

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION THIS MONTH!

It seems like the cost of almost everything is rising. Fuel, electricity, water, and basic supplies all cost more than they did even a year ago. When inflation rises, it hits the Rescue Mission especially hard. Every meal, every shower, every night of shelter becomes more expensive to provide. Yet at the same time, more people are walking through our doors seeking help.

That is why we are so grateful for a group of generous donors who have stepped forward with a special May Match challenge. They have pledged to match every gift we receive in May, **up to \$50,000**. This means your gift this month will be **doubled** to help restore lives and end homelessness here in Utah. We are asking you to help us meet this important goal.

Every dollar you give in May becomes two dollars to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and support men and women who are working hard to rebuild their lives. One meal becomes two. Two nights of shelter become four. Your generosity will go twice as far to help people find sobriety, stability, and hope.

This matching opportunity comes at a critical time. As we move into the spring and summer months, the need for safe shelter, water, hygiene items, and recovery support increases. Rising temperatures bring new challenges for people living on the streets, and your support helps us respond with compassion and care.

Together, we can meet the \$50,000 challenge and ensure that the Rescue Mission remains a place of refuge and transformation for our neighbors in need. Thank you for standing with us and for giving generously. You are bringing hope to men, women, and families across Utah.



JOIN US FOR SOME GOLF TO BENEFIT OUR HOMELESS FRIENDS

As you plan your summer outings, we invite you to join us for a special day of golf that supports life changing work here in Utah. On July 17, the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake will host our annual golf tournament at beautiful Thanksgiving Point Golf Course. This event includes breakfast, lunch, great prizes, and a full day of fun, all while helping men, women, and families overcome homelessness and addiction. If you are interested in playing in the tournament or even gathering a few friends to play along with you, please give Dennis (contact below) a call.

We are currently seeking hole sponsors, prize sponsors (for closest to the hole, longest drive, and team awards), and meal sponsors for both breakfast and lunch. Sponsorships are a great way for companies, churches, and individuals to support the Mission while enjoying a memorable day on the course.

If you or your business would like to participate as a sponsor, please contact Dennis Dickerson at **Dennis@RescueSaltLake.org** or call/text **801.949.8559**.

Come enjoy a beautiful day of golf and help us continue restoring lives across Utah.



RESCUER

MAY
2026

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake



RescueSaltLake.org

I was born and raised in the Kearns area of Salt Lake. Growing up in the 1990s meant being surrounded by a lot of gang activity, and I got caught up in the situations around me. I struggled with addiction and was arrested many times. At one point I even stole from my own mother. When she finally kicked me out, I became homeless.

I spent about 20 years living on the streets in and around Salt Lake. There were times when I did well. I held down jobs and even finished most of community college. But a lot of the time I struggled and kept falling back into addiction and homelessness.

My latest struggle happened two years ago when I was living downtown and was arrested again. I spent most of the next year in jail. I talked with my attorney about getting into a recovery program, but she could never find a place for me.

Then one day the jail guards came in and told me it was time to go. I walked outside and saw the Rescue Mission van waiting for me. I had been accepted into the New Life Program and the judge released me into their care.

That moment changed everything.

Looking back, I can see that God was the one who led me to the Mission. He brought me to the perfect place where I could finally find the help I needed. Hearing the story of Jesus at the Mission opened my heart, and I have become a true follower of Christ.

During my time in the New Life Program I was given a work therapy job in the kitchen. I had worked in kitchens before, but it was good to learn and grow again. I learned how to make meal plans and use the food that had been donated. When I was promoted to kitchen lead, I made sure to put out a salad at every meal and do what I could to provide nutritious food, like fruit bowls, for the homeless men and women who came through our doors.

Along with work therapy, I enjoyed going to Bible studies, chapel services, and the training classes. The Mission



Curtis Banks is off the streets, has a stable job, and is enjoying a new life rooted in his relationship with Jesus.

Please see "Curtis" on page 3.

SUPPORTING BOTH SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL RENEWAL

As we move deeper into warmer months and longer days, I am reminded again how closely spiritual renewal and physical restoration are often



connected. Here in Utah, where the weather swings from harsh winters to hot, dry summers, the people who come through our doors often arrive exhausted in both body and spirit. Many have gone months without proper medical care, dental treatment, clean clothing,

or even a safe place to rest. Their physical needs are urgent, and meeting those needs is often the first step toward deeper healing.

