

2019

IMPACT REPORT



San Diego 
RESCUE
MISSION



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

DONNIE DEE

hello.

What's your first thought when you see someone living on the streets? Do you assume they have a drug or alcohol problem, mental health issues or maybe they just don't want to work? These were some of my thoughts before I became President/CEO of the San Diego Rescue Mission. I am certain that part of God's plan for bringing me to the Rescue Mission was to change the way that I think about those experiencing homelessness.

Jesus tells us in Mark 12:30-31 to **"love God and love our neighbors"**. The next time you see someone experiencing homelessness let's see them as our neighbor. I challenge you to say "hello", share your name and tell them about the Rescue Mission.

We can change the state of homelessness in San Diego but we first have to change the way we think about those experiencing homelessness. Let's work together to show our neighbors that we care. The information and stories in this Impact Report will show you how you are helping change lives. Thank you for your friendship and support.

A handwritten signature in orange ink, appearing to read 'Donnie Dee', located at the bottom left of the page.

5 goals FOR EVERY STUDENT

one life at a time

ENCOUNTER GOD

EXPERIENCE RECOVERY

ENGAGE JOB TRAINING & PLACEMENT

ESTABLISH HOUSING

ENLIST SUPPORT NETWORK

3

THE STORIES OF THREE CHANGED LIVES

What does transformation look like? Jessica, Marissa, and Patrick are three graduates from Mission Academy, our three-semester program designed for students to learn the life skills they need to be successful and to stay off the streets permanently. Follow the stories of the lives you've supported in 2019.



jessica

WOMEN'S PROGRAM

A portrait of a woman with light brown hair tied back, smiling and looking slightly to the left. She has a nose ring and a small lip ring. She is wearing a white and black striped shirt. There are tattoos on her neck and chest, including a star and a rose. The background is a solid blue color.

