

Don't Miss...



2 The Greatest Challenge

3 "I found God again."

4 Match it by May 31!

SUMMER ISSUE 2017

Bay Area HOPE

A Publication of the Bay Area Rescue Mission

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Garth's challenge:

to find God again

When Garth's fiancée was murdered, he walked away from God, sinking into a life of addiction and despair....

Your gifts meet the greatest challenge:
inspiring new hope in hurting lives



“I found God again.”

Garth was born into a happy, Christian home. “I grew up with a great family. I had everything I ever wanted,” he says.

Then he started high school and his life took a dramatic turn. “I had a daughter at 14 and started using cocaine,” he says. “By the age of 15, I was experimenting with meth.”

“I pushed God away.”

Garth used on and off for the next 10 years. Then his fiancée was murdered and drugs took over his life.

In the years to follow, Garth was in and out of rehab, did prison time, and eventually found himself homeless. It was then when he came to our Emergency Shelter and learned about

our Men’s Discipleship Program. “Someone told me how the program had put their life back on track,” Garth says. **“I wanted something different for my life, too.”**

So Garth entered the program and, through counseling, life-skills classes, and biblical training, his life began to change. “I found God

again,” he says.

Garth’s bond with his daughter has also been restored. “She wanted nothing to do with me before, but the Rescue Mission helped reestablish our relationship. Now I see her every month,” he says.

Meanwhile, Garth has grown in

his vocation through running our kitchen and taking culinary classes at Contra Costa College. “I always worked as a waiter, bartender, or floor manager,” he says. “Now, I have back-of-the-house experience, too, so I can get a job as a restaurant manager.”

Garth plans to graduate from the program and intern here, continuing to work in our kitchen while finishing his culinary degree. “If it hadn’t been for the Rescue Mission, I wouldn’t have my life back on track,” he says. **“I owe everything to the Rescue Mission and to God.”**

WITH YOUR HELP, Garth and others like him are finding that God’s hope and healing are for everyone, regardless of their past or circumstances. Thank you for your generous support!

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE

How do you challenge yourself?

Maybe you're a golfer who is always pushing yourself to lower your score. Maybe you've even competed in a tournament like our New Life Golf Tournament!

Or maybe you've been challenged by family, friends or a pastor to open your heart to someone who's very different than you... or to live out God's love in new and powerful ways.

Right now, we're in the middle of a challenge from wonderful friends of the Rescue Mission to match their generous \$50,000 gift with an additional \$50,000.

But our greatest challenge is a daily one: inspiring new hope in the lives of people struggling with an addiction or abuse, unemployment or homelessness, hunger or hopelessness.

In this issue's cover story, you'll hear Garth's testimony about how being part of our Men's Discipleship Program transformed his life.

His story is powerful because of you. You understand the challenges our neighbors in need face, and we're grateful you share the truly life-changing gifts of meals, shelter and care.

We can meet the challenge of caring for our community's hurting because of you and your faithful support. Thank you for giving to bring new hope to countless lives forever.



Rev. John M. Anderson
Executive Director



You don't have to go far to find people in desperate need of help. They're right here in the Bay Area.

This Memorial Day, our 97-day summer campaign to help our community's homeless and hungry begins.

Teed Up for Changing Lives

This year, friends of the Bay Area Rescue Mission gathered once again to play a round of golf that transforms lives. All proceeds from the May 8th tournament will be used to support the emergency services we provide for needy moms and kids in the Bay Area.

THANK YOU to all of our golfers and each of our sponsors for taking part! Because of you, people's lives will be changed for the better.

22nd annual New Life Golf Tournament Sponsors



Together,
We Make
a Difference

Brewer Direct inc.





MATCH IT BY MAY 31!



Right now, because of a generous Matching Challenge, every gift you give will have double the impact for those in need.

Or as we like to say,

1 + $\frac{Y}{O}$ = TWO!

\$50 → \$100

\$100 → \$200

\$150 → \$300

**That's how \$50,000
becomes \$100,000
when you give today!**


By giving, you'll provide hot meals for a hungry child... safe shelter for a homeless woman... counsel for a man battling addiction... care for a family who has suffered abuse... and training to help men and women prepare for employment.



**This Matching Challenge ends
May 31** – so don't wait. Help turn \$50,000 into \$100,000 and double your impact by responding now.



 Give online at **BayAreaRescue.org**.

 Give now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.

GIVE *where you* LIVE
97-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN



213,400
meals



21,340
nights of shelter

VISIT US ONLINE to learn more about our outreach, read stories of hope & securely donate anytime!

 **BayAreaRescue.org**