At the Mission, we see every day how a warm meal, a clean shower, or a fresh set of clothes can open the door to hope. Something as simple as washing a guest's laundry or providing a pair of shoes that actually fit can soften a heart that has been hardened by years of struggle. These small acts of care communicate something powerful. They say, "You matter. You are worth helping. You are not forgotten."

When a person begins to feel human again, they often become willing to take the next step. They begin to trust. They listen. They believe that change is possible. This is where the deeper work of the New Life Program begins. Bible studies, life

coaching, life-skills classes, and mentoring all build on the foundation created by meeting physical needs with compassion and dignity.

I think of the many men and women who have told us that receiving basic care was the moment they realized God might still have a plan for them. A shower became a turning point. A meal became a reminder of grace. A clean bed became the first safe night's sleep they had experienced in years. These moments matter, and they are made possible because of your generosity.

Your support allows us to care for the whole person. You help provide medical referrals, hygiene supplies, nutritious meals, clothing, and safe shelter. You help create an environment where people can heal physically so they can grow spiritually. Most importantly, you help us share the message that Jesus sees every person who walks through our doors and offers them new life.

Thank you for standing with us and caring for our neighbors in need. And thank you for helping create a place where physical restoration becomes the pathway to eternal renewal.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswite

Executive Director

CURTIS: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

encouraged me to find an outside church and attend a recovery class once a week. I started going to Adventure Church and have really enjoyed the teaching and the community there.

When it was time for me to begin the employment phase of the program, I was nervous. It took a while to find a job, but eventually I was hired as a line cook on an interim basis. I worked there for several weeks before my boss pulled me aside. He told me I was not quite fast enough for the busy pace of the restaurant. He was encouraging and paid me well for the time I worked, but it was still a setback. I had to start the job hunt all over again.

I filled out more than 100 applications over the next few months before I finally got an interview at an upscale Brazilian steakhouse. I applied for a prep cook job, but when I arrived the manager told me he had just filled the position. I must have looked disappointed because he paused and said he did have an open dishwashing job if I wanted it.

I agreed right away and have been working there ever since. I make good money and have already been offered the chance to move up to prep cook, but for now I am choosing to stay where I am until I feel more settled.

God has also helped me make better decisions. Recently a friend offered me the chance to move into some low-budget apartments with him and split the rent. In the past I would have jumped at the

opportunity, but God showed me that the apartments would not be a good influence.

Instead, I moved into Freedom House, the Rescue Mission's transitional housing for men who have been homeless for long periods of time. At Freedom House I have accountability and structure. I am learning how to manage my money, pay rent and bills, and use my free time wisely.

As I live at Freedom House, I continue to work and save money so I can eventually move into a place of my own.

My relationship with my mom is also improving. I write to her and she writes back. I hope that with continued sobriety and stability our relationship will keep getting better. I pray for the same with my adult daughter. She even came to visit me recently, which meant a lot.

I have come a long way from the person I used to be. When I was homeless, I was demoralized. I struggled to eat and often could not brush my teeth or take a shower. I felt less than human. But with your support and God's help, the Rescue Mission has given me my life back.

Thank you for supporting the Mission and creating a place where people like me can find a new life in Christ.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: OUR STATS THROUGH MARCH



Professions of Faith

133



Meals

73,930



Family Food Boxes

629



Nights of Shelter

16,717



Clothing

15,177



Hygiene Items

18,656



Day Service

7,664



Jobs Obtained

12



Housing Obtained

9



WEB, SOCIAL, & EMAIL

RescueSaltLake.org

Facebook/rescuemissionofsaltlake

Instagram/@rescuemissionofsaltlake

X/@rescuesaltlake

Tiktok/@rescuesaltlake

Email: info@RescueSaltLake.org

SCAN THE QR CODE TO QUICKLY DONATE NOW



PHONE, MAIL, & VOLUNTEERS

Main – 801.355.1302

Donor Relations – 801.746.1006

Mail: PO Box 1227 Salt Lake City Utah 84110-1227

Volunteer: Email Brandon at Volunteer@RescueSaltLake.org

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