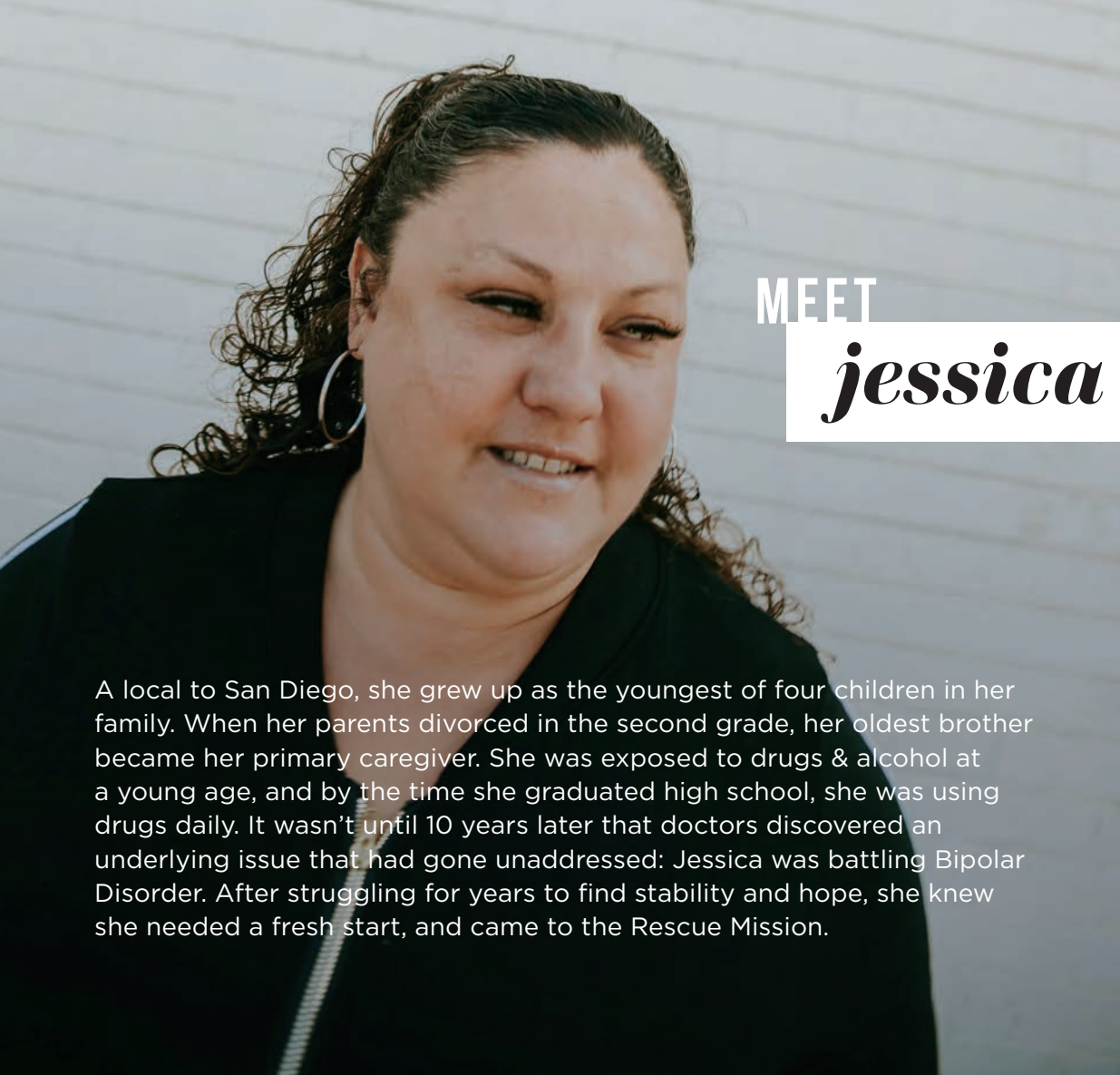
marissa

WOMEN &
CHILDREN'S
PROGRAM

A portrait of a man with a full beard and glasses, looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a dark green jacket over a light blue button-down shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

patrick

MEN'S PROGRAM



MEET *jessica*

A local to San Diego, she grew up as the youngest of four children in her family. When her parents divorced in the second grade, her oldest brother became her primary caregiver. She was exposed to drugs & alcohol at a young age, and by the time she graduated high school, she was using drugs daily. It wasn't until 10 years later that doctors discovered an underlying issue that had gone unaddressed: Jessica was battling Bipolar Disorder. After struggling for years to find stability and hope, she knew she needed a fresh start, and came to the Rescue Mission.

1

ENCOUNTER GOD: I never had a personal relationship with God or even knew about him. I never even had a Bible before coming here. The devotions and the chapels were easy to apply to my life. I would hear and be able to relate, like “that’s me!”. Through my relationship with Christ, I know my mental illness doesn’t define me now. I’m more than my diagnosis. It’s just amazing. When I think about it, I want to start crying.

2

EXPERIENCE RECOVERY: God has transformed my life. He’s removed my addiction. He’s taken away even the desire to use. I’ve never been able to stay sober because I had to do it on my own. Not like now. I don’t even want to feed my body the bad stuff.

3

ENGAGE JOB TRAINING: I've been taking certification classes through the San Diego College of Continuing Education for Business Information. My main goal is to stay healthy, and that includes maintaining my mental health. The Department of Rehabilitation is helping, and my advocate is really supportive of that. I can still use these services even when I graduate and I move out of here. It will be an ongoing process. I've grown a lot in my awareness of my mental health in this last year, and know I need to take baby steps to achieve my goals.

4

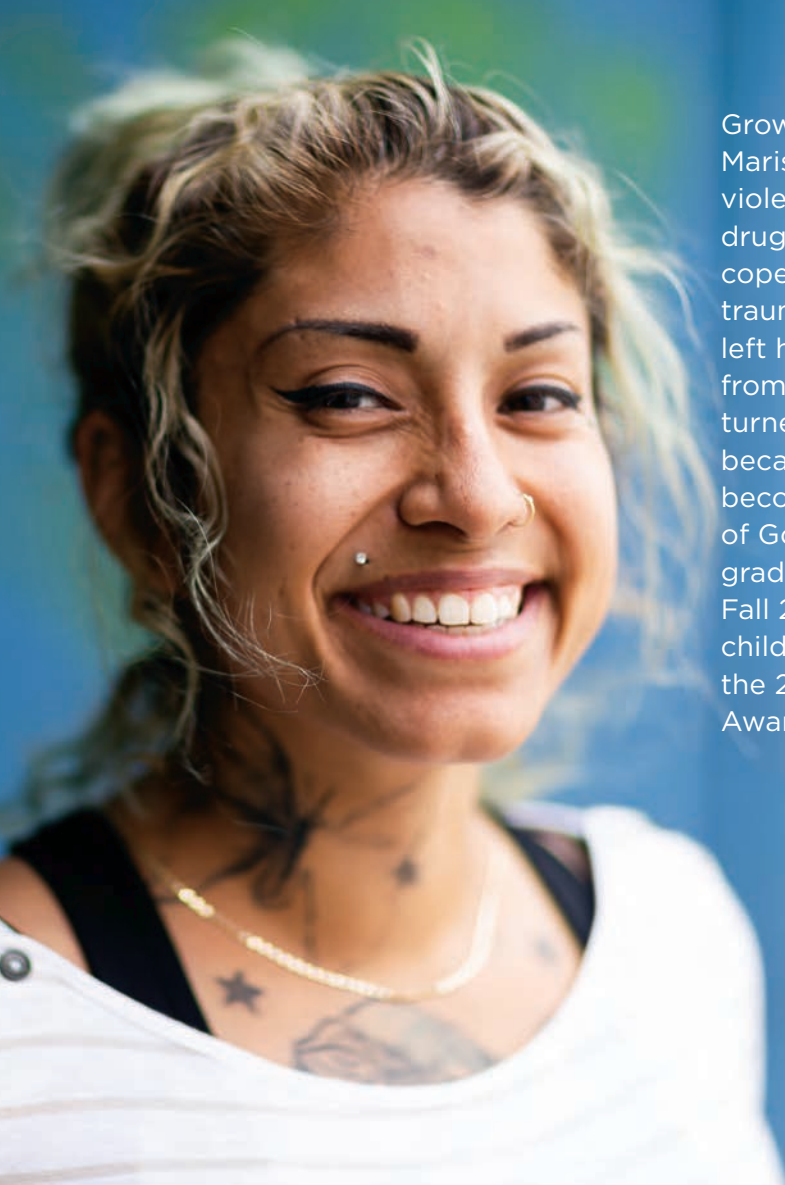
HOUSING: My advocate has helped me to know my options. I've been doing a lot of research and applying for everything possible. My family & I have forgiven each other so I now have them to fall back on. But, Graduate Housing at the Rescue Mission gives me time to find the best option for me.



