

REAL RESTORATION: HOW THE RESCUE MISSION STANDS APART

This month we’re highlighting how the Rescue Mission model differs from other service and program providers. Many organizations serve similar populations, but the Mission offers a unique combination of emergency care, year long recovery, employment opportunities, and housing pathways that help people move from crisis to lasting stability. Your support of the New Life Program makes that transformation possible.

01 Real Hope The Mission is the only large homeless shelter and recovery program that preaches the Gospel daily, 365 days a year. For many participants, a renewed relationship with Jesus is the foundation for lasting change.

02 Real Compassion The Mission intentionally welcomes men and women who struggle with mental illness and we coordinate care with medical and behavioral health providers. Compassion means meeting people where they are and helping them access the support they need.

03 Real Goals Lasting change takes time. The New Life Recovery program is a structured, multi phase, 13 month pathway that emphasizes stabilization, life skills, spiritual growth, and workforce readiness. The longer timeline allows participants to build the habits necessary for durable recovery.

04 Real Work God created people to be involved with meaningful activity, so work therapy is a central component of the New Life Program. The Mission’s program is one of the few that requires supervised work therapy as a guidepost to create purpose in a person’s life. Our program graduates often share how serving helped their personal recovery and mimicked having a real job outside the Mission.

05 Real Provision Even as our homeless friends’ immediate needs are met through food, shelter, and warm clothing, New Life Program members learn to provide for themselves and others. Job placement support and savings plans help graduates secure housing, transportation, pay child support, and achieve financial stability. This builds dignity and personal fulfillment.

06 Real Achievement As participants progress, many experience a deep sense of accomplishment rooted in spiritual renewal and practical milestones. Completing the program, finding steady work, and rebuilding a life brings confidence and hope.

07 Real Satisfaction Alongside achievement often comes restoration of relationships with family, friends, and loved ones. Restored relationships, renewed trust with family and friends, and a clear path forward create lasting satisfaction, which continue to build dignity and personal fulfillment.

Pray for our program members. These men and women are not taking the easy way of permanent government subsidies. They are striving to rebuild their lives. Please support the New Life Program to fund educational classes, case management, work therapy, and job placement that turns immediate relief into long term restoration. Please donate today!

- Visit **OgdenRescueMission.org** to give online
- Call our donor relations office at **801-746-1006** for secure credit card giving over the phone
- Scan the QR code in this newsletter
- Give using the response device enclosed in this newsletter



RESTORED LIVES

The bimonthly newsletter of the Ogden Rescue Mission

For nearly 17 years, I was homeless. Looking back, it’s hard to believe how much of my life slipped away. For a long time I didn’t think things would ever change. I was just trying to survive one day at a time.

It wasn’t always that way. I graduated from high school in Oregon and spent years working hard. I worked at a trailer company and later unloaded trucks. I always knew how to work hard, but I didn’t know how to deal with the pain inside me.

Almost 20 years ago, one of my best friends died. I didn’t handle it well. Instead of grieving, I turned to alcohol. Before long, drinking had taken over my life. Alcohol led to bad decisions, damaged relationships, and eventually legal trouble. I became a convicted felon, and after that it seemed like every door started closing.

Over the years I bounced from place to place. Sometimes friends let me stay with them for a while, but those opportunities ran out. I spent time homeless in Montana and back here in Utah. I tried several times to get my life together, but every setback pushed me deeper into addiction. I started drinking heavily again and occasionally using drugs. I knew I wasn’t living the life I wanted, but I couldn’t see a way out.

Eventually I landed in the Weber County Jail. After completing everything the court required of me, I was released, but I still didn’t have a place to go. I ended up at the homeless shelter, and my ex-wife encouraged me to look into the Ogden Rescue Mission. That conversation changed my life.

When I entered the New Life Program a year ago, I thought I simply needed a safe place to stay. What I found was so much more than that.

I appreciated that the program treated us like adults. We were given responsibility, accountability, and the freedom to make choices. Instead of simply telling us what to do, the staff encouraged us to grow into the people God created us to be.

