



Don't miss...



2 A season of possibility



3 "I have hope for tomorrow."



4 Join us on the golf course!

EASTER ISSUE 2026

Bay Area HOPE

A Publication of the Bay Area Rescue Mission

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



Brad's life has been made *New* this *Easter!*

Thank you for sharing hope for his fresh start.

Easter
2026





A Message from BRAM BEGONIA

A SEASON OF *Possibility...*

A lot changes this time of year. We're moving into a new season. Days are getting longer, and new life is springing up around us. It's a reminder that even in darkness, beauty and hope are just around the corner.

The Easter season is also a reminder of God's sacrifice... and the hope for new life and renewal.

Renewal is happening inside the Bay Area Rescue Mission as well – in the lives of the men and women who come to us in their darkest hour. Each person who walks through our doors is a story of resilience and possibility, like Brad's, whose story you can read on page 3.

Through the support of friends like you, these men and women can rise above their circumstances and rebuild their lives. Because our discipleship program is more than meals, safe shelter and care. It's about finding faith that a new life is possible.

Thank you for empowering our guests along their journey from darkness to light... from despair to hope. Your generosity gives them the tools they need to move from the shadows of homelessness or addiction, into the light of stability and hope.

Bram Begonia
President/CEO



How **YOU** Helped

Thank you for your impact in 2025! Friends like you joined together to change lives...



2,174,567
meals served



91,117
nights of shelter provided



2,000 hours
volunteered by
people like YOU!

Thank you for caring for our hurting neighbors last year.

Now, let's make 2026 a year of hope for even more people in our community!

This Easter... **EVERY MEAL MATTERS**

Just \$2.49 for a meal & hope for a new life!

Each meal served with love at the Rescue Mission is so much more than a plate of food. It can also open the door to life-changing services like safe shelter, faith-based care and healing in our addiction recovery programs!

For just \$2.49 each, you can provide a hot, nourishing Easter meal to someone in need... and share hope for a new life in God.

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

✦ Give online anytime at BayAreaRescue.org.

Easter
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“With hope
for tomorrow,
I feel
Empowered!”

Brad grew up in a home filled with conflict. Abuse and instability left him without the tools to cope. “I wanted to feel safe and get away from the chaos,” he recalls. “But there was no escape.” To numb his emotional pain, he turned to alcohol and by his mid-teens he was drinking every day.

As Brad matured, he continued to struggle – with life and with addiction. He spent several years without stable housing, including time on the streets. At his lowest moment, he even considered ending it all. “I was tired of being hurt.”

Thankfully, a family member offered encouraging words, just in time. “I sensed God’s peace,” Brad recalls. “I asked God, ‘Please show me a place where I can grow and heal!’” His prayers were answered when soon after he discovered the Rescue Mission.

Stepping through our doors, Brad was greeted with warmth and compassion. “I had no bag, no change of clothes... not even a toothbrush!” he says. “The Rescue Mission gave me what I needed, including my first shower in a long time. The small things made a huge difference!”

Right away, Brad began to enjoy meaningful connections with staff and other guests in the program. “I instantly fell in love with these people,” he shares.

Through Bible study and faith-based classes and counseling, Brad began to transform his life as he gained new coping skills to support his sobriety. “This became a place to slow down and learn what it means to be in community... and I now have ten times more joy!”

Today, Brad gives back by working in our administrative office, where he has gained practical work experience while sharing his faith with others. He hopes to one day join a youth ministry where he can inspire young people who are dealing with challenges like he once did.

This Easter, Brad has a new direction for his life. Thank you for lighting the path forward for him to experience a future of hope and peace! “I’ve received love without limits... and now I have a heart for God.”

“*I came in broken, but I’ll leave healed and ready to be a helper.*”



May we shine the light of Christ.

“In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” — John 1:4–5

JOIN US ON THE GOLF COURSE!



31st Annual New Life Golf Tournament Monday, August 31, 2026 Round Hill Country Club, Alamo

You're invited to a wonderful day of fresh air, good food and great fellowship. This event is more than a game – it's a blessing for our neighbors in need. If you've joined us before, you know how inspiring it is to come together with fellow friends of the Rescue Mission to help address homelessness, hunger and other critical challenges in our community.

Proceeds from player registrations help fund our Rescue Mission programs that help change lives!

Please visit barmnewlifegolf.com to sign up or contact **Dean Hollenbeck** at DeanH@BayAreaRescue.org or **(510) 215-4876**.

We hope to see you on the green!

Spring Cleaning



Clean your closets and help neighbors in need!

As you declutter and refresh your home for spring, you can also help neighbors in need.



Donate gently used items.

We take clothing, furniture, household items, tools, toys and bikes.



Your donations:

- Support the Rescue Mission's programs and services
- Are given to our guests at no cost
- Provide for our homeless neighbors or struggling families

Drop off donations at our Food Pantry & Distribution Center located at 123 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond, CA 94801. For a full list of our needs, visit BayAreaRescue.org/Current-Needs.

Thank you!