5

ENLIST SUPPORT NETWORK: I've been able to find a home church and having a personal relationship with God has transformed my life. I don't only have a circle of close friends around me, I now have God to help lead me and encourage me. I also attend Celebrate Recovery and NA Meetings. Both of these groups have become like family to me and it helps to know I'm supported along the way.

*“I know my mental illness
doesn't define me now”*



Growing up in south San Diego, Marissa's childhood was filled with violence and abuse. She turned to drugs and crime at young age to cope with the pain of childhood trauma. After a high-speed chase left her in prison and disconnected from her three children, Marissa turned her life over to God and became determined that she would become the mother and woman of God she was meant to be. She graduated from our Program in Fall 2019, is now reunited with her children and is also the recipient of the 2019 Barbara Lee Scholarship Award.

MEET

marissa

1

ENCOUNTER GOD: Before God, I was full of vengeance and hatred. Now, my mind has been renewed and God has set me free. I'm not who I once was. I have this confidence knowing who my Father is. Knowing that even though things will change and things will happen, He's going to get me through it, even when it feels impossible. I feel confident and comfortable in His wings. I know He's going to stay faithful.

2

EXPERIENCE RECOVERY: Recovery was soulful for me here. It fed me emotionally, physically and spiritually. Now, its feeding my soul, mind and body. I used to hold onto reservations, places or people. But today, I feel free because I've surrender to God. I know I stand on a solid foundation that's not going back and I refuse in the name of Jesus to ever go back to using drugs.

3

ENGAGE JOB TRAINING:

The Rescue Mission has provided me a tutor and is helping me get my GED. Now I'm focusing on my getting employment. My Advocate helps walk me through each next step. He's helped me get my resume ready and is helping point me in the right direction to reach my goals as I'm applying for jobs. I know that my background and my past isn't going to prevent from getting the employment I need because God is going to make a way for me.

4

HOUSING: My prayers are to have a place of my own for me and my children. I don't want or need anything big. When I was in jail, I had this little tiny window. Now I'm here and I have this nice big window and I'm grateful. So God continues to move me up. The next window I have is going to be mine. I don't always know the next step but I'm fighting for it and I know God knows what I need.

5

ENLIST SUPPORT NETWORK:

My community now means new healthy friendships. I have a great Pastor and Church family who support me. They are so welcoming - there's no judgement. Being here has shown me discernment on who to allow into my life. Everyone falls - no ones perfect, but who, when they fall, reaches out to the Lord to pick them up? The life I'm building is surrounded by these people.

*"God has saved me.
My mind and heart
have been renewed"*





This is Patrick. He grew up in the beach-culture of Coronado Island. He started working in restaurants in high school where alcohol was always accessible.

Patrick realized his dependence on alcohol when his daughter was born. After losing his job and living on and off the streets for years, his family pleaded with him to get help. Now a year later, Patrick has his parents and daughter back in his life. He is able to dream and plan for the future. He is quickly excelling at a new job, all while remaining sober for the first time in his life.