The Bible classes became one of my favorite parts of the program. Before coming to the Mission, I didn’t know much about Scripture. As I studied God’s Word, I realized that no amount of good works could erase my past. Salvation comes through



After 17 years of addiction and life on the streets, Joseph Bodily is employed, sober, and has a new faith in Jesus.

BRIDGING CARE GAPS IN REAL TIME

This month reminds me again why we launched Operation Hydration.

As I write this, temperatures reaching over 104 degrees along the Wasatch Front. The danger of heat for people living without stable shelter is not theoretical, it is immediate. When the body is already weakened by exposure, dehydration can turn a difficult day into a life-threatening emergency in a matter of hours.



I recently had an interaction with officers from the police department near the Mission that brought this reality into sharp focus. They were in the process of arresting an individual for homeless-related offenses. As they worked through the situation, it became clear that the individual they had taken into custody was severely dehydrated. The officers were doing their job, but the physical condition of the individual complicated everything.

I stepped outside the Mission to speak with the officers. I shared with them what we have been seeing across Utah and what Operation Hydration is designed to address, the need for immediate access to cold water, shade, and basic care for people experiencing homelessness during extreme heat. One of the officers shared how he had stepped inside the Rescue Mission and grabbed a bottle of water for the person they were helping. In that brief exchange, the conversation shifted from enforcement to human need and immediate stabilization.

What encouraged me most was what happened the next day. As I was observing the same area, I noticed

officers had placed coolers of cold water in their vehicles, and were handing cold water bottles to our homeless population. Not for policy reasons or announcements—but because they had seen firsthand what dehydration looks like on the street. In their daily interactions, even when people are being asked to move along or taken into custody, the officers were now able to offer something as simple and life-saving as cold water.

That is what Operation Hydration is meant to do: bridge gaps in real time. At the Rescue Mission, we are committed not only to provide shelter and recovery services, but also to meet immediate physical needs in the field. Through outreach teams, volunteers, and our partners, Operation Hydration is bringing water, hats, care kits, and compassion directly into the community, while also offering a place of refuge inside our doors.

Inside the Mission, guests find cooling spaces, showers, clean clothing, and access to case management and life changing programs. Just as importantly, they find people who see them and respond quickly to urgent needs.

We continue to strengthen this work through partnerships across the city, including with local law enforcement who are often the first on scene. When we work together, even small acts—like a bottle of cold water—can become a moment of dignity and a step toward stability.

God bless you,

Chris D. CroswHITE
Executive Director

Joseph: Continued from the Front Page

Jesus Christ and His grace, not anything I could earn. That truth brought me a peace I’d been searching for.

Prayer has become part of my daily life now. I find myself thanking God for where He has brought me instead of dwelling on all the mistakes I’ve made. I’m grateful for the progress He’s helping me make.

The Mission also offered life skills classes that taught me practical lessons about relationships, communication, and how to become a better man. Those classes helped me better understand myself and other people.

One of the most rewarding parts of my time at the Mission was serving in the kitchen. Every day I helped prepare and serve breakfast and lunch to guests. Many of the people I served were where I had been not long before. I knew exactly what it felt like to stand on the other side of that serving line. Being able to serve them reminded me that God can use our hardest experiences to help someone else. In many ways, helping others became part of my own healing experience.

Today I’m working at a book distribution warehouse. We build and package book displays that are shipped to retailers across the country. It’s honest work, and I’m thankful for the opportunity. Because of my felony conviction and inconsistent work history, finding steady employment hasn’t been easy, but this job is giving me a chance to prove myself. If I continue doing well, I’ll be hired on permanently.

The little victories mean a lot to me these days. With my first paycheck I was able to get my driver’s license back. My next goal is to save enough money to move into a place of my own and eventually buy a car. I’m taking things one

step at a time because I’ve learned that lasting change doesn’t happen overnight.

One of the greatest blessings has been rebuilding relationships with my family. I talk with my brother regularly and my sister almost every day. They worried about me for years while I was living on the streets. Today they’re excited to see the changes God is making in my life. Spending time with them and my nieces and nephews means more to me than I can say.

