

DOUBLE (OR TRIPLE) YOUR IMPACT WHEN YOU GIVE IN MAY

Help us raise \$50,000 in May to restore lives and end homelessness through our “More than Meals” matching gift program. More than Meals Match supports all aspects of our ministry including our New Life Program, which is our comprehensive ministry that provides pathways off the streets.

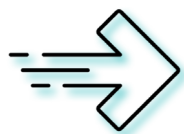
As part of More than Meals, generous friends of the Rescue Mission will match your gift dollar for dollar! With more people walking through our doors this spring/summer and the cost of items like fuel, food, electricity, and water soaring throughout the summer, these matching donations will be a tremendous help for the Mission.

Because of this matching program, every dollar given in May turns into two. Your gift will go twice as far to feed the hungry and help men, women, and children off our streets. One meal becomes two, two nights of shelter becomes four nights all to help people off our streets.

There’s may also be a way to triple your donation in May! Many employers match their employees’ donations to charities. Your employer could be one of them.

Visit our website at RescueSaltLake.org/double-the-donation. On the site you can search for your company name and see if they are on our employer match registry. If your company does not appear, you may have the opportunity to ask your HR to add the Rescue Mission to your company’s donation match list.

Thank you and help us reach our \$50,000 May goal by donating today!



Check: Payable to the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake
Credit Card: Call 801.746.1006
Online: RescueSaltLake.org
Scan: The QR Code in this newsletter

MOTHER HUBBARD FOOD DRIVE!

The Rescue Mission’s food pantry supplies food to the working poor so they can use their limited resources to stay in housing, or for critical needs like a car repair. It also helps with the breakfasts, lunches, and dinners we serve daily at the Mission. However, our shelves, once filled with essentials like canned goods, pasta, and peanut butter, are like Mother Hubbard’s—nearly bare. Your generosity can make a world of difference. Here’s how you can help us restock the pantry and bring hope to those in need:

- **Donate Non-Perishable Items:** Think staples like canned vegetables, soup, pasta, rice, and cereal. Every little bit helps fill our empty shelves.
- **Give Financially:** Your monetary donations allow us to purchase fresh produce and other essentials to supplement our food inventory.



- **Host a Food Drive:** Rally your business, church, youth group, organization, or friends/ family to collect canned goods and bring them to our downtown Salt Lake location (463 South 400 West), or give us a call to schedule a pickup.
- To organize a food drive please email Brandon at B.Murray@RescueSaltLake.org. Let’s come together to ensure our pantry isn’t bare for long. Every food staple and dollar brings us closer to feeding our neighbors in need.
- Thank you! Together, we can make an impact and help people from becoming homeless.

RESCUER APRIL/MAY 2025

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



Editor’s Note: Five years ago, John Stauff first shared his life story in *The Rescuer*. This month, we provide an update on how God has continued to work in John’s life since his days of homelessness on the streets of Salt Lake City.

Today, I lead a crew helping to build tunnels beneath Las Vegas. These massive passageways, affectionately called the “Vegas Loop,” will take more than a decade to complete. Once finished, they will provide an alternative transportation system: an underground network of self-driving cars, like an upscale subway.

It’s fun but hard work. The best part is I’m sober, earning a good wage, living in a house of my own, and reconnecting with my children and grandchildren, who live within driving distance in northern Nevada. It’s a beautiful life and a stark contrast to where I was in 2018, at my most desperate moment.

Letting God change my life wasn’t easy. I endured the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic at the Mission, lived through the earthquake that damaged our building, and was temporarily relocated to an old recreation center. But despite those struggles, nothing compared to the hardships I had already lived through on the streets of Salt Lake.

I originally came to Utah to work for a solar installation company. I had always worked hard—but also partied hard, functioning as an alcohol and drug abuser. When federal funding for solar power dried up, the company shut down, leaving me jobless and without connections in Utah.



John Stauff has a new life since coming to the Rescue Mission seven years ago. He has a good construction job in the Las Vegas area and sees his grandkids often.

Although I could have returned to Nevada and asked my family for help, my pride wouldn’t let me return home with my tail between my legs. Instead, I started living out of my car while continuing to use drugs and alcohol. Soon, my car and my money were gone, and I ended up at the downtown public housing shelter,

Please see “John” on page 3.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING OUR COMMUNITY A BLESSED EASTER

Easter weekend was truly unforgettable at the Rescue Mission, thanks to your support, the dedication of our Staff Team, and a small army of loving volunteers. At Pioneer Park in downtown Salt Lake, we hosted our annual Easter Banquet and Egg Hunt for our homeless friends.

The event was filled with joy and generosity. Children



enjoyed carnival games, toys and colorful Easter eggs, while everyone savored a delicious barbecue feast complete with chicken and all the trimmings. We served thousands of meals and distributed several thousand items of clothing to those in need.

Most importantly, the outreach was enriched with Gospel messages and prayer, bringing hope and inspiration to all. We even provided job and housing referrals, along with invitations to join our New Life Program, which helps people off the streets and into sobriety, faith, employment, and housing. Please read the update from John Stauff in this month's Rescuer about how

God used the New Life Program to change his life and impact his father and grandchildren.

Meanwhile, our Ogden facility, the Ogden Rescue Mission, celebrated with its own Easter festivities. There, we served hundreds more barbecue chicken meals, had live music, and provided large quantities of warm clothing.

