

LET’S ACCOMPLISH EVEN MORE THIS THANKSGIVING

In just two short months, the Rescue Mission will once again open its doors for our annual Thanksgiving Banquet—a day that brings warmth, dignity, and hope to our homeless and low-income neighbors. Last year, we served hundreds of meals in just three hours, including deliveries to homeless camps where people were invited to leave the streets behind and come to the Mission for help. We served thousands of meals during the Thanksgiving Season, including family food boxes, so the working poor can celebrate with their loved ones at home.

This year, we’re preparing to do even more.

The banquet is more than a meal. It’s a full day of care and connection. Guests will receive hot Thanksgiving dinners, warm clothing, hygiene products, showers, haircuts, crisis care, vaccines, and so much more. We are planning to offer professional haircuts with local churches providing vans and drivers to shuttle guests to and from the Mission. God-honoring music will fill the air, and our staff and volunteers will offer crisis care and compassion to those who need it most.



Most importantly, we invite our guests to consider joining our New Life Program—a pathway off the streets into faith, employment, and permanent housing. When someone chooses to take that step, we can truly say their restored hope began with a meal. One of our graduates, Steve, shared he was so hungry that he returned to the mission three times during the same Thanksgiving Banquet, because he felt so welcomed and cared for. Then, weeks later, Steve joined the New Life Program and today is working for a recovery program in California, to be close to his daughter and family.

In addition to our sit-down banquet, we’ll be distributing Thanksgiving Family Food Boxes to the working poor so they can celebrate at home with loved ones.

Here’s how you can help:

Give Use the response card, scan the QR code, call 801.746.1006, or visit OgdenRescueMission.org.

Donate We need turkeys, hams, warm clothes, winter boots, and more.

Volunteer Contact Judy at J.Doud@OgdenRescue.org.

Let’s make this season unforgettable. Help us serve up hope, one plate at a time.

Please help today!



RESTORED LIVES

The bimonthly newsletter of the Ogden Rescue Mission

If you had met me a few years ago, you probably wouldn’t recognize the the woman I am now. My life used to be ruled by drugs and chaos. I grew up with an addicted mother, moved into a broken foster care system, and endured abuse that no child should ever experience. Those early wounds left me with pain I didn’t know how to face, and for a long time, drugs were my way of coping. I spent years in and out of prison, on probation, and running from my problems.

STRUGGLING TO MOVE FORWARD

When I got out of prison in 2023, I thought I had found stability in a man who had a good job and promised to take care of me. We had been communicating back and forth through letters, and he invited me to come live with him in Ogden. But despite having a steady government job, he regularly used meth and gave me all the drugs I wanted. I had never met someone like him—a person who could hold down a respectable job, pay rent, and still use meth every day with plenty left over to share.

It’s probably no surprise that the relationship was abusive and rocky. He cheated on me several times and would physically kick me out of his house at times. When he would throw me out, I walked Ogden’s streets with nothing. I slept outside with no idea where to go next, until he contacted me again, apologized, and took me back. I felt trapped between my addiction, probation requirements to have a stable address (which he provided), and a relationship that kept dragging me down.

GOD LEADS ME TO THE MISSION

In September 2023, I knew something had to change. My probation officer recognized my unstable situation and pushed me to find a consistent address. After trying a local homeless shelter that was full of drugs and temptations, I finally talked to Judy at the Ogden Rescue Mission. For the first time, someone listened and opened the door for me. I was given a place to stay, but more than that, I found a place where my heart could begin to heal.

At the Mission, I started to understand that everything I had lived through—the abuse, the prison time, the broken relationships—was not wasted. God had been protecting me even when I didn’t see it, and He was preparing me to help other women who were facing the same struggles. For the first time, I truly believed that Jesus Christ could change my life. I asked Him for strength every day I was on the New Life Program, and He gave me strength and new coping tools. Instead of numbing myself with drugs, I learned to lean on prayer, the Bible, and the support of the people around me.



Dana Seaman is safe, sober, employed, and has a newfound trust in Jesus. Now, her service at the Mission is helping other women off the streets.

Please see Dana on page 3

A SOBERING CALL TO STEADFAST LOVE AND CARE

August 31, 2025 was a sobering day here at the Rescue Mission. It is designated as International Overdose Awareness Day, a global moment to remember those who have died from

accidental overdoses, whether from drugs or alcohol.

Recent data from Utah underscores the urgency of our mission. In 2023, 606 Utahns died by drug overdose, the highest total in state history and drug overdose was the leading cause of death among Utahns experiencing homelessness.

These numbers make clear that addiction is a matter of life and

death. That reality drives us to respond not only with compassion, but with intentional, life-saving action.

At the Rescue Mission we fight the battle against addiction every day and will continue to help through:

Sharing life-saving hope. Through the New Life Program, we share the message of redemption and purpose at every stage of recovery, empowering individuals to rebuild their lives, restore relationships, and find faith.

Personalized care and accountability. Our three-phase model—stabilization, education, and implementation—ensures each person receives spiritual, emotional, and practical support to heal and thrive in community.

Emergency services as front-line ministry. We are here 24/7, offering not only meals, shelter, showers, and clean clothes, but also spiritual presence: daily Bible study, chapel, mentoring, and Christ-centered companionship.

Partnerships when needed. When participants require psychiatric or medical care beyond our scope, we collaborate with trusted agencies to ensure they receive the full range of support needed for recovery.

Faith-driven advocacy. We pray, we love, and we act. We remain steadfast in faith that redemption and life are possible through Jesus Christ, even in the darkest of circumstances. Our mission— restoring lives and ending homelessness in the name of Jesus Christ—calls us to care for the whole person: spiritually, physically, emotionally, and mentally.

