jesus, and is serving an intership in the Rescue Mission's kitchen, cooking food for those who have nowhere else to turn.**



ENGAGE YOUR IMAGINATION WITH ME

God blessed us with an imagination for many reasons. One reason may be so that we can relate to other people and understand how to help them.

As you read this, then, I invite you to imagine what it’s like to live on Salt Lake City’s streets, or any other city along the Wasatch Front during this time of year.

Imagine the fear of being attacked by someone looking to prey upon the helpless. That fear would always be hanging over you to one degree or another.

This happened to a man who crawled up the front steps of the mission in the middle of the night to plead for help after being assaulted on our streets.

Then think of the ever growing cold. The anticipation of the freezing temperatures to come would consume your thoughts, as you consider if you could survive overnight. One January, a homeless guest named Pete slept in the mission and his best friend, Steve, remained outside and froze to death.

You would be hungry, with limited to no access to food. With no transportation you would be walking from place to place. Think about the dirt and grime all over your body. Imagine teeth not brushed for days. Consider needing to use the restroom but being turned away. Contemplate the isolation you would feel because you know nobody wants to

look at you, or smell you, or interact with you. On top of all that, think of having a substance abuse problem to numb your pains, and being willing to do almost anything to satisfy an addiction. Imagine having memories of the past that haunt you, fearing to sleep for the nightmares to return. Consider the shame of not being able to stop your addiction while thousands of sober people walked around you all day. If we try to imagine all of that, and we can begin to understand our homeless friends.

Hopefully, that imagining fills us with compassion for hurting people on our streets. It’s true, many of us might say our homeless friends are to blame for their own situation, and in some cases that is true. But many are sufferers of unimaginable tragedies that destroyed their lives. Many don’t know how to ask for help.

This Thanksgiving season, join me in feeling compassion for our homeless friends. Support our “Hope Renewed” Thanksgiving Banquet and pray with me that many would attend, feel loved, have their hope renewed, and join our New Life Program, which provides a pathway to faith, sobriety, employment, housing, and new life off the streets.

God bless you,

Chris D. CroswHITE  
Executive Director



DARRYL: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

come with them to Utah and find a recovery center there. I agreed. After traveling to Utah, I spent a few days in the hospital detoxifying.

But when I was released, I started using drugs again and had no place to go. At that point I searched the internet for somewhere that could help me get sober and get my life back on track. Out of all the searches, God landed me on the Rescue Mission’s website. It seemed like a perfect place for me, since I needed a long-term program to help with my addiction.

Coming into the Rescue Mission and joining the New Life Program was an eye-opener, like some kind of miracle. I gained a sense of hope. I found faith and a relationship with Jesus. I was baptized in a river up the canyon through my home church, Potter’s House.

I realized that the staff at the Mission truly cared, and that love gave me a sense of belonging. It wasn’t just a place for homeless people looking to get warm and eat, the staff and other New Life Program members wanted to help people change their lives and get out of homelessness. The classes, Bible studies, and one-on-one sessions helped me understand some of the reasons I had used drugs in the past and helped me forgive myself and other people.

These days, my dad stops by the Mission every week or so, or I will travel up to see him at his home in Ogden. Last month we went fishing. We didn’t catch

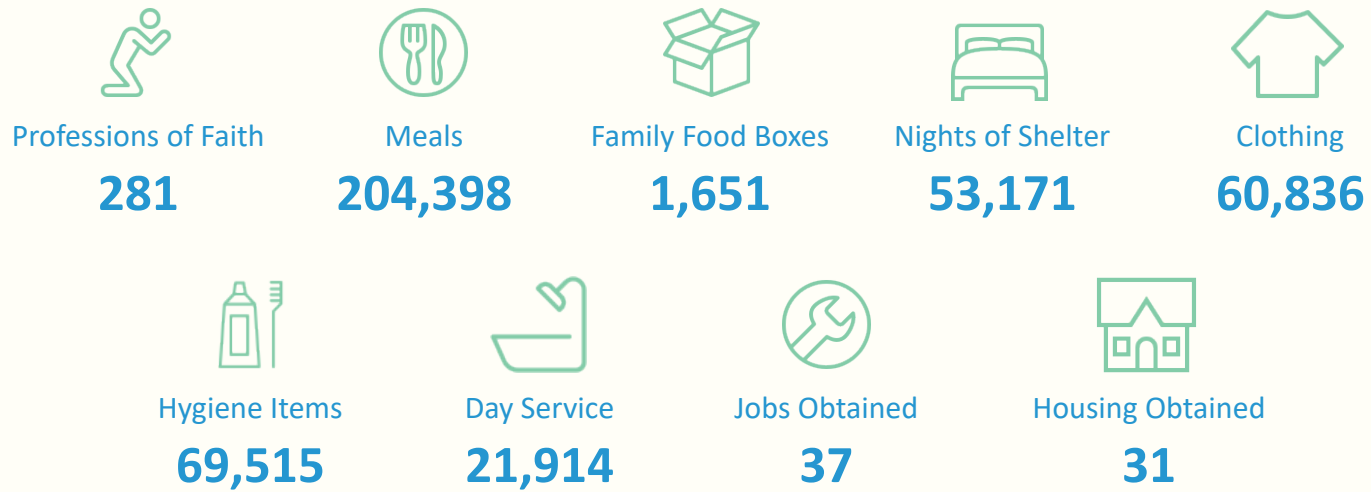
much, but it was fun to get out and spend time with him, doing things we enjoyed doing together when I was younger.

All of my legal issues are cleared up and I have my driver’s license back. Right now, I love to cook, so I am serving an internship at the Rescue Mission where I am helping in the kitchen. After Thanksgiving, I plan to look for full-time employment, likely as a machine operator or in the food industry. Then I will save up money for a place of my own and a car.

Serving in the Rescue Mission kitchen has given me a sense of peace knowing I am giving back to our community. The people we feed are so appreciative of the food we cook and distribute.

Thank you for supporting the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake and providing a long-term program, not just a 30-or-60-day temporary solution. There are people like me who need more help than that. Without God miraculously leading me to this place I would have taken my life. But God sent family members to me at just the right time and even used an internet search to guide me here. I know your support, prayers, and God’s enabling power is what keeps the Rescue Mission open, so please continue to support the Mission. People like me need somewhere to find help when we have nowhere else to turn.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: OUR YTD STATS THROUGH SEPTEMBER



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