

Don't Miss...



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3 "The Rescue Mission has given me hope."



4 How to Help at the Holidays

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Bay Area HOPE

A Publication of the Bay Area Rescue Mission

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

“I was in a living hell... I cried out to God to deliver me.”

Today, Anne is on a path to a new beginning – and her heart is filled with gratitude for friends like you who are making her journey possible.

YOU'LL BE MOVED BY HER STORY, ON PAGE 3.



**“The Rescue Mission has
given me a
place to heal.
It’s given me hope.”**



Anne was living in a homeless encampment by the railroad tracks, desperate, wondering how her life had come to this. “I was in a living hell,” she says.

Not so long ago, she’d had a home, a job, and a husband, then a divorce brought her world crashing down. **“Depression kicked in. I turned to drugs and alcohol and I turned away from the Lord,”** she says.

Eventually, Anne found herself homeless, living by the railroad tracks. Then, after months of struggling through the endless days and nights, she had a moment of clarity. “I cried out to God to deliver me,” she says.

The Lord answered her prayer. Anne stopped using, but it was only the beginning of God’s intervention. **“I prayed the Lord would rescue me from the dirt, from the mud, from that life,”** she says.

It was then a police officer and representatives from the Court-Community Outreach Program came to the encampment. “They asked me, ‘Do you want to have a life or do you want to stay here?’ **I said, ‘I want a life.’ So, they brought me to the Rescue Mission.”**

“I said, ‘I’m not going to die from this.’”

Since entering our Life Transformation Program, Anne’s relationship with the Lord has been restored. **“Now, I trust God with my life. I know He loves me, and I see myself as His child,”** she says.

Anne’s growing faith has brought emotional healing, as well. “Gently and lovingly, the Lord has shown me pain that was buried deep inside and how it caused my negative thinking,” she says. **“Now, I leave all the hurt at the feet of Jesus.”**

Though she isn’t certain what she’ll be doing after graduation, Anne knows she’ll be seeking God’s will for her life. “I’m not the same person I was,” she says. “The Rescue Mission has given me a place to heal. It’s given me hope.”

She’s a woman with a heart of gratitude for friends like you who have made her journey possible. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Your kindness fills hearts with Thanksgiving

Those we care for at the Rescue Mission face a litany of challenges. Like Anne, who you'll read about on Page 3, each story of heartbreak and tragedy is personal and unique.

Yet all of our guests share one thing in common: **deep gratitude for friends like you who are providing a pathway to hope and healing.**

From the essentials of food and shelter to our Life Transformation Programs of discipleship and practical training, your generosity lays the financial foundation for our faith-based outreach. Sharing the love of God is at the center of all we do, and we know true and permanent life change is only possible when men and women have invited Him into their hearts.

With you alongside us, **we have the amazing opportunity to accompany homeless and hurting individuals – whom God loves deeply – on their journeys to restoration.**

The Thanksgiving season offers a special opportunity for everyone on our staff – and each man, woman and child in our care – to reflect on the many blessings of your kind compassion. With a heart of gratitude, I pray you'll continue to share your time, talent, gifts and prayers to uplift our neighbors in need.

Rev. John M. Anderson
Executive Director

God bless you for being generous.

- Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- Give online, anytime, at **BayAreaRescue.org**.

CONNECT WITH US
BayAreaRescue.org



With Grateful Hearts...

As you give thanks for your blessings this Thanksgiving, those in our care will be giving thanks too – for you and for the gifts of comfort, compassion and life-changing opportunity you so generously provide for them.

This Thanksgiving Season Alone...



202,500
Hot Meals



19,800
Safe Beds



1,000
Food Boxes



**Thousands
of hours**
of Training,
Counseling & Prayer

Please continue your heartfelt support with a gift to our 2018 Thanksgiving Campaign. Because you care, your neighbors in need can overcome their challenges and embrace a new beginning.

Plan Now to Help at the Holidays!

Open Your Heart... Lend a Hand

It takes careful planning and organizing – and scores of caring volunteers – to bring a meaningful holiday to hundreds of homeless and hurting people.

That's why we're starting NOW, and we hope you'll join us. Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Marshelle Wilburn, for opportunities and details.

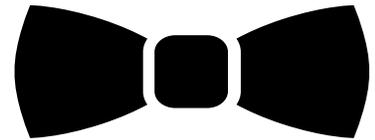
☎ (510) 215-4865

Add Our Shopping List to Yours

202,500!

That's how many meals we'll serve this Thanksgiving season, and we need your help to do it. As you do your holiday shopping, please pick up these items for the Rescue Mission as well! Then deliver your donations to **Bay Area Rescue Mission Food Pantry at 123 Macdonald Ave., Richmond, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday – Thursday; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday.**

<i>Turkey</i>	<i>Pepper</i>
<i>Potatoes</i>	<i>Brown sugar</i>
<i>Carrots</i>	<i>Honey (for turkey brine)</i>
<i>Onions</i>	<i>Dinner rolls</i>
<i>Celery</i>	<i>Potato peelers</i>
<i>Bell peppers</i>	<i>Plastic tablecloths</i>
<i>Canned vegetables</i>	<i>Napkins</i>
<i>Sausage for dressing</i>	<i>Compostable (city requirement): forks, spoons, knives, dinner plates, salad/dessert plates</i>
<i>Cornmeal for dressing</i>	
<i>Butter</i>	
<i>Sage</i>	



A Gala Banquet in Your Honor...

Please join us for our **53rd Annual Fundraising Banquet** to honor you and all those who make it possible for the Bay Area Rescue Mission to bring help and hope to those in need.

It will be an evening of inspiration as residents of our Discipleship Program share their stories of transformation. And it will be an evening of celebration with music, live and silent auctions, a delicious meal, and so much more!

Don't miss the festivities on **September 28 at 5:30 p.m.** at **Hilton Concord.**

All proceeds from the event will go to our **Bridge of Hope Project**, benefiting women and children.

For more information, or to RSVP contact

☎ (510) 842-5261 or

✉ events@BayAreaRescue.org

Did You Know? It costs only **\$2.05** to provide one meal for a hungry person.