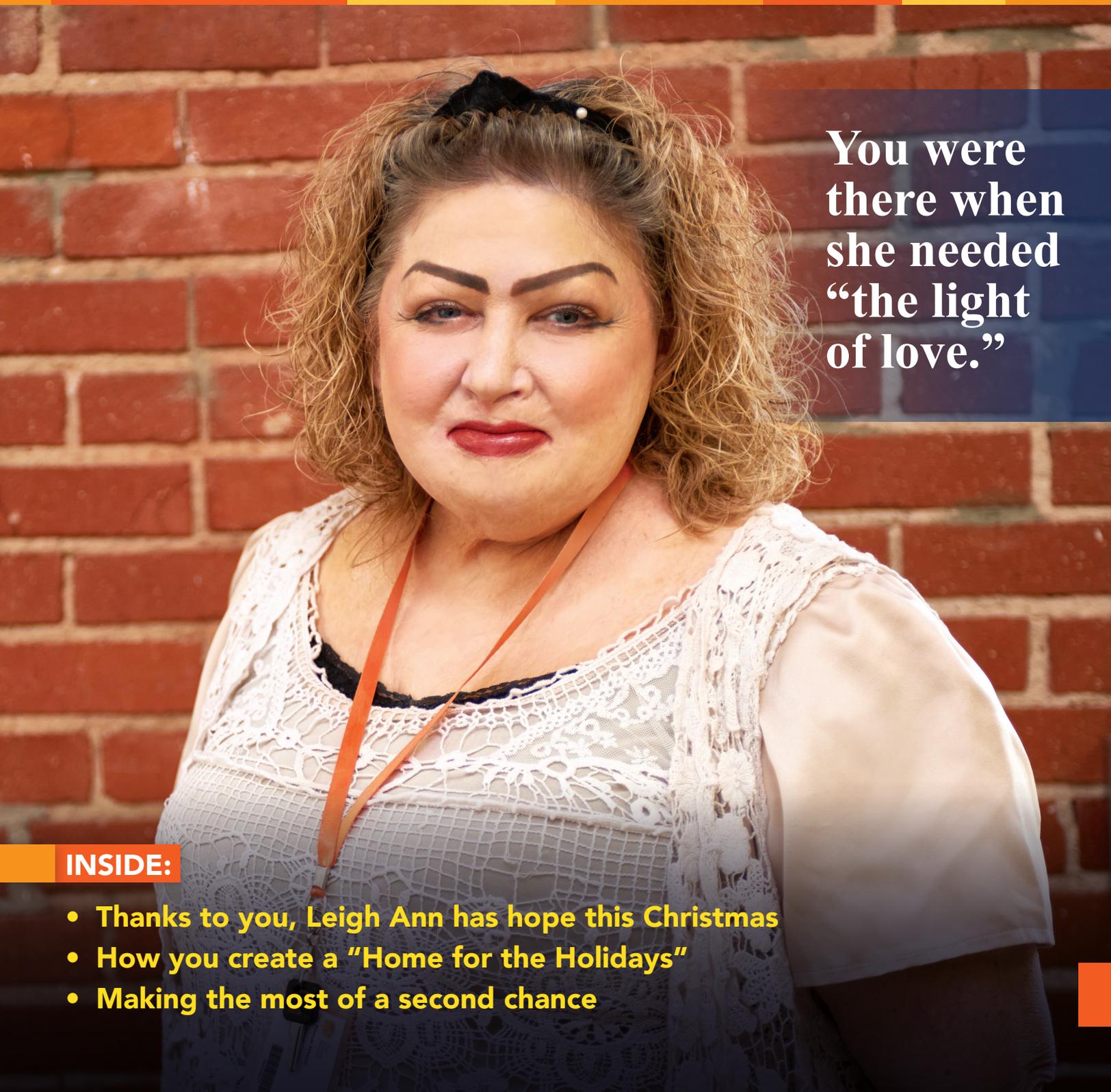


The

December 2022

Mission

A Publication of City Rescue Mission



You were
there when
she needed
“the light
of love.”

INSIDE:

- Thanks to you, Leigh Ann has hope this Christmas
- How you create a “Home for the Holidays”
- Making the most of a second chance



Rebuilding Hope, Rebuilding Lives

Dear Caring Friend,

With Christmas right around the corner, I want to commend you for giving the best gift possible to vulnerable neighbors in the Oklahoma City area. Your kindness means they'll have a home for the holidays. I promise that's something the folks in our care never take for granted.

After all, many of these men, women and families have gone years without enjoying safe, stable housing. For some, the Christmas season can be a painful reminder of past trauma. I take heart in knowing that *this* Christmas will be different. Your support of City Rescue Mission marks a turning point in so many lives.

