MISSION in MOTION

A NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO RESCUE MISSION • HOLIDAY 2026

The power of your love... in action

NORA HAS *Hope* THIS *Christmas*, THANKS TO YOU!



San Diego Rescue Mission
SAVING LIVES SINCE 1955

DON'T MISS...

2 Share the gift of hope!

3 "I'm still growing every day."

4 Christmas Wish List

A Message From
OUR CEO DONNIE DEE

Sharing the gift of hope this *Christmas*

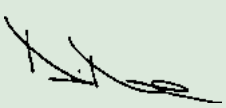
On the night of His birth, Jesus' family was turned away because there was "no room at the inn." I find it so profound to think that they experienced the same fear and uncertainty our guests face when they have nowhere else to turn.

Here at the San Diego Rescue Mission, we are committed to welcoming and caring for every hurting person who comes through our doors. Yet many of our guests have endured years of homelessness, poverty and hardship that have left them feeling forgotten and alone.

During the holidays, friends like you help share God's compassion and remind them they are seen and deeply valued. Your gifts provide hot meals, safe shelter and recovery support that become meaningful expressions of God's love and care in their lives. Above all, you give the gift of hope and a second chance during these dark winter months.

This Christmas, I invite you to share love and grace with neighbors in need – like Nora, whose story you'll find on the next page. Through your generosity, you'll open a door when so many others are closed to them – and let them know that there is room for them here.

Thank you, and may God bless you throughout Christmas and into the New Year.



Donnie Dee
President/CEO



12 DAYS OF GIVING BACK

What better time to experience the joy of giving than the Christmas season! It's also a wonderful time to teach children the importance of giving, or to partner with a friend or family member to give back.

Get inspired to share the blessing of Christmas with these ideas for **12 Days of Giving Back**:

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
Provide Needed Food*	Donate Gifts from our Christmas List*	Donate Needed Hygiene Items
DAY 4	**DAY 5**	**DAY 6**
Write a Christmas Card	Create a Care Package	Help Serve Meals
DAY 7	**DAY 8**	**DAY 9**
Help Sort Donations	Join an Event at the Rescue Mission	Invite a Friend to Church
DAY 10	**DAY 11**	**DAY 12**
Fundraise at Your Church or School	Pray for Families at the Rescue Mission	Share an Encouraging Word

** See needed items at **sdrescue.org/currentneeds***

To learn more about ways you can share the peace and hope of Christmas with Rescue Mission guests, give us a call at **(619) 687-3720**!

Give a meal. Share the gift of *hope!*



For our neighbors experiencing homelessness or hunger, Christmas can feel more lonely than joyful... **but YOU can share the gift of HOPE.** Just $2.83 provides a nourishing Christmas meal – and opens the door to recovery and a fresh start this holiday season.

$2.83 for 1 hot meal → **SHARES HELP & HOPE** → **That leads to new life!**

Please send your Christmas gift today!

“I’m still *growing* every day.”



When Nora moved to California to help care for her daughter’s children while her daughter served in the military, she never expected that what began as an opportunity to support her family would become a season filled with unexpected struggles.

After a serious car accident left her unable to work, she turned to alcohol to cope. Later, she experienced a traumatic assault that left her fearful and struggling to feel safe. “I was scared to sleep at night, so I started using substances that kept me awake and alert.”

The trauma led Nora into escalating addiction, and she eventually became homeless. She found herself surrounded by people and situations that pulled her further from the life she wanted. **“That lifestyle wasn’t me, and I knew I had to get cleaned up.”**

Nora walked through the doors of the San Diego Rescue Mission more than once before she was ready to stay, but she never forgot the opportunity that was offered to her. When she finally entered the program sober and committed to recovery, her transformation began.

At the Rescue Mission, classes such as anger management helped Nora develop healthier ways to relate to others, and she has rebuilt her confidence and strengthened her faith. “Miracles are happening left and right. I don’t have to worry... Everything’s going to be in God’s timing.”

“I surrendered to God, and He’s made a huge change in me.”

Today, Nora is making steady progress. She has restored family relationships and moved into housing near her job, where she is supported by a Christian landlord who runs a charity serving “the least of these.” She’s also taking steps toward much-needed hip surgery while continuing to work, remain sober and pay her own way.

She hopes to use her experiences to encourage others. “I still have a good connection with people experiencing homelessness. I believe it’s my calling to work in outreach and share my story.”

This holiday season, Nora is experiencing the gifts of peace and hope for a brighter future. Thank you for helping to make her new beginning possible! “I’m thankful to the Rescue Mission for loving me unconditionally.”

Our Wish List: *2 Easy Ways YOU Can Help This Christmas!*

GIVE A SPECIAL GIFT

You can make Christmas extra special for men, women and families in our programs by providing these special gift items. Please drop off new items at 120 Elm Street, San Diego... or purchase them directly from our online wish lists at **sdrescue.org/currentneeds**

- ❑ Backpacks
- ❑ Pajamas, size S-3X
- ❑ Sweaters, sweatshirts & sweatpants, size S-3X
- ❑ Wallets & purses
- ❑ Makeup kits & claw hair clips
- ❑ Shaving kits
- ❑ Journals
- ❑ Earbuds/headphones
- ❑ Portable phone chargers
- ❑ Reusable water bottles
- ❑ Sunglasses
- ❑ Excursion tickets (movies, zoo, bowling, etc.)



DONATE GIFT CARDS

Donating gift cards for these merchants helps purchase holiday gifts – and year-round necessities. Please mail or deliver them to **120 Elm Street, San Diego CA 92101.**

WALMART • TARGET • ROSS
DOLLAR TREE • MCDONALD'S

Thank you for making this our best Christmas celebration yet!

YOU CAN END THE YEAR STRONG! 2X YOUR IMPACT

This holiday season, weary neighbors face dark, cold nights. They're at risk of losing hope completely. They long for a helping hand and the chance for a brighter future. **Your gift today goes 2x as far to provide food, housing assistance and life-changing care** for our struggling neighbors – thanks to our $100,000 Year End Matching Challenge.

Make a tax-deductible gift by 12/31! →

Return your special year-end gift in the reply card today.
Give online at **sdrescue.org**.