

# SEARCHLIGHT

*Serving the needs of the homeless in the community since 1971*



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Our website shows how we're helping the needy every day.

Visit us online at

[www.vegasrescue.org](http://www.vegasrescue.org)

to make a donation and learn more about our programs, fundraisers, needs, events and how you can help.



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(702) 382-1766

## Building on a Firm Foundation

For most of Jeff's adult life, he loved building houses. He was good at it — and it was one of his greatest passions. The problem was, his other greatest passions were alcohol and drugs.

"I never felt like I could live up to my parents' expectations of me, so I was never happy with myself. I always had a void to fill and drugs were my escape," says Jeff, 34.

Jeff started building houses right out of high school. Four years later, he was so successful, he started his own construction company. "At the same time," he says, "I was getting drunk

every night and doing a bunch of coke. I was making a lot of money and had everything I needed or wanted."

He managed to get married at age 27, but the marriage was rocky from the start. He soon started using pain pills, meth, and heroin "to deal with my bad marriage." When she kicked him out of the house three years later, he was determined to shoot up as much heroin as possible to stay high as long as possible

"I just didn't care anymore," he recalls. "I left my company, quit working, and started smuggling drugs. I even robbed from my parents and countless friends. Really dumb stuff!"

**"I always had a void to fill and drugs were my escape."**

By January 2014, his addictions started taking a toll on his health. He knew it was time to change and he came to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission. "I was broken," he says. "I saw what I was doing with my life and I broke down crying. I dedicated my life to Christ and started obeying and doing the right things. Before, I was full-on believing the lie about myself. Now I get to live the truth."

Jeff knows all about the importance of a sturdy frame when building a house. He understands that the Las Vegas Rescue Mission is helping him build a strong foundation for his life. "The same passion I put into building houses is the same passion I put into following the Lord," he says.



*Thanks to you, I have a new life built on Jesus Christ.*

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## 2014 BY THE NUMBERS

### OUR DINING HALL

**363,518** meals served

### OUR OVERNIGHT SHELTERS

**56,093** emergency beds provided

### OUR CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

**27,086** individuals helped

### OUR RECOVERY PROGRAM

**323** people given hope

Thank you for the  
GIFT OF HOPE.



## A Message from My Heart . . .

Dear Friend of the Las Vegas Rescue Mission,

“**T**herefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

To me, that’s what Easter and Christ’s resurrection are all about — new creation and new life. New life is possible for everyone who believes. And that’s the cornerstone of everything we do at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission.

You see, every day, 365 days a year, hungry and homeless men, women, and families come to us seeking food, clothing, and shelter. But after their immediate needs are met, they begin to hear about the promise for new life made possible through Jesus Christ, and soon they make that life-changing decision to give their lives to God and allow Him to shape them into the people God always intended them to be.

### Thank You for Investing in Easter Miracles

Your gifts to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission help feed, clothe, and shelter the homeless. But more important, your support is an investment — an *eternal* investment — in Easter miracles that we see every day. Thanks to you, the message of Easter is alive and well all year long.

And the need for that message is clear. Families in our community are going hungry. Addictions are crippling thousands of people. And with Nevada continuing to face one of the highest homeless rates in the country, struggling men, women and entire families are coming to our doors seeking help. They need to know that people care. They need to know that new life is still possible. They need to know that Jesus has already made it possible.

That’s what your gifts make happen. So thank you for your friendship and support. You are changing lives. And that’s what Easter is all about.

Your servant to the homeless,

Bob Brunner, Executive Director



“Your support is an investment — an *eternal* investment — in Easter miracles that we see every day.”

## People who are hurting this winter

**M**any people come to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission struggling with alcohol, drugs, or other addictions. Others come after losing jobs, homes, families and friends. Our beds are filled with the old, the young, men, women, families and with people of every ethnic background. Often they arrive hungry or sick. Some have faced poverty all their lives, while others face homelessness for the first time.

But they all come with one common need — hope. Throughout Scripture, God reminds all those who are hurting that He loves them and is *with* them. He promises strength and loving care for today and the sureness of a better future.

