

Don't miss...



2 See Your Impact



3 "I learned to trust in the Lord."



4 Our Thanksgiving Needs

FALL ISSUE 2020

Bay Area

HOPE

A Publication of the Bay Area Rescue Mission

2114 Macdonald Avenue • P.O. Box 1112 • Richmond, CA 94801 • [BayAreaRescue.org](http://BayAreaRescue.org)

Steven's heart  
is filled with  
*gratitude*  
for **YOU!**

**Inside:** Read how your  
compassion and support  
changes lives.



“I was lost and torn, but the Rescue Mission taught me to  
**TRUST IN THE LORD.**”

**W**hen Steven was a little boy, he wanted nothing more than to feel safe and loved, but he lived in a world filled with violence and fear. “My dad always beat my mom and us kids. He hit us with his belt that had a big buckle or with our bunk bed ladder,” he says. “I was so emotionally damaged.”

Steven was just 10 years old when he began numbing his pain with alcohol. “Drinking suppressed my fear and became my way of not caring.”

For 35 years, he struggled with addiction, landing him in trouble with the law, costing him jobs, and damaging his family. “I neglected my marriage and was never there for my son,” he says. “My wife wanted a divorce.”

Steven entered our Men’s Life Transformation Program, intending to stay just long enough to convince his wife that he planned to change. Little did he know that, through our chapel services, Bible studies and Christian counseling, he’d encounter the healing love of his heavenly Father. **“My mind was transformed.** I wanted to know more about the Lord, so I stayed.”

Steven’s newfound faith is healing his childhood wounds, and he’s becoming the kind of father and husband he always wanted to be. A graduate of the program, he now serves as an intern here, with plans to go into full-time ministry so he can share the love of the Lord with those who struggle as he once did. **“God has called me to be an encourager.** I’m going to follow righteously after Him, and He’s going to place me where I need to be.”

**This Thanksgiving season – and all through the year – your kind generosity fills hearts with hope and gratitude... and transforms lives through God’s love!** “I was lost and torn, but the Rescue Mission taught me to trust in the Lord, believe in myself and do what’s right.”



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“I now have a growing  
relationship with the Lord.  
**I KNOW GOD IS IN ME.**”

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*You fill my heart  
with Thanksgiving.*

The past few months have been challenging for all of us. No one is immune to the stress of uncertainty or the fear of the unknown. And especially this year, far too many of our neighbors have also felt the harsh reality of losing their livelihoods – their ability to provide for themselves or their families. They join scores of others already turning to the Bay Area Rescue Mission for food, shelter and life-restoring guidance.

***Yet, through it all, my heart is filled with gratitude – for God’s faithfulness... the goodness of mankind... and your dedication to serving “the least of these.”***

As more struggling people reach out to us, you are there for them. You are among the heroes who put others’ needs above your own. You join us on the front lines of compassion and kindness, loving your neighbors when they need it most. Now, as we anticipate an increased need for food and care throughout the fall, my greatest hope is that you’ll continue your amazing support this Thanksgiving season.

Regardless of the season or the challenges around us, remembering our blessings brings us comfort, peace and joy. This Thanksgiving, as we gather with our loved ones, I pray each of us finds strength in God... one another... and our own grateful hearts.



Rev. John M. Anderson  
Executive Director

**202,500**  
**MEALS NEEDED BY THANKSGIVING**

Join our  
**2020 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN!**

Please help us now to prepare for the thousands of meals we’ll serve to our homeless and struggling neighbors throughout the Thanksgiving season. Your generosity will not only provide nourishing food for hungry people, but also opportunities for lives to be restored:

***discipleship • life-skills classes  
vocational training • and more!***

Your giving spirit can mean a new beginning for hurting individuals and families right here in our community. Share your heart of thanksgiving by giving your **2020 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today.**



Give now using the enclosed  
reply card and envelope.



Give online anytime at  
**BayAreaRescue.org.**



***Our hearts are filled with Thanksgiving for  
your faithful support!***

**SEE HOW YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE AN IMPACT!**



**\$2.05**  
for 1 hot meal



**\$5.86**  
for 1 night of  
safe shelter

**CAN LEAD  
TO**



**Practical guidance  
and God’s  
life-changing  
LOVE**

**READ STEVEN'S STORY  
TO LEARN MORE!**



# We Need VOLUNTEERS

Your helping hands and giving hearts will allow us to serve and care for the thousands of people who will turn to us this fall! **You can even volunteer remotely!**



Contact us today to see how you can help...

Call: **Marshelle Wilburn** at  
**(510) 215-4865**

Email: **volunteers@BayAreaRescue.org**

Or visit **BayAreaRescue.org** to  
find out more or sign up now!

## Our Thanksgiving Needs List

Please consider shopping or hosting a food drive for these items we need to feed our hungry guests throughout the Thanksgiving season.

Turkeys  
Hams  
Corn Bread Stuffing  
#10 Canned Vegetables, Corn & Green Beans  
Pies (Variety of Sweet Pies)  
Cranberry sauce  
Dinner Rolls  
Napkins  
Compostable (city requirement): forks, spoons, knives, dinner plates, salad/ dessert plates



Drop off your donations at the **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.**

*Thank you for helping!*

## Don't Miss a Single Rescue Mission Moment!

Follow us on social media and sign up for our emails to stay up-to-date on our Thanksgiving activities, urgent needs, special events and how your partnership is transforming lives in the Bay Area. Be sure to tell your friends about us too, and encourage them to help this Thanksgiving!

**BayAreaRescue.org**