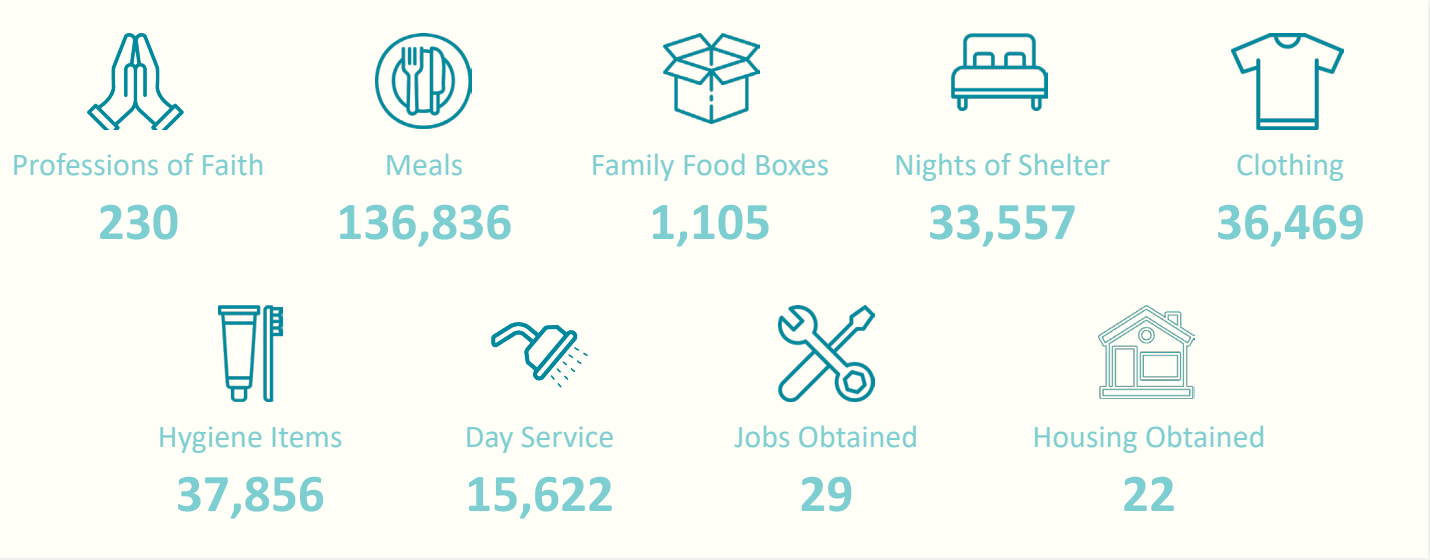
I’ve also found a church home at Second Baptist Church. I enjoy the Bible studies and being around people who genuinely care about one another. For the first time in a long time, I feel like I belong somewhere.

I used to think I enjoyed living on the streets because it was all I knew. Today I know that’s not the life I want anymore. I want to stay sober, keep growing in my faith, continue working hard, and build a stable future. My goals aren’t complicated. I want my own place to live, a reliable car, and a life that honors God.

I’m incredibly thankful for the Ogden Rescue Mission. They gave me hope, taught me about Jesus Christ, and reminded me that my past doesn’t define my future.

To everyone who supports the Mission, thank you. Your generosity changes lives every day. Because of your kindness, people like me are given another chance. I’m grateful for the opportunity you’ve given me to rebuild my life, and I’m excited to see what God has planned for the road ahead.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS: MINISTRY-WIDE STATS THROUGH JUNE





WEB, SOCIAL, & EMAIL
OgdenRescueMission.org
Facebook/OgdenRescue
Instagram@ogden_rescue_mission
Email: info@OgdenRescue.org

SCAN OUR QR CODE TO QUICKLY DONATE TODAY



PHONE, MAIL, & VOLUNTEERS
Main – 801.621.4360
Donor Relations – 801.746.1006
Mail: PO Box 1431 Salt Lake City Utah 84110-1431
Volunteer: Email J.Doud@OgdenRescue.org
Physical Address: 2775 Wall Avenue, Ogden, Utah