

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION BY GIVING IN MAY!

It seems like the cost of almost everything is rising. Fuel, electricity, water, and basic supplies all cost more than they did even a year ago. When inflation rises, it hits the Rescue Mission especially hard. Every meal, every shower, every night of shelter becomes more expensive to provide. Yet at the same time, more people are walking through our doors seeking help.

That is why we are so grateful for a group of generous donors who have stepped forward with a special May Match challenge. They have pledged to match every gift we receive in May, **up to \$50,000**. This means your gift this month will be **doubled** to help restore lives and end homelessness here in Utah. We are asking you to help us meet this important goal.

Every dollar you give in May becomes two dollars to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and support men and women who are working hard to rebuild their lives. One meal becomes two. Two nights of shelter become four. Your generosity will go twice as far to help people find sobriety, stability, and hope.

This matching opportunity comes at a critical time. As we move into the spring and summer months, the need for safe shelter, water, hygiene items, and recovery support increases. Rising temperatures bring new challenges for people living on the streets, and your support helps us respond with compassion and care.

Together, we can meet the \$50,000 challenge and ensure that the Rescue Mission remains a place of refuge and transformation for our neighbors in need. Thank you for standing with us and for giving generously. You are bringing hope to men, women, and families across Utah.



JOIN US FOR SOME GOLF TO BENEFIT OUR HOMELESS FRIENDS

Golf season is here, and we are excited to share an opportunity to enjoy a day on the course while supporting the Ogden Rescue Mission. Our friends at **TAB Bank** are hosting their annual charity golf tournament on **September 11, 2026**, at the stunning Wolf Creek Resort in Eden, Utah. This tournament is not run by the Mission, but we are honored to be the beneficiary of this annual event.

Whether you are an experienced golfer or just looking for a fun way to support a meaningful cause, this tournament is a fantastic way to get involved. Funds raised will directly support the Ogden Rescue Mission's work to help people find sobriety, stability, and a new life.

If you would like to participate, sponsor, or learn more about the tournament, please **contact Dennis Dickerson at 801.949.8559**.

We hope you will join us on the green this fall as we partner with TAB Bank to bring hope and transformation to our community.



RESTORED LIVES

The bimonthly newsletter of the Ogden Rescue Mission

As a lifelong resident of northern Utah, it is hard for me to admit that I became dependent on opioid medications at an early age. I had my son when I was a teenager and experienced complications afterward that required surgeries. It was the early 1990s, before anyone understood the dangers of long-term opioid prescriptions. Throughout my diagnosis and surgeries, I was prescribed opioids that I took daily for many years, all under the care of medical professionals.

At the time it seemed normal to them and to me. But the result was that I became not only addicted to prescription medications but physically dependent on them. I was stuck and did not know how to get free.

For the next twenty-five years I struggled with opioid dependence. I burned bridges with my closest friends and family. So when I showed up at my sister's door in Ogden in 2024, it was not a surprise that she turned me away. She had a son living with her and did not trust me to be around her family. Still, she wanted to help and bought me bus fare to get to Clearfield where I knew some people who might take me in.

It was a hot July evening when I arrived at the main bus terminal in Ogden. My transfer ticket had expired, and I could not get to Clearfield. Alone, I started walking south through Ogden. Around 10 p.m. I saw the Jesus Saves sign glowing above the Ogden Rescue Mission. I had never seen the place before and wondered what it was.

Since it was after hours, the building was locked, so I knocked. The staff talked with me and agreed to let me stay. I soon learned about the New Life Program from others staying at the Mission. They told me it helped people overcome addiction and get off the streets. It sounded like the opportunity I needed.

I joined the New Life Program that night. Since then, my life has changed in ways I never expected. My journey has



After 25 years of addiction and life on the streets, Michelle Giles is sober and has a new faith in Jesus.

Please see Michelle on page 3

SUPPORTING BOTH SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL RENEWAL

As we move deeper into warmer months and longer days, I am reminded again how closely spiritual renewal and physical restoration are often



connected. Here in Utah, where the weather swings from harsh winters to hot, dry summers, the people who come through our doors often arrive exhausted in both body and spirit. Many have gone months without proper medical care, dental treatment, clean clothing,

or even a safe place to rest. Their physical needs are urgent, and meeting those needs is often the first step toward deeper healing.

