

Ministry Tip - A 4-step plan for helping the homeless

From :
Mary Fairchild on About.com

1. Volunteer - The most productive way to get started helping the homeless is to join forces with a well-established operation. As a volunteer you will learn from those who are already making a difference.
2. Respect - One of the best ways to help a homeless person is to show them respect. As you look into their eyes, talk to them with genuine interest, and recognize their value as an individual, you will give them a

3. Give - Giving is another great way to help, however, unless the Lord directs you, don't give money directly to the homeless. Cash gifts are often used to buy drugs and alcohol. Instead, make your donations to a well-known, reputable organization in your community.
4. Lastly, prayer is one of the easiest and most positive ways

you can help the homeless. Because of the harshness of their lives, many homeless people are crushed in spirit. But Psalm 34:17-18 says, "The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." (NIV) God can use your prayers to bring deliverance and healing to broken lives.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Q: Should I give money to homeless people on the street?

A: Well, scripture tells us to give to anyone who asks, but it doesn't necessarily say give them money. Briefly, in our experience, it is often better to give things like food, gift cards or other help. But, sometimes, God speaks to your heart and we encourage you to listen and respond. One of the best ways to help a homeless person is to show them respect. Look them in the eyes, talk to them and give them a sense of dignity.

We have also created a "Meal Ticket" tool for you to use to make it easy to refer those in need to the Mission. There's one in this article to cut out. And, on

the **"TOOLS AND RESOURCES"** link on the About Us page on our website, you'll find a full sheet of "Meal Tickets" that you can print right at home.



Clip & Give to people in need

TICKET FOR A HOT MEAL & BED



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GOOD NEWS FROM THE MISSION

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Upcoming Events...



June 10-12, 2011

Have you bought your tickets yet? With a line up like this, it's sure to sell out: Jars of Clay, Phil Joel, Jeremy Riddle, Addison Road, Anthony Diaz, Jonathan Clay and many, many more... AND... **THE MISSION RECEIVES A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS!** You won't want to miss it! For more info visit the event website at www.illuminationfestival.com or call the Mission at 530-242-5920.

Published by the
Good News Rescue Mission
2842 South Market Street
Redding, California 96001
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Director's Chair - by Cesar Partida



Cesar Partida

Last month we had our annual volunteer appreciation day. It is the one time of the year we set aside to formally thank those who generously donate of their time to the various programs of the Mission. We give out certificates of appreciation to all the volunteers who consistently devote their time here. This year I signed nearly three hundred certificates and I was BLESSED! Some might say blessed by what, hand cramps? No, I was blessed to witness God's infinite resources and the faithfulness poured out by his people. I was blessed by seeing how He works in the hearts of the volunteers, volunteers who provide an overwhelming 4,500 hours of service each month! Wow! I love it when God's people hear His voice and respond when He calls.

One of the most touching stories from that event was of a father son team. The son was recognized as the volunteer of the year for the Operations Department. The son had gone through the Men's New Life Recovery Program and was now giving back by volunteering

countless hours back to the mission. When the son had finished speaking, his dad asked to say a few words. He was very short and to the point and said, "Thank you for giving me back my son." So, thank you volunteers for supporting the work of the Lord in changing lives!

God's blessings not only come in the form of people, but he is also providing financially for projects that have been in the works for some time. The House of Grace (women's transitional housing) remodel is going well and we will complete phase I later this month. Phase II, which includes what I call the west wing, are the rooms that underwent mold remediation and have been mostly gutted. That

phase will be opened up for volunteers who may want to redo one of the 4 rooms as a complete project. Please be praying about that. The men's third floor guest bathroom, which has been in desperate need of renovations, will begin in late April or early May.

Again, thank you for your faithfulness and for your help in providing people in need with the tangible love of Christ.

In His service

Cesar Partida
Cesar Partida
Executive Director



You changed my life - by Mark Norris



I was born in June of 1963 in Orange County, California. After over 30 years of drug abuse I was homeless and had no place to turn. A friend dropped me off at the Mission in December of 2008 hoping I could find help. I had heard of the Mission, but wanted no part of it because I had heard that it was Christian based. That turned me off because I thought pretty much any religion was ridiculous.

I didn't learn until I was an adult that I had a condition known as

A.D.D. I started using drugs and alcohol as a teenager and as an adult learned that the A.D.D. may have exacerbated my substance abuse addiction. I can credit Narcotics Anonymous with helping me with that discovery which has helped me in my efforts to now remain clean.

After arriving at the Mission, in ways I can't fully explain, God touched my heart one night in a Chapel service

“God touched my heart one night in a Chapel service”

and I turned to Jesus Christ as my savior. I experienced a peace in my heart and mind that I had never

known before. So many people here have been helping me, many whose stories are so similar to mine.

I'm now attending Bible studies, praying and I even volunteer to help out around the Mission. I love that, especially when I get to help other guests, just like so many here have

helped me. And, I am very excited that I will be going back to school in the fall to study sound engineering. Thank you for planting seeds

of hope here at the Mission, for giving people like me a chance to know Jesus and to get my life back.

On Deck

Our next big project is the renovation of our Homeless men's bathroom and showers. We've estimated the costs on this are round \$8 - \$12,000. We're going to need help financially, but also from people who can donate their time and expertise to a project like this. Can you help? Please contact Project Manager, Harold Rothenberger at 530-242-5920 to volunteer.

“Our next big project is the renovation of our Homeless men's bathroom and showers.”



Did you know?

The Shasta County poverty rate continues to climb dramatically higher than the state and national averages with nearly 1 in 5 residents now below the poverty line. Over 4,000 local residents are either homeless or imminently at risk of homelessness. As the only organization in the county that offers shelter food and clothing



services, we are seeing an increased need for funding these and other services. That's why we think the “FOOD FIGHT: 60,000 meals in 60 days is so important. Please help out however you can! Sign up at our website, www.gnrm.org or contact Luke Pettengill or Ken White at 530-242-5920 today!

*Source: 2010 City of Redding & Shasta County Homeless Continuum of Care Council Survey.

“Rescuer of the Year” recipients

-They are as follows (by category)



BUSINESS:

Robert and Michelle Cronic with Restoration Group/Cronic Disaster Services



CHURCH:

Neighborhood Church of Redding represented by Jennifer Beaver



INDIVIDUAL:

Elaine Best, RN

Said & Done - Facelift for the House of Grace

In December we received an anonymous donation of \$15,000 to help renovate our women's transitional home known as our House of Grace. This will help us renovate up to two of the units there and make them habitable for graduates of our women's program. There's still more to be done at House of Grace, but OH!, what a help this is! *Thank you to our kind donor!*



Before Construction...



After Construction...

