

Don't miss...



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Show Them You Care



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Our Summer 6



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"I've been restored."

SUMMER ISSUE 2022

Bay Area HOPE

A Publication of the Bay Area Rescue Mission

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

**ANTOINETTE
IS SO
GRATEFUL**

you have given
her new life!



**“The Rescue Mission
gave me love and now
I’ve been restored.”**



**“
I’VE LEARNED
TO NEVER GIVE
UP HOPE.
”**

Antoinette was looking forward to spending the rest of her days happily settled in her home. “I’d been there for 12 years and loved it.”

But when her building began to deteriorate, her landlord refused to make repairs and Antoinette called in building inspectors. They pressured the landlord to fix the problems, but she retaliated against Antoinette. “She couldn’t evict me, so she used other tenants to harass me. It went on day after day.”

Finally, Antoinette couldn’t bear it anymore. “I left with what I could carry and what I had on my back,” she says.

She was heartbroken and desperate as she made her way to the Rescue Mission. “When you get older and you have to leave your home, it does something to you, emotionally and spiritually. When I entered the Women’s Discipleship Program I was hurt and angry with God.”

Then she began attending Bible studies, chapel services and faith-based counseling, where she found peace in the Lord. “I feel extremely close to Him now. He’s my friend,” she says. “And I’m learning how to deal with life and difficult people His way, praying and leaving the rest to God.”

She’s also experienced the biblical promise that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him. “After I got here, I went to the doctor and they found a cyst they had to remove. It could have ruptured, so being here may have saved my life,” she says, with tears of gratitude.

Now she’s looking forward to completing the program and moving into her own home, once again. “I love paying my own bills, getting my mail, cooking my own breakfast and living in peace.”

Antoinette is thankful for the kindness and compassion of loving neighbors like you – and how you have given her peace and hope for the future. “I was homeless, but the Rescue Mission opened their doors to me and gave me love, compassion and hospitality. Now, I’ve been restored.”

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!

It starts with a meal for \$2.09!



A Message from BRAM BEGONIA

Will You Love Your Neighbor This Summer?

Did you know the Bible tells us to love our neighbor in *eight* different verses? So clearly God calls each of us to not just love, but to love generously. At the Rescue Mission, our staff's hearts are filled with love for those who are hurting and lost... and YOU put that love into action with your faithful support.

The summer months can be especially challenging for our neighbors in the Bay Area. Those living on the streets face added stress and health risks due to the heat. Parents already struggling to pay the bills have the added burden of childcare costs and more meals to serve.

What's more, the summer months are when we typically see a decline in donations as people are busy with vacations and other activities... and often forget about our struggling neighbors.

That's why I hope we can count on you during the Love Your Neighbor campaign!

I know you won't let these precious men, women and children be forgotten during the summer season. That you'll show them someone cares and there is hope for the future.

Thank you for loving our neighbors with your financial support and for keeping us in your prayers this summer as we minister to the hurting – we need it!

Bram Begonia
President/CEO

THESE

"Summer 6"

CAN CHANGE LIVES!

What is the "Summer 6"? These essentials are in high demand for our Rescue Mission guests this summer... and **YOU can help by donating any – or all – of these items!**

1. Bottled water
2. Hand sanitizer
3. Toothpaste
4. Toilet paper
5. Paper towels
6. High-efficiency laundry soap

You can deliver your Summer 6 donations to our Food Pantry & Distribution Center at 123 Macdonald Ave., Richmond. Thank you for caring for Rescue Mission guests during the summer season!

SHOW THEM YOU CARE

Help meet our community's needs!



Your gift today provides:



322,190 meals



15,680 beds



hundreds of hygiene items



countless hours of counseling & education



hundreds of hours of job training



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

98-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

DONATIONS SLOW DOWN IN SUMMER... PLEASE HELP TODAY!

Give now! BayAreaRescue.org
Support our Summer Campaign now!

Make This the Summer YOU Make a Difference!

The ministry of the Bay Area Rescue Mission simply wouldn't be possible without the hard work of our faithful volunteers. This summer, we are looking for caring, compassionate friends to lend a hand in the following areas:

- Help prepare and serve a meal
- Organize a collection drive for food or other supplies
- Work alongside our Food Pantry Distribution Center Staff
- Help tutor men, women and children
- Plus other opportunities to serve!

For more information about how your family, church group, coworkers or organization can help, please call

(510) 215-4869 or check out upcoming volunteer opportunities online at **BayAreaRescue.org**.

Thank you for choosing
to love your neighbor by
volunteering!



Your monthly gift makes a HUGE impact!

When you set up ongoing support as a monthly Bridge Builder partner, the Bay Area Rescue Mission can be ready to help anyone who comes through our doors. That's because your partnership provides reliable, steady income to care for our homeless and hungry neighbors *all year long*.

For someone like Lupe, that generosity transformed her life!

"The Rescue Mission opened their doors to me, gave me a room and taught me how to grow closer to God. Now I know He loves me and I'm learning to love myself. I got my daughter back, I'm working, saving money and looking for a home. I'm accomplishing things I never thought I would."



If the Lord is leading you to become a Bridge Builder partner, simply visit **BayAreaRescue.org** or complete the back of the enclosed reply form. Thank you!