At the Mission, we see every day how a warm meal, a clean shower, or a fresh set of clothes can open the door to hope. Something as simple as washing a guest's laundry or providing a pair of shoes that actually fit can soften a heart that has been hardened by years of struggle. These small acts of care communicate something powerful. They say, "You matter. You are worth helping. You are not forgotten."

When a person begins to feel human again, they often become willing to take the next step. They begin to trust. They listen. They believe that change is possible. This is where the deeper work of the New Life Program begins. Bible studies, life

coaching, life-skills classes, and mentoring all build on the foundation created by meeting physical needs with compassion and dignity.

I think of the many men and women who have told us that receiving basic care was the moment they realized God might still have a plan for them. A shower became a turning point. A meal became a reminder of grace. A clean bed became the first safe night's sleep they had experienced in years. These moments matter, and they are made possible because of your generosity.

Your support allows us to care for the whole person. You help provide medical referrals, hygiene supplies, nutritious meals, clothing, and safe shelter. You help create an environment where people can heal physically so they can grow spiritually. Most importantly, you help us share the message that Jesus sees every person who walks through our doors and offers them new life.

Thank you for standing with us and caring for our neighbors in need. And thank you for helping create a place where physical restoration becomes the pathway to eternal renewal.

God bless you,

Chris D. Croswhite

Executive Director

Michelle: Continued from the Front Page

not been a typical one. Because of legal charges and medical issues, I had to leave the program several times to get treatment and to take care of my legal responsibilities. I spent time in jail before I could be released on probation and return to the Mission.

When I was finally able to settle fully into the program, I opened my Bible for the first time. Even though I grew up in a religious family, I had never read or studied the Bible on my own. It was eye opening. Every day I learned something new.

Before coming to the Mission, I knew there was something missing in my life, but I did not know what it was. I always believed in God in a general way, but I did not know Him personally. As I studied and learned at the Rescue Mission, I came to see that God had led me there for a reason. He wanted me to begin a true relationship with Him.

As I have grown, I can see God building me in unique ways. In my work therapy role on the New Life Program, I serve in the laundry, washing the clothes of our homeless guests and making sure towels, linens, and other fabrics are clean. It has been challenging to see people come in with sickness, grime, lice, and other conditions, but I can feel God stretching me to love and serve others.

Recently I folded clothes for a man staying at the Mission. He thanked me and told me that even his mother never folded his clothes when he was growing up. It gave me joy to think that God used me to bless him in such a simple way.

As part of the New Life Program, I found a local church where I attend regularly. The messages teach me more about God, and the people are friendly and welcoming. No one looks at you differently because you come from the Mission. They see you as another person who wants to grow in their relationship with God.

As I have done well in the program, my sister has encouraged me. She told me she always believed I could do it, and our relationship is improving. I pray for a renewed relationship with my son in Colorado. I have two grandchildren and a third on the way. I hope one day I can rebuild my relationship with my son and his family.

Until that day comes, I continue to work on being a healthy follower of Jesus. One of the other women in the program joined a gym with me, and together we are getting in better physical shape. It has been wonderful to have fellowship with others who are committed to doing the hard work of overcoming addiction and living for God.

Soon I will move into the employment phase of the New Life Program. I would love to find work helping others who struggle with addiction. I believe God has called me to that kind of work, but I want to wait for His timing.

I am so thankful to all the supporters of the Ogden Rescue Mission. Without your support, I would not be on the path I am today. I would not have found faith, sobriety, and a new life. Thank you so much. Your support has truly helped me.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: MINISTRY-WIDE STATS THROUGH APRIL



Professions of Faith

152



Meals

64,714



Family Food Boxes

832



Nights of Shelter

22,409



Clothing

27,449



Hygiene Items

26,094



Day Service

10,258



Jobs Obtained

13



Housing Obtained

12



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OgdenRescueMission.org

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Volunteer: Email J.Doud@OgdenRescue.org

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