

Rescue

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You Fill Hearts with Thanksgiving.

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“I was running from myself.”

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How to Help at the Holidays

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Long Beach Rescue Mission Helping the Homeless ■ Changing Lives

“I was running from myself.”

Today, Abdul is on a path to a new beginning – and his heart is filled with gratitude for friends like you who are making his journey possible.

YOU’LL BE MOVED BY HIS STORY, ON PAGE 3.



“I’m here today because GOD grabbed me and lifted me up.”

Abdul used to be a professional boxer, and he learned the hard way that sometimes life hits you back. When his wife of 13 years passed away and he was forced to retire from boxing due to injuries, Abdul didn't have any purpose in his life. He fell back into old habits of drinking, drugs and street fights.

“I still had some of that street mentality in me,” he says. “No matter where you go, it's still the same old you. People always told me the real you is going to show up eventually.”

One day, Abdul caught a train from LA to Long Beach after someone told him the area was nice. He heard about the Mission and decided to walk in and ask for help. **“God led me here – He wrapped His arms around me and helped me up.** I signed up for the year-long New Life program. It's the work of God and I really, truly believe that.”

“I was angry and frustrated, but I had to learn how to face these things.”

Abdul thrived at the Mission, quickly realizing he needed the structure of a daily routine to help rebuild his life. “I had the chance to really sit here and get my life together – going to classes, learning how to deal with anger; receiving counseling, learning from devotions and the chaplains. **God kept me here every day and I thank Him. When you wake up, all praise is due to God.**”

Today, Abdul works at the front desk and has gained the confidence and calm spirit needed to help others in their time of trouble. He has restored relationships with his family and the Lord has given him a heart for helping others. He isn't sure yet what's in store for his life after graduation, but he knows God will direct his steps.

Abdul has a heart overflowing with love for friends like you who are helping to make life change possible. Thank you for your continued generosity.

A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT PROBST



Your kindness fills hearts with thanksgiving

Those we care for at the Mission face a litany of challenges. Like Abdul, whom you'll read about on Page 3, each story of heartbreak and tragedy is personal and unique.

Yet all of our guests share one thing in common: **deep gratitude for friends like you who are providing a pathway to hope and healing.**

From the essentials of food and shelter to our New Life programs of recovery and practical training, your generosity lays the financial foundation for our faith-based outreach. Sharing the love of God is at the center of all we do, and we know true and permanent life change is only possible when men and women have invited Him into their hearts.

With you alongside us, **we have the amazing opportunity to accompany homeless and hurting individuals – whom God loves deeply – on their journeys to restoration.**

The Thanksgiving season offers a special opportunity for everyone on our staff – and each man, woman and child in our care – to reflect on the many blessings of your kind compassion. With a heart of gratitude, I pray you'll continue to share your time, talent, gifts and prayers to uplift our neighbors in need here in Long Beach.

Serving with you,

Robert Probst
Executive Director



With Grateful Hearts...

As you give thanks for your blessings this Thanksgiving, those in our care will be giving thanks too – for you and for the gifts of comfort, compassion and life-changing opportunity you so generously provide for them.

This Thanksgiving Season Alone...



54,000 Hot Meals



10,800 Safe Beds



75 Food Boxes



Thousands of hours of Training, Counseling & Prayer

Please continue your heartfelt support with a gift to our 2018 Thanksgiving Campaign. Because you care, your neighbors in need can overcome their challenges and embrace a new beginning.



God bless you for being generous

- Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- Give online, anytime, at **LBRM.org**.

Leave a legacy of compassion and hope

To ensure your **heartfelt giving** continues beyond your lifetime, contact **Steve Fleischmann** about remembering the Mission in your will or estate plan.

(562) 216-7615

sfleischmann@lbrm.org

CONNECT WITH US



LBRM.org



 -- Add Our Shopping List to Yours --
54,000!

That's how many meals we'll serve this Thanksgiving season, and we need your help to do it. As you do your holiday shopping, please pick up these items for the Mission as well! Then deliver your donations to **1335 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, any day of the week.**

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <i>Turkeys</i> | <i>Velveeta cheese</i> |
| <i>Boneless hams</i> | <i>Elbow macaroni</i> |
| <i>#10 cans of sweet potatoes
or yams</i> | <i>Butter</i> |
| <i>Stove Top stuffing</i> | <i>#10 cans of green beans</i> |
| <i>Turkey gravy</i> | <i>#10 cans of corn</i> |
| <i>Brown sugar</i> | <i>#10 cans of cranberry sauce</i> |



Plan Now to Help at the Holidays!

Open Your Heart... Lend a Hand

It takes careful planning and organizing – and scores of caring volunteers – to bring a meaningful holiday to hundreds of homeless and hurting people. That's why we're starting NOW, and we hope you'll join us. Please contact our volunteer coordinator for opportunities and details.

☎ (562) 591-1292, ext. 119
✉ volunteer@lbrm.org

36th Annual Long Beach Leadership Prayer Breakfast Friday, September 21

“It was TRULY AN AMAZING MORNING; many of us appreciated the opportunity to be encouraged and to be a part of something God is doing in Long Beach. Thank you!!”
– Kristen N. Jones, LBRM Board Chairman

There's still time to sign up for the **36th Annual Long Beach Leadership Prayer Breakfast** on Friday, September 21 from 7-9 a.m. at the Renaissance Hotel. Make plans now to be part of this uplifting morning as we pray for our local leaders, cities, schools, churches and organizations. To register, please visit prayerlb.com. Or to help sponsor this event, contact Lupe Lopez at (562) 216-7614 or llopez@lbrm.org. **HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



Praying
for
Local
Leaders

Did You Know? It costs only **\$2.20** to provide one meal for a hungry person.