

The

February 2024

Mission

A Publication of City Rescue Mission



Thanks to you,
John is finding
true recovery

INSIDE:

- Families Are in Crisis During Winter Season
- Finding Hope One Step at a Time
- Winter Care Campaign



Families Are in Crisis During Winter Season

Dear Caring Friend,

Sometimes on a cold winter day, it's nice to cozy up with your family and watch a favorite movie or bask in the warmth of a fireplace.

But for far too many local families, such a scene is only something they can dream about. Due to the high cost of everything, particularly rent, those families often have no place to go.

Thanks to your help, they have City Rescue Mission — a haven of help and hope. Unfortunately, space is limited.

We have 40 family units, and they're at maximum capacity. Turning a family away, only to go back out on the street — that's heartbreaking ... and that's something we don't want to do.

So many families need help — due to job loss, the cost of basic needs, evictions, domestic violence and more. Thank you for your role in helping the ones we can. And please help us help even more in '24.

God bless you,

Erin Goodin
President & CEO



Thanks to your kindness, John is finally moving past the trauma of his childhood — and finding new life at the Mission.

You Helped John Discover True and Lasting Recovery

John has spent most of his life in recovery of one kind or another.

For years, he tried to recover from a childhood of rampant abuse. He says those days were marked by “lots of trauma and drama.”

John spent most of his life trying to recover from those horrors, turning to drugs and alcohol to escape. He ultimately reached a point where he wanted to make a change.

“I couldn't have done it by myself. I've finally surrendered and gave it all to God.”

— John

“I'm 58,” he says, “and I just finally came to my senses.”

He knew he needed help. Someone recommended City Rescue Mission, and John liked the idea. He says that when he first walked through our doors, “I was relieved to have a place to stay.”

Now John is in a whole new phase of recovery — one that includes not just sobriety, but a new life filled with hope for a better future.

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Finding Hope One Step at a Time

How you helped Laura find safe shelter

Laura ran a hotel for years before crippling arthritis left her in a wheelchair. She tried for months to keep up the hard work.

“I’m very independent,” Laura says. “My mother would say ‘hardheaded.’”

It got so difficult to continue working that Laura had to quit. As her money ran low, she stayed at a friend’s place, but she had no utilities. On frigid winter nights, Laura shivered in a sleeping bag under multiple blankets.

“I was just a step away from living on the streets,” she says. “So I got on a bus and came here.”

“Here” is City Rescue Mission, where Laura found safety and comfort. Now, she’s on a mission: “I want to find my own housing again.”

In the meantime, she is grateful for the care and encouragement she’s receiving. “I’m warm, I have a bed, it’s clean, I get three meals a day and I’m not out on the street.”

Laura is also awaiting a complete hip replacement, which she hopes will get her up and out of the chair.

“One step at a time,” she says, “because that’s all you can do.”

Laura says that without the Mission, “a lot of people would be in trouble. It’s dangerous out on the streets. But we’re safe in here.”

“If you want help, you can get it here. I’m grateful.”

Thanks to you, struggling neighbors like Laura are finding their path back to hope.



**“If you want help, you can get it here.
I’m grateful.”**

– Laura

You Can Help Bring Neighbors in from the Cold

Winter
CARE CAMPAIGN
2024

It’s mid-winter, and it can be dangerously cold out there for anyone who doesn’t have safe shelter. Unfortunately, that’s happening to more and more of our neighbors, including many families, who are struggling with the high prices of everything, particularly rent.

Thankfully, they have people like you who care — compassionate people who make it possible for neighbors facing homelessness to have a safe and warm place to turn.

“Winter is a dangerous time to have no place to go,” Mission President and CEO Erin Goodin says. “More and more families are coming to us for help, and that number increases dramatically in winter. Your kindness can make a world of difference for them.”

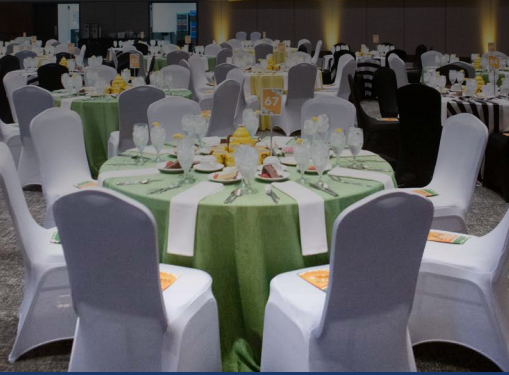
Thank you for making our Mission a place of refuge for men, women, and families this winter. Your kindness changes lives — and saves them too!

SAVE THE DATE

Hearts of HOPE

City Rescue Mission

April 26, 2024



Merry Memories at the Mission!

Our Christmas season was filled with joy and peace.

City Rescue Mission is grateful to everyone who helped make the holiday season one to remember for the individuals in our care. Mission guests were so thankful for the meals, shelter and special experiences you made possible by supporting our Homeless for the Holidays campaign.



“I had no idea you all did this (City Rescue Mission Christmas Store), now my girls can have Christmas. I’m so thankful!” – a Guest at the Mission



You Helped John Discover True and Lasting Recovery

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That’s because the Mission’s faith-based programs go deep into the heart and soul, striving to meet individuals where they are. Our programs empower people to overcome the issues that keep them from living their best life, and give them a boost on their journey out of homelessness.

For John, the recovery program gives him the structure and accountability he needs, with committed staff who care, all within a positive environment centered on the gospel. John says it’s working,

and he’s convinced that his new-found sobriety will last.

He says that this kind of recovery — the lasting kind — is only possible because of your support, the Mission’s kind and professional staff, and some divine intervention.

“I couldn’t have done it by myself,” John says. “I’ve finally surrendered and gave it all to God.”

John couldn’t have done it without your help, either. Thank you for making it possible for neighbors like John to find hope and healing.

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!



**City
Rescue
Mission**

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