

The

April 2021

Mission

A Publication of City Rescue Mission

Your gifts and prayers are making a real, lasting difference for individuals like Shane.



INSIDE:

- Shane thought hope was gone, then he came to City Rescue Mission
- Transformation after 20 years on the street
- Our new kitchen is ready to serve life-changing meals



Rebuilding Hope, Rebuilding Lives

Dear Caring Friend,

When you're living on the streets, it's not a good idea to stand out or attract attention. I think that's why most of the new clients are surprised when they first walk into City Rescue Mission. They don't expect the friendliness and warmth they receive from staff members as soon as they arrive. Many have forgotten what it was like to feel safe, to know that someone else is looking out for you.

But as you'll read, all it takes is one caring person at the right place and the right time to change a life forever. One meal served to a neighbor in need can lead to a decision to begin a new journey. And after that person experiences the life-changing opportunities offered at City Rescue Mission, they tell someone else who also comes to our door, saying, "I'm ready, too!"

And when a graduate of one of our empowering programs reunites with their family — parents, children and grandchildren — the impact you are making is generational. Your commitment to improving lives is so important, not just to our clients, but to their friends and family as well.

Thank you, and may God bless you,

Erin Goodin
President & CEO

Homeless to Hopeful, Because of You

"Thank you for giving me this opportunity!"



Because of you, Shane experienced a miracle when he came to City Rescue Mission.

Shane's life changed in an instant. He was homeless, struggling with drug abuse. He'd spent a year living out of his car, never knowing where his next meal would come from.

When a man came to repossess Shane's car, Shane thought his life was that much closer to being over. He knew the horrors of living on the street, and how difficult it would be for him to ever get clean there.

But by the grace of God, the compassion of the repo man and supporters like you, Shane experienced a miracle that night.

Instead of being left with nothing, Shane got a ride to City Rescue Mission.

"I was always wanting and needing to get sober," Shane says. "The Mission was a godsend."

Shane began his journey of sobriety and settled into a new routine here at the Mission. Life skills classes, Bible study and work-therapy combined gave Shane the foundation he needed to build a new life.

"I thank God that City Rescue Mission gave me a chance," he says. "That's something that I've never had before. "Thank you for giving me this opportunity! God bless you."

Shane is a real-life example of how your gifts and prayers are making a real, lasting difference for the men, women, and women with children who come to us every day. Thank you!

Watch your mailbox for a special report on your impact during COVID and to read more of Shane's story. Or go online now to cityrescue.org/impact

A Life Transformed After 20 Years on the Street

The hope and healing you gave Marcus changed his life!

After living on the street for over 20 years, Marcus* knows what it means to go without a meal, to be so desperate for food that anything will do, including leftovers in garbage bins.

But one night, a chef saw Marcus digging through the trash behind the restaurant where she worked. They began to talk, and Marcus agreed to let her connect him with the Mission.

“What we do know is they come to the right place here, where we can change lives with meals.”

Erin Goodin, President and CEO

Marcus had been suffering from diabetes and a severe foot infection. We immediately got him the medical care he needed. And when his health stabilized, he entered the Recovery Program, one of the Bridge to Life programs.

“We don’t always know why someone hits rock bottom,” Erin Goodin, City Rescue Mission President and CEO, says. “What we do know is they come to the right place here, where we can change lives with meals.”

Surrounded by kind-hearted people and having his basic needs met for the first time in decades, Marcus began to heal, and let God begin to work in him — work that continues today.

Because of you, we were ready and able to help Marcus when he turned to us for help. Thank you for continuing to provide the meals, care and love that gives our hurting neighbors a second chance at life.

*Name changed for privacy.

Save the Date

A brand-new way you can contribute with your gift of TIME this May to support the Mission!



Lemons TO Lemonade

HEARTS OF HOPE 2021

May 3, 2021

Express Feedback

for Good™

May 20, 2021



Help Us Reach the \$50,000 Match Goal



MATCH CAMPAIGN

Right now, anything you give to support City Rescue Mission will be **DOUBLED**, up to \$50,000, thanks to a generous group of donors.

This opportunity couldn't be timelier as so many in our community are experiencing homelessness for the very first time. The pandemic has pushed countless people to the brink. They are desperate for hope, and with the support of people like you, we will be there to give them a helping hand.

Over 10,000 people were served by programs such as ours in Oklahoma City over the last year, and the need has only increased. Homelessness and addiction can affect anyone — that's what we're up against.

Please send a gift today to provide meals, care and hope. Your generosity will go twice as far to help heal hurting people in our community. Thank you.



Our New Kitchen Opens a World of Possibilities

We asked for your help, and you came through!

City Rescue Mission's new kitchen is opening at the end of May, and we're so grateful to you and our community partners for making it happen. We are excited about the new kitchen and its numerous benefits for our clients.

First, the new open-concept design will feature three different lines, allowing us to serve food faster and more efficiently. We will also be able to give three options

for meals at the Mission, providing a small luxury of choice that our clients didn't have while they were homeless.

"Allowing them to have their choice of meals restores so much dignity, respect and hope in their lives," Mission President Erin Goodin says.

The renovated space will also provide a better area for clients doing work-therapy in the kitchen to receive

culinary skills training from community partners. When they graduate, our clients can then find gainful employment in restaurants.

"I'm so proud of our kitchen workers for all the amazing things they've done so far," Erin says. "The new kitchen area will open up a world of possibilities for the people we serve. We send a big thank you to all the donors who made it happen!"



Punctuate Your Life with Peace

Some families make surprising discoveries after a loved one dies. But not every revelation is an admirable one. These heartaches can be avoided. Here's where to start:

- 1. Construct a plan.** Creating a will is actually a simple process but the impact is monumental. An up-to-date will can ensure your loved ones are provided for without additional expense and frustration.
- 2. Communicate your heart.** Once you've created an estate plan, it's important to explain the decisions you've made. Share the causes or organizations you care about, like City Rescue Mission.
- 3. Collect information.** Many people create a "love drawer" to gather important information and documents their loved ones will need in the future.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "3 Ways to Avoid Family Heartache" by checking the box on the enclosed reply form and returning it in the envelope provided.

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You Can Change a Life Today!

Send back the enclosed reply form with your gift to provide meals, care and life-changing services to individuals who are alone with nowhere else to turn. Please give generously and offer your encouragement to the neighbors in our community who are rebuilding broken lives one day at a time. Thank you!

Your Gift Will Provide Meals, Care and Hope!

Yes, I want to help my neighbors in our community receive a hearty meal and compassionate care. Enclosed is my gift of:

☐ \$_____ to help as much as possible

Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Smith
123 Main Street
Anytown, USA 12345-6789

City Rescue Mission
City Rescue Mission Inc.
PO Box 960221
Oklahoma City, OK 73196-0021

To give a gift online, go to
cityrescue.org/donate-theMission

Please make your check payable to City Rescue Mission and return it with this slip in the envelope provided. To use a credit card, visit our website, fill out the information on reverse side or call Samantha at (405) 232-2709 Ext. 106. A receipt for your gift will be sent to you shortly.

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**City
Rescue
Mission**

City Rescue Mission
800 W. California Ave
Oklahoma City, OK 73106
(405) 232-2709

Stay Connected

Keep track of the latest Mission news, make safe online donations and more.
cityrescue.org



CITY RESCUE MISSION DONATION DROP OFF

Shartel Entrance
800 W. California Ave
Oklahoma City, OK 73106