

# Rescue

# R E V I E W

How You Restore Hope

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"God touched my heart."

3



Annual Easter Campaign

4



**Long Beach Rescue Mission** Helping the Homeless ■ Changing Lives



Vincent found love and self-worth in the arms of our Savior.

*On Page 3: Read how your support is giving Vincent a reason to celebrate this Easter!*

# BEAUTIFUL IN HIS EYES



# “I WAS BROKEN, AND THEN GOD TOUCHED MY HEART.”



“  
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IT’S ALL BY  
**GOD’S  
GRACE.**  
”

Vincent grew up in a biracial household and struggled with self-esteem issues – particularly since he was a frequent victim of his father’s abuse. He turned to drugs and alcohol at the age of 14 to cope.

The more his relationships with women and family members failed, the more he drank to counter the self-hatred he felt. In his 40s, Vincent hit rock bottom when his mother kicked him out of the house after an argument, and he ended up on the streets. During that time, the Lord spoke to Vincent for the first time through the unlikeliest of sources – a library book.

“I didn’t want to have anything to do with God,” he says, “and then I found myself sitting on a bench at the beach, reading a Rick Warren book. There was this huge sense of calm and peace that came over me, and tears started to flow.”

Then God worked in Vincent’s life again the next day when a friend

told him about Long Beach Rescue Mission’s recovery programs. Vincent entered our long-term New Life Program to overcome his addiction and discover a better way to live. “As I started to read the Bible for the first time in my life, things started opening up for me. I started to look at myself openly, without fear and shame.”

Today, Vincent is a graduate of the program and still works at the Mission. He has reconciled with his children, and is thankful to have a loving, nurturing relationship with his mother for the first time. “I have two beautiful grown kids who I didn’t have anything to do with for a huge chunk of their lives, because I didn’t think I was worthy enough. There’s probably going to be some tears down the road, but we’re reconnecting.”

**This Easter, Vincent and his family will be celebrating the beautiful new beginning in their lives – made possible by your generous support.**

“I’m truly blessed, and it’s all by God’s grace. I definitely couldn’t have done it without Him. If you open your heart to God, He will bless you abundantly.”

**EASTER BASKET GIVEAWAY**

Saturday, April 20:  
8 a.m. to 11 a.m.



Basket items needed: plastic easter eggs, Bibles, candy, small toys (stickers, bubbles, hair accessories, sports balls)

We need baskets donated as well!

VISIT [LBRM.org](http://LBRM.org) to read stories of hope, learn more about our ministry & securely donate anytime.

Let’s be friends!



# Easter 2019

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Here's how your gift provides comfort & care over the next month!



**20,833** nourishing meals



**6,250** nights of shelter



**65** men & women cared for in our recovery program



**4,458** hours of education & counseling to provide

## A Message from ROBERT PROBST

# YOU RESTORE Hope



When we pass a homeless person on the street in Long Beach, it's often easier to avert our eyes to our phones rather than engage with that person's very real pain. That way, we don't have to hear their cries... or see how broken their lives are... or feel how much they suffer.

But their pain is real, even if we look away.

On the cross, Jesus didn't look away from suffering, but endured it, fixing His eyes on "the joy set before Him." The glory of the cross is that Jesus boldly engaged with our pain. He experienced our struggles and our cries, and suffered with all of humanity. Jesus took our pain upon Himself and redeemed it.

**Easter is our celebration of that new hope!**

Your generous gifts demonstrate that you **turn toward** those who are hurting – and want to offer them healing

and restoration through Christ's love.

Because of you, people like Vincent are celebrating HUGE changes in their lives. Vincent's story is on page 3, and I hope as you read, you're inspired by how your gifts can turn a life filled with pain into a beautiful new beginning.

By God's grace, and your support, many like Vincent are experiencing hope restored. On behalf of each person in our care, thank you for reaching out to them with the love and kindness that helps restore lives this Easter.

Serving with you,

Robert Probst  
Executive Director



Safe Harbor  
Club

## YOU CAN PROVIDE A SAFE HARBOR IN ROUGH TIMES

The Safe Harbor Club is a group of the Mission's most dedicated supporters. When you join the Safe Harbor Club, your recurring monthly gifts help meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the men, women and children who come through our doors each day.

Here are more reasons to join the Safe Harbor Club and sign up for automatic giving:

- Your gifts provide ongoing support the Mission can count on so we can better serve the needs in our community.
- You'll reduce our admin costs so more money goes to help those in need.
- You can change or cancel your gift anytime.

Interested in learning more or joining the Safe Harbor Club?  
Visit [LBRM.org/monthlygiving](http://LBRM.org/monthlygiving) or call (562) 591-1292. Thank you!

# Preparing for Easter...

## AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!



**Sunday, April 21:** Easter Celebration from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Will you help set more places at our tables for hungry people this Easter?

**Just look at our needs this Easter season:  
20,000+ meals for men,  
women & children.**

And there's no way we can serve them without you!

**Donate food:** Please consider hosting a food drive or donating these needed items by **Friday, April 19:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HAMS                    | <input type="checkbox"/> STORYBOOKS                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MILK                    | <input type="checkbox"/> CANDY                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MARGARINE               | <input type="checkbox"/> COLORING BOOKS                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INSTANT MASHED POTATOES | <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL TOYS & STUFFED ANIMALS       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED VEGETABLES       | <input type="checkbox"/> HAIR ACCESSORIES                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED YAMS             | <input type="checkbox"/> NOVELTY SCHOOL SUPPLIES & STICKERS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CUPCAKES                | <input type="checkbox"/> BUBBLES                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PLASTIC EASTER EGGS     | <input type="checkbox"/> SPORTS BALLS                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIBLES                  |   |



*Drop off donations at the Mission, 1335 Pacific Ave. in Long Beach, 7 days a week from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thank you!*

Don't have time to shop?  
Donate now!  
**(562) 591-1292**  
**LBRM.org**



## ROBERT HAS A REASON TO CELEBRATE!

Meet Robert! He came to the Mission believing all hope for his life was gone. Your support provided the hot, nourishing meal that changed everything – and gave him hope for a new life in Christ.

Today, you can help more people like Robert with your gift to feed, shelter and share God's love during our Annual Easter Campaign.

**A meal is just \$2.20... and the hope it provides in the lives of homeless and hungry people is truly a reason to celebrate!**

Thank you for the new hope you make possible in hurting lives!  
Happy Easter!



**Volunteer:** You can help from now until Easter Sunday!

Contact Ted Hicks: **(562) 591-1292, ext. 119** [volunteer@LBRM.org](mailto:volunteer@LBRM.org)