

MISSION *in* MOTION

A NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO RESCUE MISSION • SUMMER 2025

The power of
your love...
in action



**Your love
helps Anthony**
*know he is
not alone...*



LOVE  YOUR
NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN

San Diego
RESCUE  MISSION
SAVING LIVES SINCE 1955

**DON'T
MISS...**

2 YOU can show a hurting neighbor they're not alone!

3 "I finally have a life and a future."

4 Mental Health & Homelessness



**“I FINALLY HAVE
A LIFE AND A FUTURE.”**

Anthony was abused by his family his whole life. Through the trauma, he tried to stay true to his gentle nature, but feelings of anger eventually took over. “I began smoking and bullying other kids at school, and that wasn’t me. I wasn’t like that, and I hated myself for it.”

At age 23, he’d had enough. He realized that to have the life he wanted, he had to leave. Anthony left home for a fresh start, but without a support system, he quickly blew through his savings and began experiencing homelessness. Feeling hopeless, he turned to substance abuse to ease his pain. When he was sober, he struggled with thoughts of suicide.

“A few weeks into being homeless, I was assaulted and robbed,” he says. **“I said, ‘If you’re going to kill me, just do it. I’m sick of this. End my pain.’”**

Fortunately, Anthony survived the attack. Shortly after, he learned about our 30-day

shelter location in Oceanside – and his life began to change.

When Anthony came to the Mission Academy program, he was hungry, exhausted and in desperate need of human connection. “One of the staff hugged me, and I started bawling my eyes out,” he says. “I felt joy for the first time in my life. I was so relieved. I finally felt at peace.”

Over the next few days, his strength was restored through nourishing meals and restful sleep. With the support he’d always longed for, he began to think about his future. **Anthony immediately knew what he wanted to do: further his education.** He began working toward his high school diploma and plans to join the Air Force.

“I don’t have to worry about my past anymore,” he says. “I can’t wait to see what God has in store for my future.”

Thank you for loving neighbors like Anthony “as you’ve loved yourself.” Your



kindness has reminded him that he is not alone and that a better life is possible! “I’m thankful for the Rescue Mission because I’m able to finally have a life and a future. I’m able to be ambitious. I’m proud to say that I’m a Christian.”

“I had nothing left... no family. I didn’t want to be homeless.”



A meal served with LOVE for a neighbor in need... just \$2.72!



A Message from DONNIE DEE

You're sharing **God's love** this summer.

I'm constantly amazed by how special our community is. You see for yourself local acts of care and compassion. When neighbors feel lonely and forgotten, we step up to show love. It's what makes San Diego County strong.

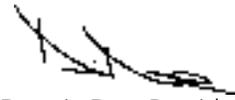
But people like YOU make the greatest difference... generous friends who go above and beyond to show love to neighbors in need. That's why I know I can count on your support over these crucial summer months – when so many local men, women and children remain hurting, hungry and homeless.

This month we're kickstarting **our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign** to help meet the unique needs of our guests this summer season – like shelter from the heat, nourishing meals and clean water. Your generosity helps

provide this immediate care at our 30-day transitional shelters... and opens the door to more services that transform lives.

Each month of the summer is an opportunity for you to respond with a generous gift that reflects the words of Matthew 22:39... to *"love your neighbor as yourself."*

Your support will show struggling people in our community like Anthony that they are never alone. Read his story on page 3 of this newsletter – then consider how you can best respond to help more people like him this summer. We'll be so grateful.



Donnie Dee, President/CEO

"Love your neighbor as yourself..."

- Matthew 22:39



Your monthly gift **TRANSFORMS LIVES ALL YEAR LONG!**

Our partners who give monthly help ensure the San Diego Rescue Mission is ready to help anyone who comes through our doors, month after month.

This special group of monthly giving partners – called The Home Team – provides reliable, ongoing financial support to care for our neighbors who are homeless and hurting *all year long*. You're invited to join them!

As a **Home Team monthly giving partner**, you'll help provide a steady foundation of transformation for men, women and children working to rebuild their lives, restore their families and return to our San Diego community.



Use the form included to become a monthly giving partner today.

YOU CAN SHOW A HOMELESS NEIGHBOR THEY'RE NOT ALONE!



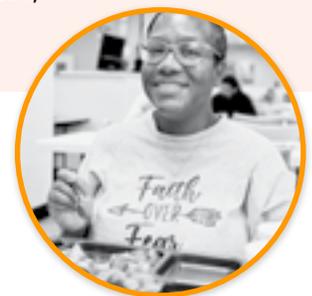
It starts with a meal...



and ends with a life renewed!

Your gift of \$2.72 provides a hot, nourishing meal – and can lead to other life-changing services like shelter and housing assistance, Christ-centered counsel and recovery.

Give to our Love Your Neighbor summer campaign... and show local people who are homeless and hurting that you care.



Give now!
sdrescue.org

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Thank you, PADRES!



The San Diego Padres are making a difference off the field, shining a light on people facing homelessness in South County. Recently, **residents of our South County Lighthouse 30-Day emergency shelter got a surprise visit from seven Padres players,**

including third baseman Manny Machado!

As part of their "Thank You, SD" community tour, the players visited our 162-bed facility to see how The Padres Foundation's **\$350,000 donation** is making an impact.

The players put together "I See You Kits" with hygiene essentials for people living on the streets and signed autographs for the residents.

With continued support from the Padres and faithful donors like you, the Lighthouse is a beacon of hope in the fight against homelessness in San Diego County.



Scan the code to learn about the **Manny Machado mural in the Lighthouse community center.**

Mental Health & Homelessness:

An Issue We Can't Ignore

Did you know? In 2024 your gifts funded 44,186 hours of therapy, personal growth classes & Bible studies! At the San Diego Rescue Mission, we believe addressing guests' mental health is as important as providing physical and spiritual renewal.

From individual and family therapy to group classes on topics such as anger management, our trauma-informed approach helps individuals heal emotionally and mentally. This care is critical for helping them overcome homelessness permanently and rebuild their lives.

Your faithful support makes Christ-centered counseling, treatment referrals and recovery resources possible for our community. Thank you!

Want to learn about other life-changing services you help provide?

Read about our programs at sdrescue.org.

