

# MISSION *in* MOTION

A NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO RESCUE MISSION • HOLIDAY 2024

The power of  
your love...  
in action

THANK YOU FOR  
GIVING ELLA

*a life-changing*

GIFT THIS

*Christmas!*



# "I am so very blessed."



Ella's parents battled mental illness, so she was adopted and raised by her grandparents. But that environment was troubling as well. "There was a lot of substance abuse in the home," Ella says. "But no one would talk about it and eventually I just buried it."

Her pent-up pain and confusion led to her own cycle of self-destruction. "I was drawn to my partners because there was something about them that was familiar since childhood – they were closeted abusers." When her son's father became a threat to their well-being, she knew she had to leave to protect her little boy. The 6-year-old went to live with his aunt. But Ella became homeless... her drug use escalated... and so did her anger at what her life had become.

***"I was tired of being tired – of waiting, waiting, waiting for someone to help me. Finally I helped myself."***

Ella enrolled in rehab and went to church for the first time in years. There she met a man who had worked for the Rescue Mission, and he encouraged her to join our recovery program.

In our faith-based environment, Ella felt a sense of community she'd never experienced before. Through therapy and prayer, she feels God healing her anger and pain. "I have received so many blessings that come just at the right time."

In our Mission Academy she embraced our coursework, including budgeting and parenting skills, and received assistance with housing and employment. She joined the Plumbers Union and is looking forward to an apprenticeship to build a stable life for herself and her son.

**This Christmas, Ella is experiencing all the joy this season has to offer – because YOU believed in the power of a fresh start and the promise of God's unending love.** "Through the grace of God, I am sober... my son has been returned to me... I'm back to working. We are so very, very blessed."

***"The Rescue Mission brought me A SENSE OF PEACE AND STILLNESS THAT I DESPERATELY NEEDED."***



*You help make  
Christmas  
miracles possible*

Get ready... the busiest time of the year is upon us! I imagine your calendar is filling up quickly. But **before the year ends, please save a few moments for our neighbors who are homeless.**

I know you agree no one should live in a car... in a tent... or outside in the cold. Certainly not a child. Being homeless means living with constant fear and uncertainty. It's a terrible way to spend any day... much less Christmas Day. If there's anyone in need of a miracle, it's them.

You can make a Christmas miracle possible for a neighbor who is homeless by giving \$2.72 to provide a hot meal at the San Diego Rescue Mission. It may not seem like much – but each meal you provide can be someone's first step toward recovery and a new life. Where you see a meal, a hurting neighbor sees a miracle.

With your support, no man, woman or child in San Diego County has to be hungry or homeless this Christmas. People like Ella (whose story is on page 3) can find the miracle of hot meals, safe shelter and Christ-centered care at the Rescue Mission this holiday season... and all year round... thanks to you!



Donnie Dee  
President/CEO

# YOU MAKE CHRISTMAS AT THE RESCUE MISSION SPECIAL!

**Christmas Morning:** Thanks to holiday donation drives and the generosity of people like you, our Rescue Mission guests experience the joy of waking up to Christmas gifts.



**Holiday Feast:** Your gifts help provide a delicious Christmas meal for our residents and hungry people in our community – for many, the first holiday feast they've enjoyed in years.

*Thanks to you, our neighbors don't have to spend this Christmas on the streets. Your support provides gifts, hot meals and a reminder that Jesus is the reason for the season!*

## \$100,000 Year-End Matching Challenge DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!



BIG NEWS to end the year: **When you give between now and December 31, your generosity will go 2x as far** to provide food, shelter and life-changing care for our homeless neighbors!

**DEADLINE TO GIVE: 12/31**

- ✉ Return your special year-end gift in the reply card today.
- 📄 Give online at [sdrescue.org](https://sdrescue.org).

**THANK YOU  
for doubling your  
impact during  
our Matching  
Challenge!**



# SPONSOR Spotlight

## Thank You, Axos Bank!

San Diego Rescue Mission would like to recognize and thank Axos Bank for being one of our most generous and faithful supporters!



In addition to being a Hero Partner – our top corporate sponsorship tier – their employees stepped up to offer over 300 hours of volunteer assistance in 2023 alone. They hosted two Monday Night at the Rescue Mission events and joined our street outreach teams. They also sponsored and volunteered their assistance for our mobile shower trailer events, our Holiday Meal Outreach and our Corporate Golf Challenge fundraiser.

For the past two years they have been providing on-site six-week Financial Literacy classes to Mission Academy students. And this year they will once again be among the sponsors for our Christmas Community Outreach meal.

Corporate sponsors like Axos Bank are vital to our ministry. We thank them for their partnership and friendship and pray for their continued support!



Find out more about how your business can get involved as a corporate sponsor! Visit [sdrescue.org/corporate](https://sdrescue.org/corporate).

# Give a meal. Spark a miracle!



It's hard to find a reason to celebrate Christmas when you're homeless or hungry. **YOU can give JOY and spark a miracle** with a gift to lead someone to join our long-term residential program and experience a new life! It all starts by providing a meal for \$2.72... because where you see a meal, they see a miracle.



**\$2.72**  
for 1 hot meal



**CAN SPARK  
A MIRACLE**



**That leads  
to new life!**

## Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!