MEET

patrick

1

ENCOUNTER GOD: Since I've been at the Mission, God has been answering my prayers. Jesus is definitely in my life. I see how God has looked out for me through the years- I've been in so many situations where I should be dead. But God's not done with me yet. That's why I'm here.

2

EXPERIENCE RECOVERY: I've never been able to get sober on my own. I tried other programs and it didn't work. I've been through all the alternatives in San Diego, I know that I don't want to be back where I was. They say 'take it one day at a time,' and for me, I just have to remember where I was before. I'm 40 years old, I don't want to go back to where I was. I made a decision when I got here and will follow through.

3

ENGAGE IN JOB TRAINING: The Rescue Mission has given me the opportunity to just be: to get my bearings, get my head back on my shoulders, and get my sense of self-dignity back. I was pretty close to rock bottom. The Mission gave me the stability to get back in the workforce. I'm able to work and not worry about rent or other responsibilities right away, saving money and utilizing the resources available to me. I'm able to focus and accomplish my goals each day.

4

HOUSING: When you're homeless, it's survival mode. Where am I going to charge my phone? Where am I going to eat? You're freezing in the cold and tired because you can't sleep. Now I can dream of a future again. I plan to move into Graduate Housing for the full 6 months so I can continue to focus on my recovery. I'm working toward a promotion at my job so I can increase my cashflow and save up for housing.



5

ENLIST SUPPORT NETWORK:

I have both of my parents back in my life after being estranged from them for over 10 years. Seeing how my daughter has grown so much has motivated me to take care of myself so I can be in her life more. And the staff at the Mission: I know that if I was having a tough day I could come back and talk with anyone here. I have a great support network, especially since I had none when I moved back to San Diego.

1,669

WOMEN & CHILDREN
SERVED IN OUR
EMERGENCY SHELTER

2019 AT A GLANCE

because of you

Your giving is changing lives AND changing the State of homelessness in San Diego. Take a look at the many ways your support is making a difference in the lives of men, women and children experiencing homelessness.



92%

OF RECENT PROGRAM
GRADUATES HAVE
NOT EXPERIENCED
HOMELESSNESS
SINCE COMPLETING
THE PROGRAM

150,000+

NIGHTS OF SHELTER
PROVIDED FOR
OVER 400 MEN,
WOMEN & CHILDREN



385,000+

MEALS SERVED
WITH 2,374,365
POUNDS OF
DONATED FOOD



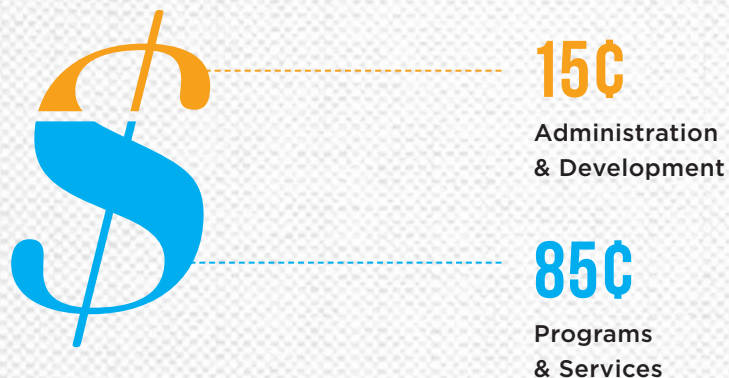
11,500

HOMELESS CARE
PACKS DISTRIBUTED
ON THE STREETS
OF SAN DIEGO

financial summary

We are committed to the highest level of financial integrity and are dedicated to ensuring that we maximize the use of every dollar to benefit those we care for.

WHERE EACH DOLLAR GOES



INCOME*

Donated Income	\$7,635,464
Business Revenue	\$2,692,159
Material Donations	\$1,976,878
Food Donations	\$6,660,951
Total Income	\$18,965,452

EXPENSE*

Programs	\$15,878,632
Administrative	\$964,867
Fundraising	\$1,926,827
Total Expenses	\$18,770,326

*Fiscal year October 1, 2018 through September 31, 2019. These numbers are unaudited. We receive an annual independent financial audit at the end of every year. Tax ID 95-1874073

A low-angle photograph of two young women embracing warmly. The woman on the right, with long brown hair, is smiling and has her eyes closed. The woman on the left has dark curly hair and is wearing a red hair clip. They are standing in front of a dark brick wall. A white text box is overlaid on the image.

*Thank you for helping change **one life at a time***





sdrescue.org • (619) 687-3720

The San Diego Rescue Mission is a non-profit recovery and rehabilitation center serving thousands of men, women and children experiencing homelessness in San Diego since 1955.