

The

Mission

June 2022

A Publication of City Rescue Mission

**Debbie's hope
was renewed,
thanks to you.**

INSIDE:

- Because of you, Debbie is housed and grateful
- Everett has rebuilt his life, thanks to your help
- How you showed them the way home



Rebuilding Hope, Rebuilding Lives

Dear Caring Friend,

Living on the street is always dangerous, but summertime brings additional peril. Due to high temperatures, dehydration and heat stroke are constant worries. People who are homeless for the first time are in particular danger as they struggle to survive on the street and adapt to the hot weather.

Despite the increased need for lifesaving water, food and other assistance, donations to the Mission typically decline during this critical time.

City Rescue Mission provides people with a safe place to start again, improve their health and be part of a family. With the help of people like you, individuals who turn to us for assistance this summer can receive cool water, nutritious meals, safe shelter and life-changing hope.

Please help if you can with an extra gift during this time of need and keep people experiencing homelessness in your prayers.

Thank you, and may God bless you,

Erin Goodin
President & CEO

Homeless in Retirement

You saved Debbie from life,
and death, on the street.



Thanks to you, Debbie* is healthy, happy and housed this summer.

“God, what am I going to do?” Debbie asked aloud.

She had been struggling to survive on the streets of Oklahoma City all summer. The heat was unbearable. Finding water was a constant worry, and she was always concerned about her safety.

At 67 years old, Debbie had spent the last three months sleeping under trees and behind buildings; as long as she was hidden, she felt safe. But without proper shelter, she was still at the mercy of the storms and mosquitos.

Like most people, Debbie had never expected to become homeless. She had a career working in a hospital until she reached retirement age. Things went well at first, but tragedy soon struck and Debbie lost all of her savings. She was forced onto the streets.

Thankfully, some kind neighbors let Debbie know about City Rescue Mission and she came here straight away.

Finally, in a safe and loving environment again, Debbie was able to rebuild her life and strengthen her relationship with God. Day by day, she scrimped and saved and persevered. Today, Debbie is back on her feet. She has her own home, a car, and new hope for the future.

Debbie will always be grateful that supporters of City Rescue Mission like you are helping people like her.

“City Rescue Mission saved me,” Debbie says. “I’m so thankful!”

**Name and photo changed to protect identity.*

Finding Stability After a Life of Boom-and-Bust

Everett is no stranger to the boom-and-bust cycle of oil field work.

“I got married right out of high school and went in the oil field,” he recalls. “I went through three booms and busts there.”

And while Everett knew how to navigate the ups and downs of his career, his personal challenges would become much more difficult. Despite some good times he experienced with his family, he and his wife gradually grew apart. Eventually, she filed for divorce. Everett struggled for a long time to come to terms with the end of his marriage when another tragedy struck: his son took his own life.

The pain was too much for Everett to bear and he turned to alcohol to cope. Soon, the drinking began to spiral out of control.

Everett knew he needed to change, and with the help of his pastor, he found the Recovery Program, one of the Bridge to Life's programs here at City Rescue Mission.

Today, Everett is sober and looking forward to the future for the first time in a long time.

“If it wasn't for this place, I'd probably be in jail or homeless right now,” he says. “I hope everyone who comes here after me will get as much help as I did.” With your faithful prayers and support, they certainly will!

Thank you for changing the lives of people like Everett through your support of City Rescue Mission.



Finding the Way Home, Thanks to You



Summer brings about additional challenges for people experiencing homelessness. Life on the street is more difficult and dangerous. The seemingly unending heat strikes to your very core, and it can be easy to lose all hope.

Thankfully, City Rescue Mission has caring supporters like you. Because of you, our programs and aid are available year-round, the first steps toward a changed life and permanent housing.

“Housing is the end goal, and just knowing that it's on the horizon helps the individuals in our care work hard to transform their lives,” Erin Goodin, President and CEO, says.

From families displaced by rising rent, food and fuel costs to men and women who lost their jobs due to the lingering effects of the pandemic, love and transformation are available here for all who seek it.

Our Bridge to Life's programs give the individuals in our care the knowledge and skills they need to overcome their challenges and prepare them for the thing they have been working for all along, a home of their very own.

Thank you for changing the lives of people seeking a new start.

Save the Date



www.cityrescue.org/moh-2022



Monthly Giving Makes a Difference All Year



Provide a steady, predictable source of support to help those on their journey toward permanent housing and independent living.



Help us plan ahead and allow us to help even more individuals like Debbie who seek a transformed life.



Steady donations prevent service interruptions and ensure help is available for people like Everett when they need it.

Rise Café is Open to You!

We are excited to announce the opening of Rise Café! Rise Café is a social enterprise of City Rescue Mission that exists to help break the cycle of homelessness by empowering individuals with real world job skills and vocational training.

With a full menu of coffee and tea, along with delicious breakfast and lunch choices, the café is an excellent opportunity for you to meet some of the people whose lives you are changing through your gifts to the Mission. It is designed to provide a solution by equipping individuals with the skills needed to rise above their current situation in life and reach their true potential.

In addition, the Rise Café creates opportunities for positive interactions between City Rescue Mission clients and the community in order to further break down the stigma of homelessness.

Rise Café is open Monday to Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 725 W Reno. For a full menu and more information please visit www.cityrescue.org/risecafe.



You Can Change a Life Today!

Send back the enclosed reply form with your gift today 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 with your help. Thank you!



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**City
Rescue
Mission**

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