

MISSION *in* MOTION

A NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO RESCUE MISSION • SUMMER 2024

The power of
your love...
in action

The love **YOU** share

gives neighbors like
Gabriel hope for a
better life...





A meal for \$2.72 is an easy way to **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!**



A Message from DONNIE DEE

Thank you for **REMEMBERING** your neighbors this summer

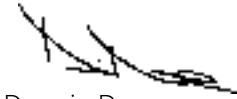
What does summer mean to you? Family vacations... lazy mornings... afternoons at the park or by the pool. As a kid, you probably remember time standing still over summer. Yet, now these months seem to be busier than ever...

Between work, family and community responsibilities, endless "to-do" lists crowd our days. In some ways, the "lazy days of summer" seem like a thing of the past.

At the San Diego Rescue Mission, the summer season brings its own unique challenges, as donations tend to drop off. At the same time, every summer, I am even more grateful than usual for donors like you, who remember the needs of your homeless neighbors – and respond with a heart of compassion. That is why I need your help.

As we enter **our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign, I hope I can count on you. Please give generously each month of this season** to help the men, women and children in San Diego County who are experiencing homelessness. Your support will help care for neighbors seeking assistance downtown or at our Navigation Center in Oceanside!

Thank you for remembering to share love with your neighbors in need this summer – no matter how leisurely or lively these months may be.



Donnie Dee
President/CEO

“As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
- John 13:34b-35

WE'RE ADDING MORE SHELTER BEDS... THANKS TO YOU!



More people are experiencing homelessness than ever before. To meet the crisis, it's critical that we provide more shelter beds to get people off the streets immediately.

Because of you, last August we opened our 50-bed Navigation Center in Oceanside. Hundreds of people have had a safe place to sleep, hot showers, nourishing meals and access to resources. Weekly meetings with case managers have helped guests identify options for rehabilitation and stable housing.

Now, we're opening our 162-bed Navigation Center this summer. Located in National City, it will serve men, women and families from across San Diego County.

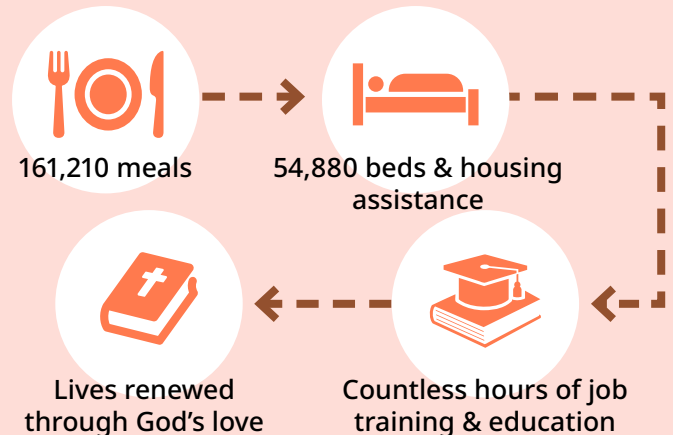


TOGETHER, WE ARE CHANGING THE STATE OF HOMELESSNESS.

Learn more at sdrescue.org.

TRANSFORMING LIVES

is possible this summer... **thanks to YOU!**



At every step of their journey... YOUR gift helps change their lives.

Support our Summer Campaign to restore hearts & rebuild families!

Give now! sdrescue.org



“I know now
who God made
me to be,
**and I know
I’m loved.”**



Gabriel was born into a hopeless situation. His mother was a teenager who was struggling with addiction. “I was surrounded by abusive men, we didn’t have enough clothes and food, and there were drugs around constantly.”

As he got older, he started using them to cope with his heartbreaking circumstances. “I was always alone... I didn’t care about anyone because I didn’t have anyone who cared about me.”

Through his teenage years and into adulthood, his hopeless cycle continued. “I couldn’t pay rent or keep a job. I’d see friends working, making money, building lives, and I was still homeless on food stamps.”

He was desperate for a way out. “I wanted something better for myself. I wanted to be somebody – I just needed a chance to find hope.”

At the San Diego Rescue Mission, he found the hope

he’d been desperate for. “They welcomed me with open arms, and told me ‘Go ahead, rest, brother. You’re in the house of God.’”

In Mission Academy, Gabriel worked through the pain and trauma that fueled his addictions, and his job training helped him find a sense of belonging and purpose. “Working at the front desk, I felt like I was taking care of my family... It felt good to give back. And it’s preparing me to find a job and build a life when I leave the Rescue Mission.”

Gabriel now has strength for his future because of your heart of compassion for him and other neighbors in need. Because you chose to share God’s love, he has a path forward in life.

He has even trained for and completed a half marathon!

“I have hope now, I have a future. And I want to share my story with other people, to tell them that anything is possible. I was out on the streets for so long, feeling hopeless and unloved. If I could find freedom and peace, anybody can.”

**“I had no hope
and no plan for
my future... I was
so broken.”**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN OCEANSIDE!

Do you have a heart to serve?
Come volunteer at our Oceanside
Navigation Center!

From serving meals and keeping our resource room organized, to participating in fun activities for men, women and children staying at the 30-day Center – **you can make this a meaningful and memorable summer for our guests!**



To get involved, individuals or groups should contact Ana Rees-Thomas, our Oceanside Activities and Volunteer Coordinator.

✉ Email anareesthomas@sdrescue.org.



Strengthen team bonds by giving back! Is your business interested in a team-building volunteer event?

✉ Email Jazmin Ernest at jernest@sdrescue.org.

Scan code to view
current volunteer
opportunities online.



Healing bodies and minds... thanks to you



At the San Diego Rescue Mission, we believe mental health is just as

important as physical health for those we serve. Your support not only helps them heal physically, but also psychologically – which is essential for addressing past trauma and the root causes of poverty and homelessness.

Did you know? Every person staying at the Rescue Mission is offered counseling services by our trained therapists, whether they are a student in Mission Academy or a guest in one of our Navigation Centers! We even offer family therapy for the parents and children in our care.

Thank you for making a holistic approach to recovery and life transformation possible for our community!

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