Of course, your generosity means much more than meals, shelter and other basics. Through our Bridge to Life programs, you're pointing the way to a fulfilling future for neighbors like Leigh Ann (page 2). On behalf of everyone you've helped in 2022, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you, and may God bless you,

Erin Goodin

Erin Goodin
President & CEO



Thanks to You, Leigh Ann Has Hope This Christmas



Your generosity means vulnerable neighbors like Leigh Ann will have a home for the holidays — and hope for the future!

The evangelist Ruth Carter Stapleton once wrote, “Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.” Leigh Ann is one of those who needed it most.

**“I hope donors know this is the best gift they could ever give.”
– Leigh Ann**

“I never thought I’d be homeless,” Leigh Ann says. “I had a good job and owned my own home.”

Then came the tragic accident that left her partially disabled, unable to work and facing homelessness for the first time. “I lived wherever I could,” she recalls. “I stayed with friends, lived in a hotel for a while, then my car. I finally ended up on the streets, asking people for food.”

One winter night, a good Samaritan wrapped a heavy blanket around Leigh Ann and pointed her to City Rescue Mission. She arrived to find satisfying meals, warm clothing and hope for the future. “I had to put the work in myself,” Leigh Ann says of our Bridge to Life recovery program. “But I was surrounded by people who cared about me.”

(continued on Page 4)

The Miracles You Make Possible

By Rob Avalos, Case Manager

Thirteen years ago, my life changed forever. A random shooting left me paralyzed from the chest down. Doctors in the trauma unit told my parents, “It will be a true miracle if he makes it.”

Today, I’m living proof that miracles are real. But I’m not the only one. As a case manager at City Rescue Mission, I bear witness to the second chances *you* make possible every single day.

A lot of people call this a homeless shelter, but that’s only part of the story. What your generosity really creates is a resource center with everything an individual could need to move forward with their life. There are basics like food and overnight shelter, of course. Those mean the world to men, women and families who arrive with just the clothes on their backs.

Of course, that’s only the start of the path back to hope. Real change happens over time, as you give people access to job placement and secure housing. It’s truly fulfilling to see men, women and families leave this place with joy in their hearts for what the future may bring.

Thank you for helping me make the most of my second chance in life at City Rescue Mission!



Doctors didn’t think I would live. Thirteen years later, I’m just one more miracle at the Mission.”
– Rob Avalos



Sharing a festive meal. Opening presents under the tree. Celebrating the newborn King’s arrival on earth. These are the Christmas memories most of us cherish. But for men, women and families at City Rescue Mission, the holidays can be a difficult time of transition.

They deserve a season filled with hope, love and fellowship. Here are a few ways you can spread holiday cheer to the folks in our care:

- ❄️ Become a Table Sponsor by creating a Christmas “Experience Box.”
- ❄️ Donate kitchen items, cleaning products or linens to help Bridge to Life graduates start fresh in new housing.
- ❄️ Contribute toys and other children’s gifts to the Christmas Wish Store.

Thank you for helping us create a loving and memorable “Home for the Holidays” here at the Mission.

To learn about our holiday service opportunities, scan the QR code below with your phone camera, or visit cityrescue.org/HFTH.



SAVE THE DATE!



MAY 4TH, 2023

MISSION OF HOPE
SEPT. 14TH, 2023

Your Gift Now DOUBLES in Impact

There's still time to
change lives in 2022.



Record inflation is making it even tougher for our most vulnerable neighbors to make ends meet. Many are looking to City Rescue Mission for help this holiday season. Thankfully, a generous friend of City Rescue Mission has offered to match your generosity with a \$50,000 matching challenge! Any gift you give by December 31 will **DOUBLE** in impact. **Please don't miss out on one last chance to provide a path back to hope for TWICE as many neighbors by the end of the year!** Your gift, postmarked by December 31, will help us make a lasting difference, one life at a time.

Thanks to You, Leigh Ann Has Hope This Christmas

(Continued from page 2)

The Best Gift

Today, Leigh Ann is working at a job that accommodates her disabilities, and she's saving to move into her own place again.

"Everything is looking up," she says. "I want to be an example to show other people that anything is possible if you have God in your life."

"Sometimes, we all need people to help us get where we're going," she adds. "You never know when something could happen to you, like what happened to me. I hope donors know this is the best gift they could ever give. I am totally grateful for everything they did for me."

This Christmas, your support of City Rescue Mission shines "the light of love" on neighbors who need it most. Thank you for your kindness.

COME SEE US AT RISE CAFE

COFFEE, SANDWICHES,
PASTRIES, AND MORE!

MON - FRI, 7AM - 2PM

725 W. RENO AVE.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73102

MORE INFO AT
RISECAFE.ORG



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!

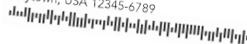
Your Gift Will Provide Meals, Care and Hope!
 \$_____ to help as much as possible!

15-CRMOK-1222-N



City Rescue Mission Inc.
PO Box 960021
Oklahoma City, OK 73196-0021

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



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 Grace at (405) 232-2709 Ext. 137. A receipt for your gift will be sent to you shortly.



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