

Don't Miss...



2 How Your Gifts  
Bring Joy



3 "I was 53 and  
homeless."



4 Give Help & Hope on  
#GivingTuesday

Holiday ISSUE 2018

Bay Area

HOPE

A Publication of the Bay Area Rescue Mission

2114 Macdonald Avenue • P.O. Box 1112 • Richmond, CA 94801 • BayAreaRescue.org

FROM  
*Homeless*  
TO  
*Healed*

Your gifts bring joy to  
hurting people like Corrine  
at Christmas and all year  
round.

*On Page 3: Read how your  
partnership and prayers  
changed the life of this homeless  
and heartbroken woman!*

**“Before I came to the Rescue Mission,  
I was dead inside. Now, I’m  
alive in Christ!”**



**“This place  
isn’t a shelter.  
It’s a  
home.”**

Corrine had been working as a live-in nurse’s aide for many years when the woman she cared for suddenly let her go. “I lost my job and a place to stay at the same time,” she says. **“I was 53 and homeless. I’d never been homeless in my life.”**

She had struggled with depression throughout the years, even in the best of times, but when Corrine found herself living on the streets of Richmond for several days, she fell into despair. **“I didn’t want to live anymore,”** she says.

Finally, she sought help at a respite care facility, and they brought her to our Center for Women & Children. “I started watching the ladies in the Life Transformation Program. They walked with their backs straight, with confidence. I wanted to carry myself the way they did, so I entered the program.”

Since then, Corrine has found confidence in Christ through Bible studies, mentoring, life skills classes and counseling. **“I used to only call on Jesus when I was in trouble. Now, I depend on Him completely,”** she says.

She’s also gained confidence in how to deal with her depression. “It used to be a dirty secret I didn’t want anyone to know,” she says. “Now, I’m more open. I’ve talked with the counselors, and they’ve given me the help I need. It’s made me a more positive person.”

Recently, Corrine had emergency surgery for a life-threatening intestinal issue and has been recuperating at the Rescue Mission. “They’ve taken good care of me,” she says.

Corrine graduated, but is staying here while she continues to heal. Meanwhile, she’s working in our Clothing Closet, caring for others. “I clothe the program ladies and shelter guests,” she says. **“I love helping people, and I hope to work at the Rescue Mission one day.”**

This Christmas, as Corrine celebrates Christ’s birth, she’ll also celebrate the joyous new life she found inside our doors... because of your compassion. **“Before I came to the Rescue Mission, I was dead inside. Now, I’m alive in Christ and my future is bright.”**



Your gifts  
bring *joy*  
to  
hurting people.

Your generous contributions are not only blessings in themselves, but they're multiplied exponentially by the countless gifts they allow the Rescue Mission to share with those who are hungry, hurting and homeless.

The food, shelter and clothing we provide are gifts that fulfill the most basic human needs. Guidance, education and job training are gifts too – and when accepted with commitment and dedication, they can lead to lives filled with promise and purpose.

***Yet the greatest gift we offer inside our doors is the message of God's love and grace, which can transform lives for eternity!***

This issue of *Bay Area Hope* is all about sharing gifts – a subject that's especially appropriate during the holiday season as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth. Yet God's work, the Rescue Mission's outreach and our partnership with friends like you is focused on giving all year long!

Of course, none of our ministries would be possible without the gifts you first give to us. And I'm so very grateful for your selfless giving, which brings joy to our hurting guests at Christmas and every day of the year. God bless you this holiday season and always.

Rev. John M. Anderson  
Executive Director

end**HUNGER...** offer**H****PE**

**69,750** MEALS BY  
CHRISTMAS

A single nutritious meal is often the first step toward a new beginning for those who are hungry, homeless and struggling with life's challenges. Most importantly, *it's an opportunity to share God's love – the greatest gift you can give!*

*It costs only \$2.05 to provide one meal for a hungry person, at the holidays and all year round!*

✉ GIVE NOW using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

📄 GIVE ONLINE anytime at **BayAreaRescue.org**.

*Discover what's happening  
at the holidays!*

**BayAreaRescue.org**



DECEMBER

31

THE *Blessings* OF  
YEAR-END GIVING

Many Rescue Mission partners choose to make an extra financial gift by December 31 to maximize their tax deduction for the current calendar year, while helping the Rescue Mission assist those in need well into the year ahead. Your generosity will touch countless lives!

✉ Add your special holiday gift to the reply card and send it today!



*Select the perfect gift with*  
**#GIVINGTUESDAY™**

Make your **#GivingTuesday** gift now by shopping our Christmas Gift Catalog. It's full of ways to bring the joy of help and hope to people in need.



**\$25**  
provides  
nourishing  
meals




**\$50**  
provides  
safe shelter



**\$100**  
provides  
education  
and training

 Shop online at **BayAreaRescue.org/GiftCatalog.**

 Or, add your special holiday gift to the enclosed reply card.

These Christmas gifts are representative of the needs of those we serve. Donations may be used to support the area of our ministry with the greatest need.



# Loving Tribute

LOVING TRIBUTE GIFTS GIVEN FROM 8/23/2017 UNTIL 6/30/2018



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