

BECOME A MONTHLY MIRACLE MAKER AND PROVIDE A FOUNDATION OF HOPE

Every day at the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake, lives are being rebuilt, one meal, one night of safe shelter, one step toward recovery at a time. None of this happens by accident. It happens because compassionate friends choose to stand with us month after month as Monthly Miracle Makers.

Monthly Miracle Makers form the backbone of our ministry. Their steady, faithful support ensures that men, women, and children experiencing homelessness can count on hot meals, warm beds, clean clothing, and Christ centered care—no matter the season. When you give monthly, you create a dependable foundation that allows us to meet urgent needs today while planning for long term transformation tomorrow.

Behind every changed life is someone who cared enough to give consistently. People like Trenton Medina, who shares his life story in this month's newsletter. Stories like his are possible because Monthly Miracle Makers step in with steady compassion.

If you're not yet a Monthly Miracle Maker, we invite you to join this special group of partners who provide a true Foundation of Hope. Your ongoing support creates miracles every month and helps end homelessness one person at a time.

WHY MONTHLY MIRACLE MAKERS MATTER

- ➡ **Predictable support** keeps our doors open and our programs running strong all year long.
- ➡ **Better planning and growth** become possible when we know we can rely on consistent monthly gifts.
- ➡ **Reduced fundraising costs** mean more of every dollar goes directly to life changing ministry.
- ➡ **Lower processing fees** when donors use a debit card or eCheck help stretch each gift even further.

Provide a Foundation of Hope Today. If you feel called to help create lasting change, becoming a Monthly Miracle Maker is one of the most impactful ways to support the Mission. The easiest way to begin is by calling our Donor Support Office at 801.746.1006. Our team will guide you through the simple steps to set up your monthly gift.

Your faithful support provides meals, shelter, recovery programs, and the life-changing hope found in Jesus Christ. Thank you for helping build a true Foundation of Hope for the men, women, and children we serve.



RESCUER

FEBRUARY
2026

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

For the past 25 years, ever since I was about 14 years old, I have been living on the streets and in and out of jail. But when I came to the Rescue Mission 15 months ago, my life changed.

It was just six months before I came to the Mission that a staff member named Kurtis saw me destitute and on the streets. He talked to me and over time we built a friendship. Eventually Kurtis agreed to hold something for me, a necklace I was wearing. I told him I wanted someone to have something of mine when I died, because I felt like I was going to die soon.

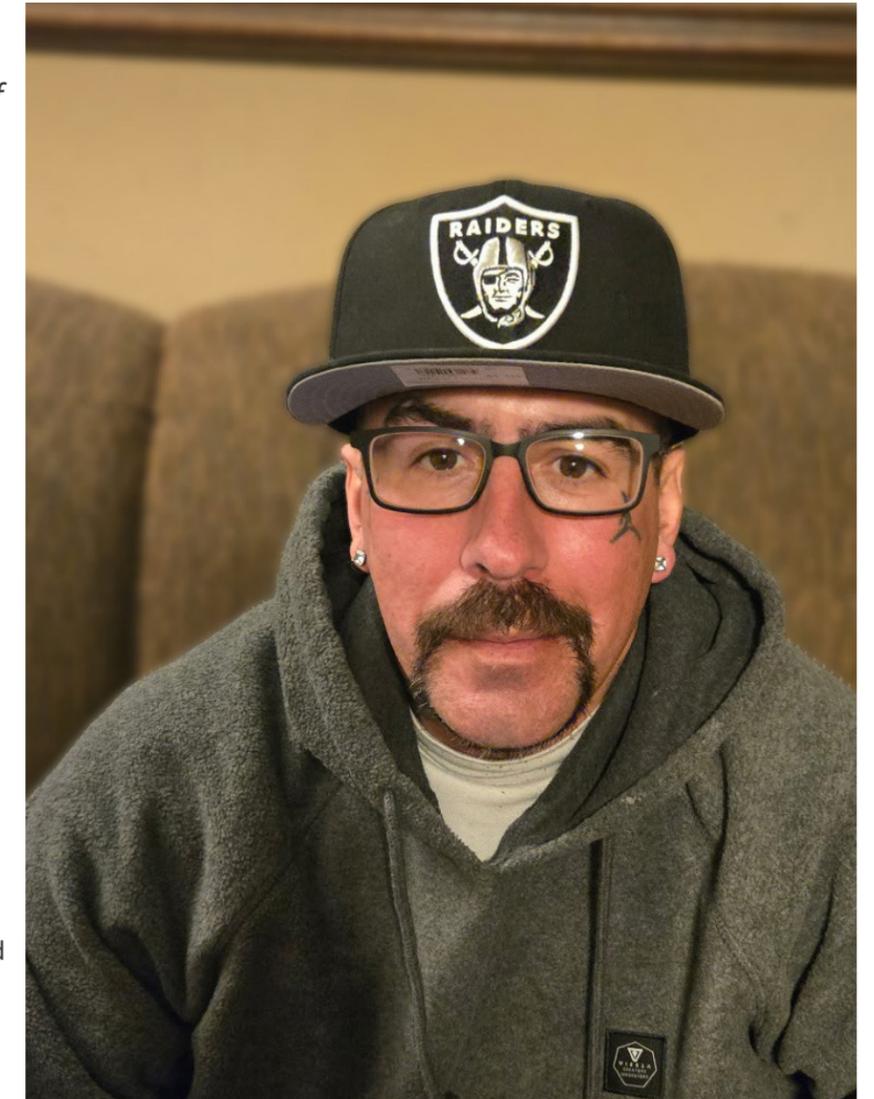
I was homeless and using fentanyl, and I realized that many have died from the fentanyl epidemic here in Utah. I expected I would add to these numbers soon. But as I recalled my interactions with Kurtis and walked past the Mission, and even ate and stayed there as a homeless guest at times, I was drawn in. I saw the big Jesus Saves sign and thought maybe it was a place that could help me.