Please join us in this effort and help by:

Telling others about the Rescue Mission. Help others understand why faith-based recovery matters. It could be as easy as sharing this newsletter with a friend.

Volunteering or mentoring. Bring presence, prayer, and life to those who need help.

Giving generously. Every donation helps sustain meals, shelter, counseling, and the New Life Program as we help people permanently off the streets. You keep our doors open and together we help people off our streets.

Lifting us, and our homeless friends, up in prayer.

Ask that God would continue rescuing, healing, and restoring lives and that those we serve would have the strength to face their life issues and the desire to change.

Thank you and may God bless you,

Chris D. CroswHITE

Executive Director

Dana: Continued from the Front Page

After being at the Mission for several months, I was given the opportunity to serve as the House Mom. That role changed everything for me. Suddenly, I wasn't just receiving help—I was able to help others. Women came to me carrying heavy burdens. Some were dealing with addiction. Some were fleeing abuse. Some just needed a safe bed for the night. I was able to welcome them, share food and hygiene items, and help them problem-solve the issues that come with trying to rebuild a life from scratch. I've sat with women in tears, prayed with them, and reminded them that they are not alone.

SERVING GOD AND OTHERS

Serving as House Mom also taught me responsibility. I help keep the women's side of the Mission organized, enforce rules fairly, and encourage accountability. When people came to me with complaints about others, I helped them sit down together to work things out, serving as a mediator. I even learned how to administer drug tests, something that felt almost unreal at first since I had spent so much of my life taking them myself. My probation officer was shocked when he learned how well I was doing, but it's proof of how much God has changed my life in just one year.

Being on the New Life Program and serving as House Mom at the Mission has been one of the greatest privileges of my life. From sunrise to sunset, people walk in needing blankets, hygiene items, or just someone to listen. I feel honored to provide those basic needs because I know what it's like to go without. I know the hopelessness of wondering where your next meal will come from or where you'll sleep that night. Now I get to be part of the answer to someone else's prayer.

In addition to my role at the Mission, I also work at a local pizza restaurant and a thrift store. I enjoy both jobs because

they give me structure and independence, and they're helping me save money for the future. My goal is to move into my own apartment in the Salt Lake area in a few months. That's where my children live, and now that I am sober and stable, I want to rebuild relationships with them. I know I can't change the past, but I can be present for them moving forward.

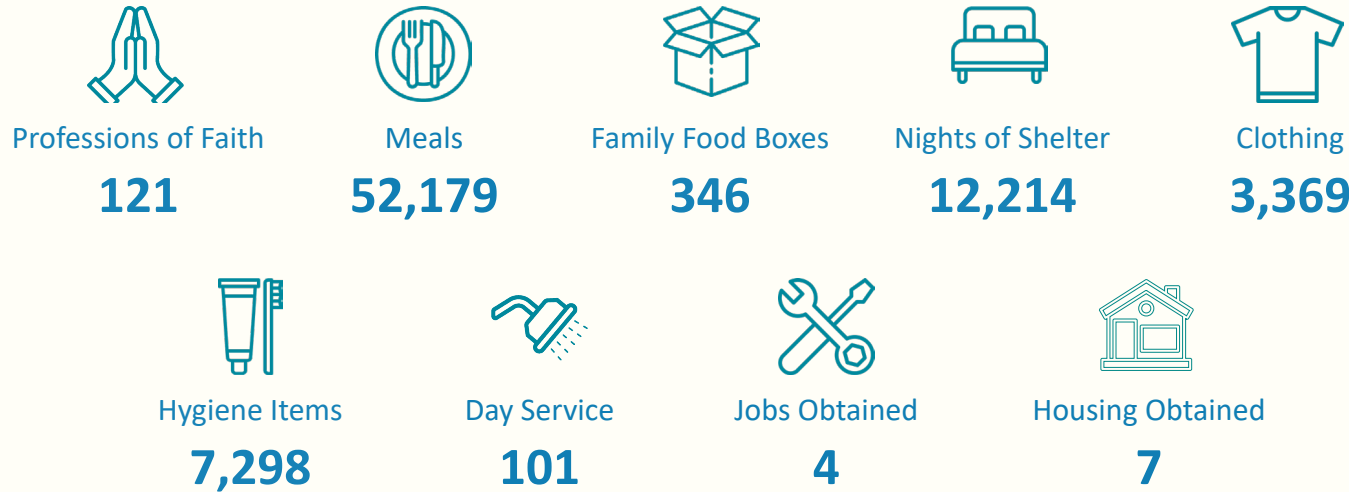
I'm also working toward becoming a Certified Peer Support Specialist with the State of Utah. With everything I've been through—addiction, prison, abusive relationships, and homelessness, I know I can relate to people who feel stuck and hopeless. I want to use my story to show them that change is possible and that recovery is real.

When I look back, I'm amazed at how far I've come. A year ago, I was stuck in a cycle of abuse, addiction, and prison. Today, I'm sober, serving others, and planning for a future I never thought I'd have. I know my story isn't finished yet, but I trust God with whatever comes next. My dream is simple: to stay in relationship with God, live in my own place, be near my children, and keep helping others the way the Mission helped me.

If you had told me years ago that I would one day be the House Mom at the Ogden Rescue Mission, working jobs I enjoy, saving for an apartment, and training to be a peer support specialist, I would have laughed in disbelief. But today, it's my reality. My life is proof that no one is too far gone, and with God's help, healing and hope are always possible.

Thank you so much for supporting the Ogden Rescue Mission. Without you and God's enabling power, I would likely be addicted, in prison, or worse. Your support means everything to so many people I see come in off our streets every day.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: OUR STATS THROUGH AUGUST



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