

PLEASE HELP WITH OUR EASTER OUTREACH

Believe it or not, we are already starting to gather supplies and get ready for our Easter outreaches. With supply chain issues abounding all over the place, we are starting early to make sure we have enough food, clothing, and other key items to share with our homeless friends this Easter. Along with our annual Easter Banquet we will be giving out thousands of meals through family food boxes and doing outreach to our homeless friends living on the streets and in camps.

Our theme this year is “Turning Hunger to Hope.” Our strategy is that if we can provide hot, tasty meals to people it could be the catalyst for them to trust us and listen to our Easter message that Jesus can change their lives. By providing meals and meeting our homeless friends’ physical needs, we hope that our homeless friends will experience God’s love and trust us to help them get off the streets and into faith, housing, employment, and a positive support group.

Check out the pictures at left from some of our previous Easter outreaches!

Please support us today by giving online at OgdenRescueMission.org, using the enclosed envelop, or by calling 801.746.1006 for secure credit card giving over the phone.



YOUR SUPPORT FED THOUSANDS LAST SEASON



Thank you for your support of our holiday outreaches. From Thanksgiving to New Year’s your generosity enabled us to serve thousands of meals to our homeless and hurting friends. We were also able to give out thousands of warm clothing items, includes boots, socks, hats, coats, and more. Plus we were able to share the love of Jesus with those who need it most: poor, broken, and struggling individuals and families in our community. We’ve included a few pictures above of people enjoying hot, delicious food during our Christmas Banquet outreach. Thank you!

RESTORED LIVES

The bimonthly newsletter of the Ogden Rescue Mission

ANDREW ALLEN—FINDING FRIENDS, FAITH, AND A NEW LIFE AT THE RESCUE MISSION

When I came to the Rescue Mission, I was a very lonely person without much social contact.

I had a low-paying job and an apartment, but I had no friends and never talked to anyone. My social skills had dipped to nothing. I was sad and miserable.

Even though I was sober at the time, I was feeling the effects of long-term drug abuse. I was once a very social person, but years and years of meth abuse had made me feel like I was weird. The drugs had changed my personality.

DESPERATELY NEEDING HELP

At my time of absolute desperation, I turned to the Ogden Rescue Mission for help. I am happy to share that after a year on the New Life Recovery Program, God changed my life for the better.

When I joined the New Life Program, I felt a sense of relief, but also nervousness. I gave up all the control I had over my life and gave my life over to God and the staff He works through at the Mission. I worked through the bible studies, counseling classes, chapel services, and my work therapy job at the Mission. I found that my engagement in the New Life Program began to change me.

A NEW LIFE WITH GOD

As I lived with the other members of the program day in and day out, I learned how to be around people again. Slowly my social skills returned. I experienced joy in serving the homeless men and women who came to the Rescue Mission for help. God was helping me by teaching me to help other people.

My new life was a far cry from the person I was when I came to the Rescue Mission. Back then, I had no one. I



Andrew Allen graduated from the New Life Program with newfound faith and joy.

ON AN MISSION TO SEEK AND RESCUE THE HOMELESS IN OGDEN

While many of you are familiar with our Mission on Wall Avenue, it might surprise you to know our staff and volunteers are often out in the community on “Seek-and-Rescue” missions.



We realize many of our homeless friends are reluctant to come inside and get the help they need. They might have phobias of crowds. They might have been hurt or abused by others and therefore are nervous about sleeping in a dorm around other people.

The upshot is that many choose to stay outside. Some stay isolated in tents but within larger camps where other homeless people are near. Others tuck behind freeway sound barriers in hopes that no one will notice them and make them leave. It is a sad way to live.

This good news is that with the healing power of Jesus, people can overcome fears, get off the streets, and get into faith, sobriety, employment, and housing.

One way we help is through our Seek-and-Rescue teams. These teams go out and find people living in camps or alone outside and talk with them. The teams might supply food, warm clothes, loving conversation, or all three! Through these efforts we are not trying to enable people to continue in homelessness but trying to build trust. We believe that one day, life on the streets will become so rough that each homeless person will want a safe place to turn to for help.

