

The

June 2021

Mission

A Publication of City Rescue Mission

Individuals like
Blanca get another
chance at life,
because of you.

INSIDE:

- Because of you, a mother and her children are safe
- They found the path to hope, thanks to you
- Lighting the way to permanent housing



Rebuilding Hope, Rebuilding Lives

Dear Caring Friend,

When you're homeless, it seems like no one sees you. No one acknowledges you, no one speaks to you. You are just a part of "the homeless," a nameless, faceless group to be talked about but never personally engaged.

Recovery begins by being treated as an individual, called by name and greeted with a smile.

That's precisely the approach we take at City Rescue Mission when someone walks through our doors for that first meal. Here, they aren't "the homeless." They're "John" or "Lucy" or "Miguel."

They're, Blanca and her children, whose story is featured in this newsletter. And ultimately, they're Jesus, because He said, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).

I trust God will remember the compassion you show toward our neighbors in need. Every life we touch here is a credit to you. I am so grateful for your friendship and support in this cause. Because of your support, men, women, and women with children aren't just surviving this summer — they're getting back on their feet and beginning a new life, with hope and restored dignity.

Thank you, and may God bless you,

Erin Goodin
President & CEO

Blanca's Path to Hope Started Here, Thanks to You

"Because of your help, people like us get another chance at life."



Thank you for transforming the lives of Blanca and her children.

When Blanca found herself homeless her first thought was the same as always: protect her young children. Forced to the streets after an ex-partner's attempts to harm her, Blanca knew they needed help to survive.

Blanca came to City Rescue Mission hoping for a hot meal and safe beds for herself and her children. What they found was so much more — they received a second chance for a safe, happy life.

"When we came here, we were greeted with open arms," Blanca says. "We feel safe now. Everybody is so loving here. My children don't know that we're in a mission."

Her time spent living on the street had left Blanca with PTSD, but with her family's basic needs met, Blanca could finally address the trauma she had experienced, and begin to rebuild her life.

Work therapy in the housekeeping department, daily devotionals and our Recovery Program, one of the Bridge to Life programs, all worked together to lift up and heal Blanca. Today, finally feeling whole, Blanca and her children are in permanent housing and are looking forward to the future.

"I'm grateful to be part of the City Rescue Mission family," she says. "Because of your help, people like us get another chance at life."

Your support changes the lives of individuals like Blanca and her children. Thank you.

To read more of Blanca's story, go online now to cityrescue.org/stories

City Rescue Mission Awarded Housing Grant

City Rescue Mission is excited to announce the Mission has been awarded a Housing Grant to help provide community-based housing, and to help eligible clients move into permanent housing.

With our supporter's help, we are proud to provide people who receive shelter services with every opportunity we can to help them rise above their struggles with homelessness and addiction. When we come together as a community to help lift up those who need it most, people are transformed, and lives are changed.

It is in that spirit that the Mission is excited to work alongside other metro area shelters to develop a coordinated response to help counter the effects of the Coronavirus on the clients we serve.

"The challenges of the last year have strained our community, and our resources," President and CEO Erin Goodin says. "Yet the Mission remains committed to changing lives. **This grant is a wonderful opportunity to help even more people experiencing homelessness find permanent housing.**"

This ambitious and powerful service is just another example of how we can change lives together as a community. **Thank you for ensuring individuals in our community can become safe, healthy, employed and independent.**



You Are Helping Them Find Their Way Home

The
WAY HOME
SUMMER 2021

Summer is a terrible time to be homeless. Dehydration and heatstroke are constant dangers. Water becomes scarce and food spoils more quickly. It is especially dangerous for all of the individuals who are homeless for the first time, struggling to survive on the streets of our community.

Donations typically decline at this crucial time too, right when they are needed most.

That's why City Rescue Mission counts on supporters like you. Thanks to you, the Mission is here to provide the life-changing aid and services needed to help our friends and neighbors become healthy, happy and housed once again.

"Just knowing they are making progress toward permanent housing can restore so much self-worth and dignity for our clients," Erin Goodin, President and CEO says.

From men who lost everything they had because of the pandemic, to women struggling to rebuild after fleeing abuse, all who seek to transform their lives will find help here.

And when they graduate from our programs full of Christ's love, they are ready for the thing they worked for all along — a home of their own.

Thank you for lifting up our friends and neighbors struggling with homelessness.



Save the Date

FOR THIS YEAR'S MISSION OF HOPE

September 16, 2021

PERFORMER & AUTHOR: MICHAEL JR.

For information on more upcoming events at City Rescue Mission, please call (405) 232-2709.



Your gifts will change hurting lives — every month!

Three Ways Monthly Giving Makes a Difference Throughout the Year

1. **Provide a steady, predictable source of income:** Your monthly gifts will be used to change the lives of men, women, and women with children who seek to transform their lives.
2. **Help us plan ahead and budget more efficiently:** As we work hard to best prepare our clients seeking a second chance, your ongoing contributions will enable us to plan for the future.
3. **Steady donations prevent service interruptions:** The Mission must provide our services year-round, even during months when donations typically stall. Your continuing gifts will help us ensure help is always available for those who need it.

To sign up online, visit us at cityrescue.org/donate, or call Samantha at (405) 232-2709 Ext. 106 to join by phone.

Four Ways to Pass Along a Family Heritage

Here are four everyday ways you can build a foundation of family values that will last for years to come:

1. **Play together.** Enjoying time together as a family helps ease tensions, establish a joyful home, and create a sense of belonging.
2. **Pray together.** The action of praying together helps cultivate gratitude, deepen family unity, build faith, and demonstrate how to trust in God.
3. **Share together.** Part of creating a strong family heritage is sharing from the heart. This builds a legacy of faith, nurtures connection, and keeps the lines of honest communication open.
4. **Give together.** Families can give of their time by volunteering, collecting donations to support a local cause, or even giving financial gifts together. A Donor Advised Fund allows you to fund a single giving account, then direct individual gifts to support charities you care about like City Rescue Mission.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "Four Ways to Pass Along a Family Heritage" 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 Summer Meals, Care and Hope!

Yes, I want to help my neighbors in our community receive a hearty meal and compassionate care this summer. 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 960021
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**

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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