A NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO RESCUE MISSION • FALL 2021

The power of your love... in action



GRATEFUL THROUGH IT ALL: Scott is especially thankful for YOU!

Your compassion & support change lives.







3 "I don't feel empty anymore."



I DON'T HAVE ANY EMPTINESS

in me anymore.



"The power of the Holy Spirit is just phenomenal. It can change people's lives... it's changing mine."

Scott was forced to grow up too fast. "My father left my family, and my mom wasn't mentally stable... I was taking care of myself and my little sister since I was 13."

Struggling with the pain of this neglect and abandonment, Scott turned to substances, and eventually lived on the streets as an adult.

"It was lonely being homeless. You don't feel like you're worth anything to anybody. It's a pretty bad feeling."

Then one day, while he was wandering the streets of San Diego, Scott met a gentleman who works in our outreach program. They started talking, and Scott was intrigued by what he heard... "He told me about the San Diego Rescue Mission. Asked if I would be willing to learn about Jesus. That was something that had never been offered to me before, so I thought I'd give it a shot."

Accepting that offer and coming to the San Diego Rescue Mission led to a life that Scott never knew was possible. In our care, he surrendered his heart to Jesus and found healing from the hurt and pain he had carried all his life.

Through counseling and classes, Scott was able to overcome the resentment and abandonment issues left over from his childhood. He was able to see how his mother's neglect after his father left led to false feelings that he was unloved and unwanted.

"It changed my life knowing what God did for us. I'm the happiest person in the world right now, and I try to spread that around as much as I can."

Today, Scott takes courses at a community college and serves as an intern at the Rescue Mission to help others. He's joyfully and patiently waiting on the Lord to guide his steps.

As Scott celebrates this Thanksgiving, he feels incredibly thankful for your compassion and support – and how it's given him a fresh start in life. "I want to thank the Rescue Mission and everybody involved. I don't know if you realize how appreciated you are from people like me." A MESSAGE FROM DONNIE DEE

GIVING THANKS FOR ALL GOD'S BLESSINGS

It might surprise you that in another year filled with hardships and uncertainty, the overwhelming messages I hear are ones of gratitude and hope.

Despite the challenges we still face as a community – or perhaps because of them – we remain connected to each other in a spirit of love and generosity. **Your care and compassion have never been more evident here at the San Diego Rescue Mission than right now, as we prepare for the Thanksgiving season.**

You have stepped up to help our hurting neighbors as God has called us to do. Provided nourishing meals. Safe shelter. Life-restoring guidance. More than that, you've prayed for our ministry and guests. Encouraged others to join our mission to transform lives. Your love has made it possible for hearts to be restored and lives rebuilt. Now that's something to celebrate!

As we count our blessings this Thanksgiving, you and other faithful friends are at the top of my list. As you enjoy the holiday season with your loved ones, both near and far away, I pray God will fill your heart with joy, peace and the comfort of knowing that lives have been changed thanks to your kindness.

I am grateful for you... today and every day. God bless!



Donnie Dee President/CEO

2021 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

It's been <u>another</u> challenging year for so many of our neighbors...

96,800 Meals Needed by Thanksgiving

Many of our neighbors are still struggling... trying to get back on their feet... trying not to lose hope. Today, YOU can help them!

For just \$2.05, you can provide a nourishing meal for a hungry neighbor this Thanksgiving season. And that meal opens the door to so much more...

- Safe, welcoming shelter
- Warm clothing, coats & shoes



- Classes, job training and assistance to find permanent housing
- A chance to experience God's love that changes lives

YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE AN IMPACT!

Please – help us be ready to serve thousands of meals to our homeless and hurting neighbors during the busy holiday season! **Rush your 2021 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today.**

Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

Give online anytime at SanDiegoRescueMission.org.

READ SCOTT'S STORY TO LEARN MORE!

Psst... don't miss out! Follow us! Like us! Be in the know!

Ever read an email or a post that made your day? Then you should **follow us on social media!** It's a great way to be lifted up by seeing how your partnership transforms lives – and connecting digitally helps save money on mailings.

Another great way to see your impact is to **sign up for our emails!**

You'll stay up-to-date on transformation videos, urgent needs, special events and more. Tell your friends about us too, and encourage them to be part of the celebration this Thanksgiving!



SanDiegoRescueMission.org



RESTORING DIGNITY ONE SHOWER AT A TIME

You can see it on their faces... the renewed hope and gratitude after taking a shower. It's like the warm water washes away their cares and gives our homeless neighbors a whole new attitude.

People living on the streets or in their cars don't have many opportunities to shower. That's why we partner with Humanity Showers to provide weekly showers at the Bread of Life Center in Oceanside. To expand the shower



services, we now have a customized, portable shower unit that will be towed by a San Diego Rescue Mission van to meet our hurting neighbors right on their own turf.



Not only is it filled with all the necessary supplies such as towels and soap... it's filled with hope! In addition to immediate hygiene services, it provides an opportunity to build trust and relationships. A checkpoint where we can assess someone's situation and refer them to other services as needed, including our residential recovery program.

Thank you for giving our neighbors another way to experience God's goodness!

Calling all VOLUNTEERS

Put your God-given talents to work at the San Diego Rescue Mission to help serve and care for the men, women and children who will turn to us this fall. **You can even volunteer remotely!**

Contact us today to see how you can help... Call: **Debbie Krakauer at (619) 819-1897** | Email: **dkrakauer@sdrescue.org** Or visit **SanDiegoRescueMission.org** to find out more or sign up now!