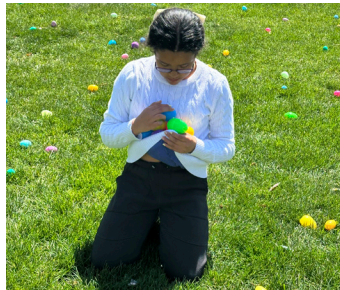
We are profoundly grateful to everyone who prayed, contributed financially, and volunteered to make this year's Easter outreaches a success. Your kindness and support make it possible to spread love and hope to the community in such impactful ways.

Thank you for being a vital part of our mission,

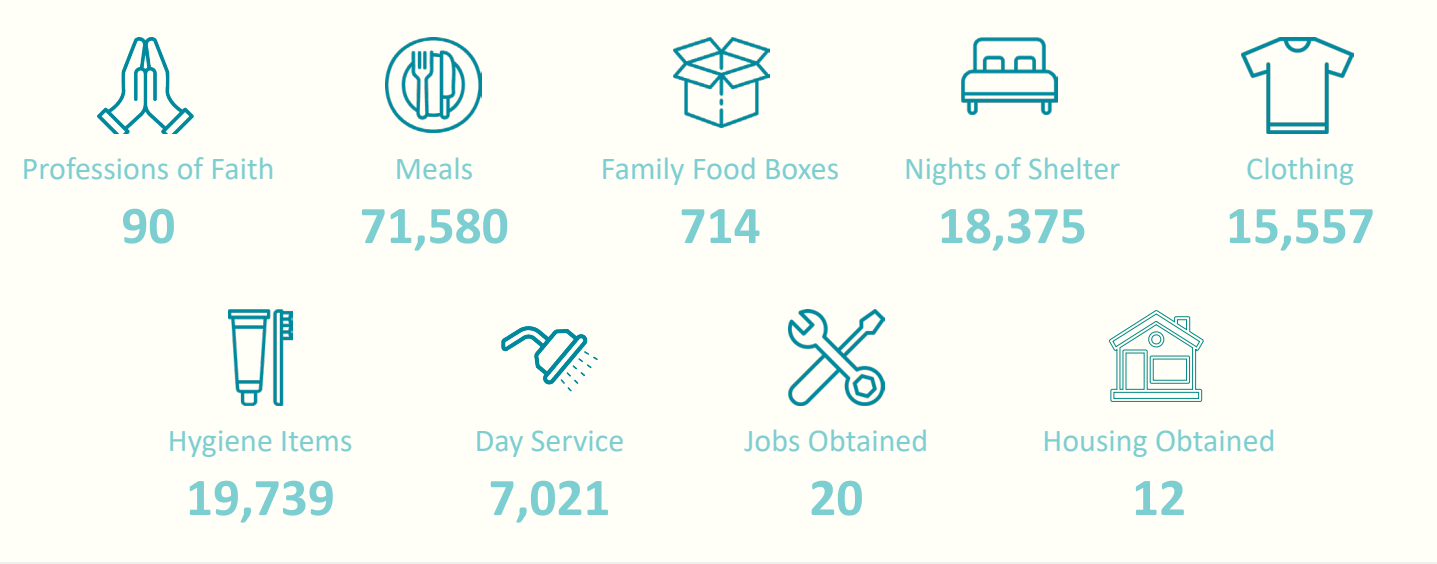
Chris D. CroswHITE

Executive Director

P.S. Because Easter was so late this year, this newsletter is a combined April/May edition. Because We wanted to bring you pictures (see below) of our outreaches while sharing about our May Match Challenge. Please read about our "More than Meals Match" and give today!



HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: OUR YTD STATS THROUGH MARCH



JOHN: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

which was still open at the time.

At the shelter, I was robbed several times. Then, one day, I saw a familiar face on the street. It was a former coworker from the solar company. He told me about the Rescue Mission and encouraged me to seek help. I believe now that the coworker was sent by God.

I joined the Mission's New Life Program, where I gained a refreshed knowledge of God and His Son, Jesus, through the Bible. I realized I had been trying to control my own life instead of surrendering to Him. When I asked God to take control, a weight lifted off my shoulders. I felt less pressure and worry, and my soul found freedom, knowing Jesus had forgiven me for my past addiction. For the first time, I trusted that God had the power to keep me clean and sober—because I knew I didn't have the strength to do it myself.

After graduating from the New Life Program, I found a job and began paying rent at Freedom House, the Mission's transitional housing unit. There, I gained more freedom while still having the accountability I needed.

When my father was diagnosed with terminal cancer, I moved to Nevada to be with him, spending two years caring for him. I was grateful to be sober and present during the time he needed me most.

After my father passed, God blessed me with my current job. The Vegas Loop will be an underground transportation system connecting the Las Vegas airport to the Convention Center with stops along the

way—whenever individual casinos choose to sponsor a station.

Along with meaningful work, God continues to bless me with sobriety and a relationship with Him. I attend regular recovery meetings and a local church every week. I also volunteer at a homeless services center here in Vegas sharing how God lifted me from addiction and homelessness.

On my days off, I often make the drive to northern Nevada to see my four granddaughters (all girls), ages 3 to 11. It's a joy to be a sober grandfather to them.

Thank you for supporting the Rescue Mission. Your generosity and God's power have transformed my life—allowing me to support myself, be there for my father when he needed me, and to be there for my granddaughters today.



John Stauff shares a picture of the inner workings of the Vegas Loop.

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Physical Address: 463 S. 400 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84101