# I Made It Because of You

**M**y mother was a drug addict and I was born addicted to heroin. When I was 6, she died of a heart attack. My father was in and out of prison all my life. My uncle molested me when I was 10. My grandparents tried to raise me, and they did their best — until my grandmother died of cancer when I was 16.

But before she died, she told me never to use drugs — drugs ruined our family. And I was determined to obey her. So I worked hard and went into the medical field. Yet I always felt like something was missing, like I was out of place, somehow. Then my marriage failed and my grandfather died. So at the age of 32, I ignored my grandmother's counsel and spent the next nine years doing meth, stealing and counterfeiting money. I guess I was a late-bloomer. Or insane.

I lost my kids, my house, my life savings — and finally my freedom, when I went to jail. When I got out in August 2013, I was homeless and I hit rock bottom. And that's the best thing that ever happened to me. That's when I found the Las Vegas Rescue Mission.

**“God suddenly showed up in my life and I never looked back.”**

From day one, I felt like God sent me here. Shortly after I got here, someone sang *I Never Would Have Made it Without You* . . . “Never would have made it/Never could have made it without You/I would have lost it all/But now I see how You were there for me.” I knew it was true. God suddenly showed up in my life and I never looked back.

*I'm learning who God made me to be — thanks to you!*

Ever since, I've been on fire for the Lord. Now I'm in counseling to deal with all the stuff from my childhood. I'm learning God's Word and discovering who God made me to be. I'm learning who I really am and how to be the real me. And this Easter, I will celebrate Christ's resurrection — and my hope for eternity.

I know God led me to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission. But people like you made it possible. Thank you!

*Tiffany*



## Enter need hope — please help give it to them!

He gives them hope. And He invites you and me to offer that same hope to all those who come to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission seeking a helping hand.

### Show someone you care — and change a life

As we approach the Easter season, more struggling people come to us every day. Each one needs to know they are loved, accepted, and appreciated for who they are. And when they see we care, when they see how you care, hope is reborn and lives begin to change. To give again today, please use the enclosed remit slip, or make your donation online at [www.vegasrescue.org](http://www.vegasrescue.org). You may also call us at **(702) 382-1766**. Thank you for being an Easter friend to men, women and children who need your help.

WHEN THEY SEE  
HOW YOU CARE,  
HOPE IS REBORN  
& LIVES BEGIN  
TO CHANGE. ✨



# Year-End Drives — Have Year-Long Impact

## OUR BIGGEST DRIVE — OUR ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE . . .

provides food throughout the holidays but also keeps our pantry full through much of the upcoming year, allowing us continue serving needy families and individuals like the gentleman pictured here, who might otherwise go without food. Thank you to the over 350 locations that collected food this year!

And thank you to every person who gave — you have fed hungry people!!

## OUR COAT AND BLANKET DRIVE . . .

continues to provide warmth to homeless people through the winter months.

Special thanks to Blaze's Blankets (Blaze is a 12-year-old boy who has been collecting blankets for the Mission for 7 years already) and to Riley Foley (a recent college graduate who has done a personal blanket drive since his sophomore year in high school), both are now collecting over 1,000 blankets and coats each year!



## OUR TOY DRIVE . . .

made Christmas gifts possible for over 1,500 families — thank you to all who gave!



## VOLUNTEERS MAKE THINGS HAPPEN!

**EVERY SINGLE DAY VOLUNTEERS MAKE AN IMPACT** at the Mission. Without the thousands of volunteers throughout the year it would not be possible to serve so many in need in our Valley. Thank you to the countless individuals, families, churches, civic groups, student groups, and businesses that give of their valuable time to make an immeasurable difference in the lives of those in need.

*Thank you!*



## My Easter Gift

**YES, Bob, I want to help give new hope and life to hurting people. Here's my Easter gift of:**

- \$20.50 to provide 10 meals and other assistance
- \$30.75 to provide 15 meals and other assistance
- \$61.50 to provide 30 meals and other assistance
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide as many meals and as much care as possible
- Please bill my credit card:
- VISA    MC    AMEX    DISCOVER

ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Las Vegas Rescue Mission  
P.O. Box 270400  
Las Vegas, NV 89127-4400

▶ Please mail this completed form with your Easter donation, or you may give your gift online at [www.vegasrescue.org](http://www.vegasrescue.org). Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.