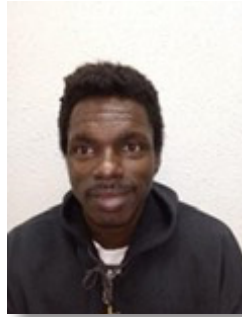


WHAT WE'RE THANKFUL FOR

BEN

I am thankful for the Ogden Rescue Mission. I have been clean from drugs since I have been here.



BRENDA

I am thankful for being at the Ogden Rescue Mission and not being out in the cold.



PIROJ

I am grateful for each new day and so thankful to the Ogden Rescue Mission and its supporters.



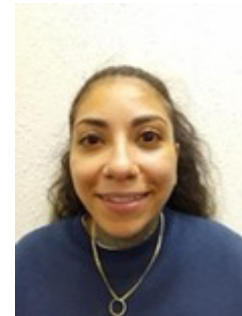
DAVEY

I am thankful that I have a relationship with God and that I have a very strong support team I can depend on.



CRYSTAL

I am thankful for this Mission and my family. They have stuck with me even when I was in jail. I love them dearly.



JOHN

I am thankful for everyone at the Mission who has taught me with patience, understanding there will be struggles along the way.



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/Rescue-MissionOgden/

Instagram.com/ogden_rescue_mission/

RESTORED LIVES

The bimonthly newsletter of the Ogden Rescue Mission

ROGER HESS - GOD HEALS A BROKEN HEART AT THE OGDEN RESCUE MISSION

Just over 23 years ago my life changed forever. An out-of-control car barreled into my wife's car and she died. A big part of me died that day too. I started using all the drugs I could, including meth, to numb the pain, which seemed too great to bear when I was sober.

While I was eventually able to kick my substance abuse problem and have been sober for several years now, my broken soul still landed me at the Ogden Rescue Mission, desperate for help.

I loved my wife. We both worked in the food industry. She was a waitress and later a general manager of a restaurant and I was a long-time cook. She meant the world to me. We were married later in life, she had older children from a previous relationship, and it was great to marry into an existing family.

We had a home together and a nice life. But after she was killed and I started using drugs to numb the pain, I lost my house and gave up on life. When I was able to get sober, my family reached out to me. My sister who lived in Roy, let me live in her house. But last year she drowned in her jacuzzi and I packed a few things and started living in my car. I just couldn't stay in the house anymore.

LOSING THE DESIRE TO LIVE

At the time my sister died, I had still never dealt with the death of my wife and my sister's passing put me into a deep depression. Twice I took a loaded gun and put it inside my mouth, but something stopped me from pulling the trigger. I know now that something was God.

I was living inside of my car. Parking in random parking lots overnight in Roy and Ogden. One day I drove to Pineview Reservoir and pushed down on the gas intending to drive over the edge into the water and end my life. Again, something caused me to slam the brake before my car entered the water. I put my car in reverse, got in position again, and sped towards the lake. But once again, I found myself



Roger Hess has a new life after finding hope and healing at the Ogden Rescue Mission.

We are still in need of many items for our Thanksgiving and Christmas Banquets. Our biggest needs are hams, turkeys, and warm winter clothes such as coats, hats, long pants, and gloves. Donations and support for these items would be greatly appreciated. Through November and December (and really the entire winter) we see a huge demand for food, shelter, and clothing. With uncertain economic conditions, we expect this winter's demand will be especially high. Please help today! You can give using the enclosed envelope, calling our donor relations office at 801.746.1006, or by going online at OgdenRescueMission.org.



WHAT IT'S LIKE TO COOK MEALS AT THE OGDEN RESCUE MISSION

I am so amazed by our Kitchen Crew at the Ogden Rescue Mission. I often think there is no harder job in the food industry than being a cook at a Rescue Mission. Most restaurants have a fixed menu that do not change



very often. They purchase the food they need to prepare what is on their menu with anticipated customer levels and have ample refrigerators, freezers, and dry storage to meet their needs.

It is a little different at the Rescue Mission:

- We don't know what food will come in from donations,

or what will be the freshest to use for a meal. Each day we look at what is in the pantry and start to plan the meals for the day from what is on hand.

- We have six distinct meal services a day. Three for our homeless friends and three for the men and women on our New Life Recovery Program. We do our best to serve the same meal to each group. If we don't have enough of some food items, the Kitchen Crew preps two meals based on what we have on hand. This could mean up to six or more different meals planed and prepared each day. This is especially true when we are low on food, and we have to serve two or three entrees to feed everyone that comes for the meal.

- We don't know how people will show up at any particular meal service. We know the hour of the day we will open the door to the kitchen and have people walk in. We watch the weather, gauge the number of people in the day room, see how many of our friends are milling around outside, or already standing in line. Then we start cooking. We plan for our expected number and when more show up our Kitchen Crew cooks more.

- We are often blessed with kitchen volunteers for breakfast, lunch, and dinner to help prepare and serve the meal. Our volunteers rotate daily, so each day our Kitchen Crew looks at the schedule and prepares to train and lead the group that is scheduled to come in, since groups come in different sizes and always have varying cooking skills and have different amounts of time that they are available to help.

