A NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO RESCUE MISSION • SUMMER 2023

The po<mark>wer of</mark> your <mark>love...</mark> in action

THANK YOU FOR LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR, ROBERTA,

and giving her hope for the future!





Your love will transform lives this summer!

2 Celebrating new beginnings

3 "God is working in my life."

A meal for \$2.44 is an easy way to **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!**

YOUR LOVE

will transform lives this summer!

Your gift today provides:



98-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Support our Summer Campaign to restore hearts & rebuild families in San Diego County!

Celebrating new beginnings... **THANKS TO YOU!** We're proved of our recent Mission Academy graduates!

We're proud of our recent Mission Academy graduates!

It's a special time at the Rescue Mission as **we celebrate new graduates from our long-term residential program**.

After 12 months of Christ-centered counseling, life-skills classes and job training, this is only the beginning. <u>Thanks to your support and God's grace,</u> <u>they have a new life of HOPE</u>.

As our graduates return to our community, please keep them in your prayers. And thank you for your continued support, as more people walk through our doors to start their own journey of transformation.

Want to learn more about our recovery services for men, women and families? Visit **sdrescue.org**.



A Message from DONNIE DEE

Thank you for loving your neighbors as yourself

We all need a helping hand from time to time. No one makes it through life without a little care and compassion along the way. That's what loving your neighbors is all about, right?

And yet, you and I know that God's Word has a way of challenging us to go further... of stretching our faithfulness beyond what we thought possible. The Lord makes the impossible POSSIBLE at the Rescue Mission, thanks to the generosity of friends like YOU.

Now, as the summer months approach, I hope we can count on you during our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign.

Time and time again in Scripture, we're told not just to "love your neighbor" but to "love your neighbor **as yourself**." That's a big difference! It's making the needs of others a priority equal with your own from the beginning.

I'm so grateful for friends like you who give in this way to help men, women and children in San Diego County who are experiencing homelessness. And I ask for your continued support through the summer, when rising temperatures can be especially hard for people who live on the streets.

Thank you for offering a helping hand to your neighbors most in need – and for continuing to love them **as yourself**.





Donnie Dee President/CEO



B efore coming to the Rescue Mission, Roberta had reached an all-time low. She felt stuck in a toxic, abusive relationship. Her health was failing. And sadly, to escape the stress of this difficult situation, she relied on substances to cope.

Roberta has diabetes, and at the height of her addiction, she struggled to take her insulin shots. "I couldn't even see or walk straight," she says.

Thankfully, a friend brought her to the hospital to receive critical medical attention. But after a week there, she found herself suddenly homeless when her health stabilized and she was able to be released.

The hospital recommended she try the San Diego Rescue Mission. **"At that point, I was just hoping for a warm bed, a hot shower, food to eat and peace of mind,"** she says. At the Rescue Mission, she found all of that... and more through our Mission Academy recovery program!

I am thankful for Mission Academy because it helped me get healthy and changed my life. For the first time in a long time, Roberta has access to a primary doctor who helps her manage her diabetes. "Being at the Rescue Mission helped me obtain medical help and be consistent with it," she says.

Roberta has also grown spiritually through the program and strengthened her self-confidence. "I look forward to going to chapel here, because I feel God's presence with me," she says. "And the job training has made me feel like I'm important... that I can do a job and actually be good at it."

Today, Roberta is working at a local food pantry – a job she heard about thanks to the Rescue Mission! She recently graduated from our Mission Academy program, and our staff has assisted her in finding affordable housing.

Roberta is thankful for the way you have answered God's calling to love your neighbor as yourself – and have helped her learn how to love herself. "I've developed a routine for living a healthy life, and I'm excited! I can't wait to take what I've learned here with me."

"Serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" - Galatians 5:13b-14

Help your neighbors BEAT THE HEAT this summer!

You know how hot it can get in San Diego County in summertime... now imagine being out on the streets in this heat. **Our homeless neighbors are at risk of heat stroke, sunburn and dehydration or even death – especially those who are most vulnerable**, like seniors or families with children.

But this summer, YOU can help! You can show our hurting neighbors they haven't been forgotten by providing them with essentials such as:



Cool water to drink & nourishing meals



Clean clothes & socks – our most requested item!

Refreshing showers & safe shelter



Sunscreen & hygiene items

In addition to these basics, you'll welcome them to the Rescue Mission where they can recover and rebuild their lives. You provide medical care to treat any health challenges. Faith-based counseling to heal from past trauma. Housing assistance and job training to promote independence. Everything they need for healthier, more stable lives!

To see how you can help meet our neighbors' most urgent summer needs, visit **sdrescue.org/needslist**!



You're helping care for bodies and minds

Men, women and children come to the Rescue Mission with a variety of challenges, and we're committed to addressing their unique needs. For some, that means a warm meal and safe place to rest. Others struggle with addiction or domestic violence situations. Some are desperate for medical care.

But many arrive with mental illness and trauma from their past.

That's why – in addition to helping students and guests heal physically – we also help them heal psychologically. **We offer Christ-centered counseling, referrals to healthcare providers and other resources for long-term recovery**.

It's just another way your gifts and prayers help address the complex issues of poverty and homelessness in San Diego County. Thank you for your support!

Want to learn about other life-changing services you help provide? Read about our programs at **sdrescue.org** today!