After all, almost two decades ago my stepdad received help at the Rescue Mission. He became sober and has spent more than 15 years off the streets, now living with my mother up in Clearfield, Utah.

I started the New Life Program and found that I could stay sober. I have never really had a job, but they assigned me a work therapy role as a maintenance worker. I learned a lot, like how to paint, how to fix drywall, and other handyman work.

I studied through the Genesis Process curriculum, which helped me find healing and forgiveness from some of my past broken family relationships. I started going to church at the Adventure Church in Draper, Utah, and I found that by engaging in the New Life Program, I could stay sober. I came to believe that God is real and that He is the opposite of evil.

When I moved to the employment phase of the New Life Program, I needed help because of my sparse employment



Trenton Medina once believed he was going to die on Salt Lake's streets, so he gave a friend one of his last possessions, a cherished necklace. When he graduated from the New Life Program that friend had a graduation gift, the same necklace.

Please see "Trenton" on page 3.

HOW GOD USES THE MISSION TO RESTORE FAMILIES

As the Utah State Legislature meets this session, there has been a great deal of discussion about funding for homeless services and affordable housing. These conversations matter deeply because they affect the lives of the men, women, and children



we serve every day. I'm grateful that our elected leaders are taking homelessness seriously and working to address the rising cost of housing, one of the biggest drivers of homelessness in our state.

At the same time, I want to take a moment to clarify something that some people are surprised

to learn: the Mission does not receive any federal, state, or city funding. None of the dollars being debated at the Capitol come to our shelters, our recovery programs, or our outreach ministries. We are a privately funded, faith based organization, and that is by conviction and by design. Because we are committed to sharing the hope and healing found in Jesus Christ, we choose not to accept government funding that could limit our ability to share a message of faith and hope.

That means our entire ministry is sustained by private donors: people like you who believe in compassionate, life changing, faith driven work. Your generosity keeps our doors open 24 hours a day. Your support provides meals, shelter, clothing, addiction recovery, job training, and spiritual transformation. And because we steward every gift with care, 88%

of every dollar you give goes directly to programs that help people in need. The remaining 12% covers essential administrative and operational costs that allow our ministry to function with integrity and excellence.

While we do not receive government funding, I want to be clear that we wholeheartedly support efforts to increase affordable housing in Utah. Stable, attainable housing is one of the most important factors in preventing homelessness in the first place. It is also critical for people who are rebuilding their lives and are working hard, staying sober, and preparing to reenter the community but cannot yet afford full market rent. When the Legislature allocates resources to reduce housing costs, expand low income housing options, or support pathways to independence, that is good for our state and good for the people we serve.

Our role in this ecosystem is unique. We walk with people through the hardest moments of their lives, offering not only practical help but also spiritual hope. And we can do that because you make it possible. Thank you for standing with us, for believing in this mission, and for ensuring that Jesus' love continues to transform lives, one person at a time.

Together, we are making a difference that lasts.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswite

Executive Director

TRENTON: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

history. The Mission was able to assist me in getting a job at a restaurant supply company. The business stocks produce, meat, and other supplies for restaurants. Each day different buyers shop for the items they need to supply their menus.

I am part of the team that helps fill orders and then restocks our shelves as fresh supplies come through our door. I appreciate the work and am thankful to the Mission for helping me secure real, honest employment. When I graduated from the New Life Program in November, two really cool things happened.

First, Kurtis, the Rescue Mission staff member who had held the necklace for me when I was living on the streets, was there at my graduation ceremony. During the ceremony he walked up to me and pulled out the necklace, which he had kept all that time. He gave it back to me and told me he was no longer worried that drugs were going to take my life. It was an amazing moment.

Second, I was able to move to the Freedom House, which is the Mission's housing unit for people like me who need help transitioning from life at the Mission but are not ready to fully step out on their own yet. Freedom House provides accountability while also giving us the opportunity to manage our own schedules and responsibilities.

It has been nice living at Freedom House, since it is just a 10-minute bike ride from my work. I know we need

snow and rain here in Utah, but I have felt blessed by the warm winter since it has allowed me to get back and forth from work without too much difficulty. I have been saving up money to move into an apartment in about three months or so. I also hope to get my driver's license and potentially a vehicle before I leave as well.

Another cool thing that happened in December was that I was welcomed in my mother and stepfather's home for Christmas. I had not spent a Christmas with my family for about 10 years. We had a nice ham dinner, and it felt good to have loving family time with my mom again. I know she has never stopped loving me, but I also know I have made it hard on her. It has been great to reconnect in meaningful ways.

I continue to attend recovery classes and stay close to my support team at the Rescue Mission. I never want to return to the streets, and I thank the Mission for all the support it gave me to not only get sober, but to gain employment and develop the skills I needed to reconnect with my family. I see others come to the Mission and receive this same kind of life-changing help, and on behalf of all of them and myself, I want to thank all the donors and supporters of the Mission. This place is truly changing lives and making a difference for people like me.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: OUR 2025 YEAR END STATS



Professions of Faith

380



Meals

273,784



Family Food Boxes

2,401



Nights of Shelter

71,717



Clothing

64,606



Hygiene Items

83,741



Day Service

26,986



Jobs Obtained

78



Housing Obtained

77



WEB, SOCIAL, & EMAIL

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Tiktok/@rescuesaltlake

Email: info@RescueSaltLake.org

SCAN THE QR CODE TO QUICKLY DONATE NOW



PHONE, MAIL, & VOLUNTEERS

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Volunteer: Email Brandon at Volunteer@RescueSaltLake.org

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