By building loving relationships with our homeless friends in advance, we hope that when they are ready for help, they will come to us.

Learning to develop close, loving relationships is a key to getting better and getting off the streets. Without loving relationships, it is difficult, and maybe even impossible, for our homeless friends to overcome addiction and leave the streets.

So, as we are reminded about loving relationships this month, please join me in praying for the homeless.

Let’s pray that they would turn to the most important loving relationship available, the potential one they can have with God through His Son Jesus. And then, once that loving relationship is established, pray that God would create positive loving relationships in their lives that will help them get sober, get off the streets, get into employment and housing, and create positive relationships that help them stay sober for a lifetime.

God bless you and thank you for your support. Without you this Mission would not be here in the heart of Ogden, helping those who need it most.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS

OUR STATS	2021 Totals
Professions of faith	31
Meals	93,736
Family food boxes	1,164
Nights of shelter	12,828
Clothing	6,855
Hygenie Items	20,435
Day service	19,608
Jobs obtained	9
Housing obtained	7

CONTACT US

Web & social:

OgdenRescueMission.org

facebook.com/RescueMissionOgden/

instagram.com/ogden_rescue_mission/

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2775 Wall Avenue, Ogden, Utah

Andrew: Continued from the Front Page

was depressed and saw no real way that I could make any new friends. I had a warehouse job doing some assembly work, but it didn’t pay much. It wasn’t a living wage. After I would pay rent and bills each month I didn’t have much money left to eat. I was trapped in a dead-end job and what felt like a dead-end life.

TURNING HUNGER TO HOPE

Looking back, I think God actually used my poverty to bring about change in me. Because I couldn’t afford food, I started walking down to the Ogden Rescue Mission a couple of nights a week for their free evening meal. It was a blessing to not go hungry and I began to learn more about the Mission.

One night I was there, I heard about the New Life Program. I thought, “that’s just what I need, a new life.” The more I came to the Mission to eat, the more I felt drawn to make a change.

Eventually, I knew I needed to do something that was not like me. Something that was totally out of character for the reclusive person I had become. I packed up two backpacks, called my landlord and told him I was going to move out. I left everything else I owned – my bed, tv, pots and pans, dishes, vacuum, other furniture and household items – in my apartment and walked away.

I realized I wasn’t really walking away from anything. I was walking towards something – The Rescue Mission’s New Life Program.

RECONNECTING WITH FAMILY & WORKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

Today, I have a good relationship with my parents. Before God changed my life, they didn’t want much to do with me. Another cool thing that happened was my twin brother – who hadn’t talked to me in years – gave me his phone number. It’s a great feeling to know that your family wants to have relationships with you. They can see the change that has happened in me.

During my time on the New Life Program I saved up some money and was able to enroll in trucking school. I know driving is not for everyone but I feel it is a job that I can do and it pays a living wage. There seems to be a lot of potential with so much merchandize being delivered these days. At school I will spend time riding with an experienced mentor driver and once I complete the necessary number of

hours riding with my mentor, I can apply for a license.

For the first time in a long time, I have a joyful anticipation for the future. I can actually go up and talk to people and make friends. Please pray for me as I work to become a driver. Pray that God leads me to the right job and continues to help me to have healthy relationships and rebuild good relationships with my family. I want to thank all of you who support the Ogden Rescue Mission. Without the life-changing services the Mission offers, I don’t know where I would be right now.

OUR NEEDS

CURRENT NEEDS

- Men’s jeans
- Winter coats
- New men’s underwear (S/M/L)
- Disposable razors

ONGOING NEEDS

- Hygiene – full-size new hygiene items (disposable razors, toothbrushes, deodorant)
- Clothing – especially: New socks and underwear (men’s, women’s and children’s all sizes)/new or gently used bras, shoes and jeans.
- New or gently used bath towels
- Silverware & mugs
- Canned food

CONNECT ON SOCIAL

We have great content on facebook and Instagram, including video testimonies and more. Check us out on the platforms you use.

facebook.com/RescueMissionOgden/
instagram.com/ogden_rescue_mission/