For any of you who have ever prepared meals for your family or hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for friends and loved ones, you understand how hard it can be. Then imagine what it's like to not know how many people are showing up, but you know it will be a lot.

To be on the Kitchen Crew at the Ogden Rescue Mission you need a desire to give back to a hurting community who may be so hungry and cold they forget to say, "thank you." We often say hope starts with a meal, because when that hurting person enjoys a hot meal, gratitude fills their heart and they can think about other things that matter: like where they are going to sleep for the night, or if they should join the New Life Recovery Program.

Personally, I am so thankful for our Kitchen Crew, volunteers, gift-in-kind donors, and financial donors. We would not be able to provide nearly 100,000 meals a year in Ogden without all this support. These are critical meals to our homeless community, men and women on the recovery program, and food boxes to Ogden families in need.

As you prepare and gather with family and friends at your Thanksgiving Feast, please remember those who have no place to go. Please pray for them that they would be able to break out of homelessness so next year they can celebrate with family and friends. Pray for strength and wisdom for our Kitchen Crew and Staff Team who are serving this community. Pray that they could say the right word at the right time to help heal a person's heart.

We are still preparing for our Thanksgiving and Christmas Banquets, as well as the meals we serve every day. Please consider dropping off a turkey, ham, or your favorite fixings to help our hurting community celebrate. You can also provide a gift to the Ogden Rescue Mission in the enclosed envelope to enable everything we do to help hurting people off the streets.

We are so thankful for you, who enable what we do "together" every day of the year.

Gratefully,

Chris D. Croswhite
Executive Director

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Roger: Continued from the Front Page

slamming on the brake just before it was too late.

I drove back down the canyon and, as was my custom, found a spot to park and spend the night. Eventually some officers approached me and told me they had noticed me sleeping in my car. They said I couldn't keep living like that and was trespassing. I moved my car around but the police kept finding me. They knew I was homeless and eventually cited me and told me I needed to report to court.

I explained my situation to the police and the judge and they had genuine compassion on me. The police told me I should go to the Ogden Rescue Mission. They said the Mission could help me. When I went back to court a second time, the judge told me the same thing. She said I should try to get support at the Ogden Rescue Mission.

FINDING NEW LIFE AT THE MISSION

Truth be told, I had driven past the Ogden Rescue Mission a thousand times, but I had never given the Mission a second thought. Still, I took the advice of the judge and the police and found myself walking into the Ogden Rescue Mission and asking for help.

At first, they gave me a bed, but after a few days of talking with me and hearing my story, they asked me if I wanted to join the New Life Program, which they said could provide a pathway off the streets and into a new life. While I was sober, the staff could see I had serious past hurts that were contributing to my homeless lifestyle and hopelessness.

FORGIVING THE UNFORGIVABLE

As part of the New Life Program, I was assigned a counselor who led me through the Mission's Genesis Process counseling curriculum. That counseling was one of the hardest things I have ever done. It required me to relive all the things I had buried deep in my heart. There is a section of the counseling that helps you attempt forgiveness of people who have wronged you. Before that point, I had never forgiven the man who killed my wife. He was a convicted meth addict who had been released from prison one week earlier. After he ran his car into my wife, he tested positive for both meth and alcohol. While my wife was killed, he was relatively unharmed. I attended his sentencing and felt like he showed no remorse whatsoever. Moreover, he was given what I considered a very light sentence.

Then judge kicked me out of court after I heard the sentencing, I was so incensed. Still, I learned through the New Life Program, that I needed to forgive even this man, if I were to possibly move forward in hope.

While I never grew up going to church, I learned that my newfound faith in Jesus had created forgiveness for me. Because Jesus had forgiven me of so much, it was possible that I could forgive even the man who killed my wife.

SET UP FOR SUCCESS

It was hard but I completed the counseling, which has been a true blessing. The New Life Program has helped me develop a relationship with God through the Bible studies, connecting with my local church (the Genesis Project) and the nightly chapel services. Before coming to the Ogden Rescue Mission, I was so far away from God that I wanted to die, but I don't feel like that anymore.

I also learned that I am eligible to receive my wife's Social Security survivor's benefits and as a person over 60 I am close to getting my own social security. I have been able to save up some of those benefits and I am looking for a part time job that fits with my culinary skills, maybe at a grocery store deli.

With a job and social security benefits and some savings I am searching for housing and hope to graduate from the New Life Program soon. I thank all of you for supporting the Ogden Rescue Mission and helping to create a place for people like me. A year ago, I had no hope and wanted to end my own life. Today I have a healed heart and hope for a real future. Your support truly saved my life and I cannot thank you enough.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS

OUR STATS	YTD
Professions of faith	124
Meals	63,594
Family food boxes	586
Nights of shelter	9,587
Clothing	6,079
Hygenie Items	17,329
Day service	3,096
Jobs obtained	6
Housing obtained	12