

Las Vegas Rescue Mission

SEARCHLIGHT

Serving the needs of the homeless in the community since 1971

A Woman I Never Thought Possible



Visit Us Online!

www.vegasrescue.org

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

Visit us online at

www.vegasrescue.org

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



480 West Bonanza Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89106-3227
www.vegasrescue.org
(702) 382-1766

Two years ago, I was a 21-year-old heroin addict. I was so desperate and lost, I reached out to God — the same God I quit believing in a long time ago. I got on my knees and sobbed, “Forgive me, I need you! I can’t do this alone!”

I didn’t get there overnight. Ever since I was 2 years old, the men in my life were awful. My real dad was a bad alcoholic, and my mom and I left him. Then my first stepdad beat me relentlessly until we escaped him. Things got better with my second stepdad, but my mom broke up with him when I was 15, and I never knew why.

But I believed it was my fault that all the men in my life abandoned me. So I left school and hobbies behind and I turned to sex, pain pills,

“I liked heroin, because when I was high, I didn’t have to feel anything.”

and eventually heroin. I liked heroin because when I was high, I didn’t have to feel anything.

My mom finally kicked me out of the house. After that, my addiction got so bad, I worked as an exotic dancer to pay for it. Nothing else mattered. Later, I couldn’t even dance anymore. I had to prostitute myself. I was so lost, I didn’t know whether I had a soul anymore. And I hated myself. That’s when I finally got on my knees before God.

Fortunately, someone got me into the Las Vegas Rescue Mission. From day one, I gave everything to God

and asked Him to give me the courage to face all the wounded, broken places of my life. One day, I broke down crying, “I can’t do this!” And I heard a still, small voice, “You don’t have to anymore.” And peace started to flood my life for the first time.

I am now nine months clean from drugs, and I’m learning how to be happy. God is shaping me into a woman I never thought possible, a woman of faith and love. Thanks to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission, and people like you, I’m living the life I was always destined to live.



Today I’m a woman of faith and love — *thanks to you!*

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A Message from My Heart . . .

Harry Hinderliter, President/CEO



Dear Friend of the Las Vegas Rescue Mission,

With fall coming right around the corner, we're already thinking ahead to the busy, wonderful holiday season at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission. This year, we expect to distribute nearly **1,800 turkeys** to needy families in our community, and we expect more than **850 guests** — many of them homeless — to join us in praising God and sharing a delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings at our Thanksgiving meal celebration.

But as servants of Christ, we know that Thanksgiving is about much more than serving a quality, savory meal. Thanks to you and your support, we have the privilege to show people struggling with poverty and homelessness that God cares about them — and He cares through people like you and me. It's our chance to show that there's hope for a better future, through the power of Jesus Christ.

And that better future can start right here at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission through our shelter, spiritual counseling, addiction recovery program, and mostly through new life found in our Savior Jesus Christ.

Thank You for Your Caring, Compassionate Generosity

None of this is possible without your support — not just financial, but also your prayers for our guests, staff, and volunteers. And this Thanksgiving season, there's another way you can support us: through your donations of clothing, furniture, appliances, and even boats, vehicles, and RVs.

I humbly thank the Lord for your compassion and for your faithful generosity. This holiday season, let's remember, together, to "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the LORD is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations," (Psalm 100:4-5).

Your servant to the homeless,

Harry Hinderliter, President/CEO

GREAT WAYS ■ YOU ■ CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Collect and donate simple, everyday items that will make a big difference at the Mission.

BASIC ITEMS NEEDED:

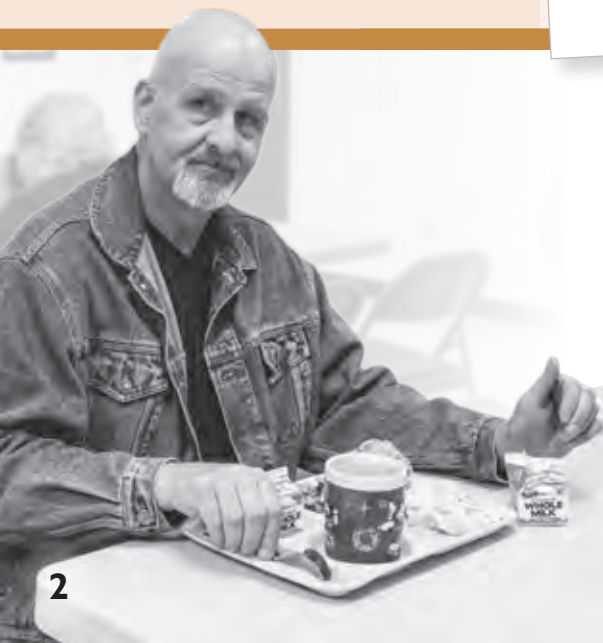
- Soap
- Shampoo, conditioner, lotion in small bottles
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Men's and women's razors

OFTEN FORGOTTEN ITEMS NEEDED:

- Socks
- Denture cream
- Cold medicines (no alcohol)
- Combs and brushes

OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR, the odds of experiencing homelessness for a person in the general U.S. population are . . .

one in **194**



Men, Women, and Children

“Give praise to the LORD, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done,” (1 Chronicles 16:8).

As That is exactly what our *Searchlight* newsletter is all about . . . praising God, proclaiming His name, and letting everyone know what He has done in the lives of hurting men, women, and children at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission. But more than that, it's how God is using caring, compassionate people like YOU to provide struggling neighbors with food, shelter, grace, healing, and even salvation — transforming their lives today and for eternity. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

The Bridge to New Life

Not long ago, if my life was a movie, the song “Snuff” by Slipknot would be the theme song: *Love is just a camouflage for what resembles rage again. So if you love me, let me go. And run away before I know. My heart is just too dark to care.*”

Ever since my parents divorced when I was a kid, and I got shuffled around and emotionally abandoned by my parents, I felt unloved and worthless. So by the time I was a teenager,

I thought I might as well do whatever I want, drown myself in drugs and alcohol, and check out early.

I was lonely and self-destructive. I lashed out at everyone in rage. I overdosed twice on heroin and should have died. I didn’t care. Then I started using meth and lost everything. In 2012, I was homeless, sleeping in abandoned buildings, and collecting cans in dumpsters to buy more dope. I hated myself.

On Thanksgiving Day 2014, I stood on a bridge over the I-15. I thought about jumping off. I was an atheist, but for some reason I cried out to God: “If you’re out there, I need your help.” Suddenly, something inside me said, “Just walk.” So I walked until I was so exhausted I nearly collapsed. When I looked up, I was at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission.

“Now all I want to do is go back out into the world and share the same love I received here.”

I walked in, and they fed me a Thanksgiving dinner — and I never left. Every day, the people here loved me. This whole place is filled with warmth, love, and caring I’d never experienced before. They gave me work to do and a reason to live. They showed me I matter. They gave me hope and a knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Now, all I want to do is go back out into the world and share the same love I received here. Today, if my life was a movie, I’d have a new theme song. “Psalms,” by War of Ages: *“You were there for me through all the pain I felt. We lift you higher than ever. You are the great I am. We lift you higher than ever.”*



I learned I matter, because people like you care.

Need Your Help This Fall!



Please remember hurting people this Thanksgiving

This fall and Thanksgiving season, please continue to remember the increasing number of homeless neighbors, and all those in need, who are coming to us seeking hope and a new start.

Your gifts to the Las Vegas Rescue Mission this fall will help ensure that every man, woman, and child who comes through our doors will receive nourishing food, warm

clothing, safe shelter, and the promise of God’s transforming power right through Thanksgiving.

For your convenience, we urge you to use the remit slip in this newsletter to give your gift. You may also give your fall donation on our secure website at www.vegasrescue.org. To arrange for a visit to the Mission, please call us today at **(702) 382-1766**.

Thank you for the GIFT OF HOPE.

DID YOU KNOW ... ?



EVERY DAY, approximately 50 volunteers serve the residents and guests of the Las Vegas Rescue Mission.



EVERY DAY, our volunteers serve during different times of the day, on average for about two hours at a time.

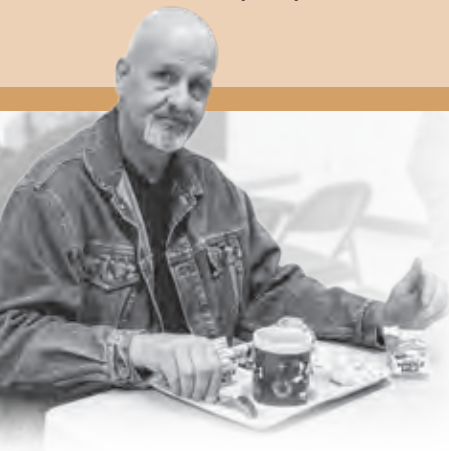
If you would like to serve at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission, please email volunteer@vegasrescue.org or call **702-382-1766, ext. 1249** and speak with Marcus Badgett, Volunteer Coordinator at LVRM.

Thank you so much to all who serve here at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission. We appreciate your generosity and effort each day.

✿ For more information about the Las Vegas Rescue Mission, updates on events, or to make a donation, please visit our website at www.vegasrescue.org.



EVERY DAY, we provide services for those in need 365 days a year.



My Thanksgiving Gift



YES, Harry, I want to help men, women, and families who need our help this Thanksgiving. Here's my Thanksgiving 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 Thanksgiving donation, or you may give your gift online at www.vegasrescue.org. Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.