

Rescue

R E V I E W

Your Gifts Fill Hearts
With **Joy!**

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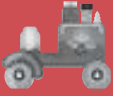
"It was like a burden
getting released."

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Annual Christmas
Toy Giveaway

4




Long Beach Rescue Mission Helping the Homeless ■ Changing Lives

Because of you...

“MY STORY HAS A NEW BEGINNING!”

Your gifts bring **JOY** to people like John at Christmas and all through the year!



“
IT WAS LIKE
A BURDEN
GETTING RELEASED,
TO BE
FREE FROM
WORRYING.
”

“I totally lost focus...” John says.

John made a bad decision about 10 years ago to try drugs. He then spent years enslaved by addiction. “I would get high and lose my job, couldn’t pay rent and lose my housing. I just figured, whatever, it is what it is.”

John was homeless, living on the streets, before God used a police officer to get his attention. The officer said John couldn’t sleep on the streets and asked if he wanted to come to Long Beach Rescue Mission. John first said no, but after a couple officers mentioned the Mission and encouraged him again that same day, he finally gave in and took them up on their offer for a ride. **Here, through your gifts, he was blessed with the essentials of safe shelter... nutritious meals... and the care he needed to feel safe and get back on his feet.**

“Coming to the Mission was a friendly reminder to get back right with God. They whipped me back into shape pretty quick.”

For the first time in years, John celebrated the miracle of Christmas with God’s joy and peace in his heart.

“I was going nowhere, incredibly fast,” John shares. “I knew the truth – what was right – but I didn’t do it.”

John decided to enter our New Life year-long residential discipleship program. His heart and his life changed thanks to the routine of morning devotions, daily classes, work therapy and ongoing spiritual guidance. John got his GED, graduated from the program and plans to go back to school to get his degree in sound engineering.

This Christmas, because of your compassion and God’s love, John’s story has a new beginning. And he’s blessed by the greatest gift he could ever receive – a future filled with joy and meaning. “I’m working right now, so my plan is to save as much as I can and then go to school. I have a strong passion for music, and I want to produce music for the rest of my life.”

A MESSAGE FROM
ROBERT PROBST



Your Gifts
Fill Hearts
With *Joy!*

The "Christmas story" isn't fiction, fable or fairytale. It's God's reassuring Truth!

Christ was born to bring hope to a troubled world and healing to broken souls.

That's the joy-filled message we're honored to share with our guests at Christmas, and remain faithful to every day of the year.

Jesus' birth begins a new story for all of humankind. But for a new story to begin, an old one often must end. Through the Christ-centered care your generosity provides, we help individuals close chapters of loneliness, pain and tragedy in their lives and ask the Lord to be the author of their futures. I invite you to partner with us in the coming weeks to provide gifts of food, shelter and life-restoring guidance, as we celebrate the joyous new beginnings the season brings.

The redemptive story of Christmas continues today, each time friends like you reach out with compassion to those who are homeless, addicted and downtrodden.

Thank you for keeping the story of Christ's birth alive - and filling hearts with the joy of Christmas - every day of the year.

May God bless you and yours this holiday season and into the New Year.

Serving with you,

Robert Probst
Executive Director



Give a Meal... Change a Life
18,000 meals by Christmas!

A plate of hot, wholesome food can change someone's story from struggle to strength... from heartbreak to hope... from despair to joy. With each meal you give, you offer so much more:

- Safe shelter and clean clothing
- Life skills classes and practical guidance
- The message of God's life-changing love



It costs only \$2.20 to provide a meal and care for one hungry person...

Please Send Your Gift Today!



✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

🖥 Give online anytime at **LBRM.org**.



You can choose **the perfect gift** with
#GIVING TUESDAY

Make your **Giving Tuesday** gift now by shopping our Christmas Gift Catalog! There are so many ways you can give to bring joy and hope to our neighbors in need.



\$50 provides
nourishing meals



\$75 provides
warm clothing



\$150 provides safe
beds & shelter

🖥 Shop online at **LBRM.org/GiftCatalog**.

✉ Add your special gift to the reply card and send it today.

These Christmas gifts are representative of the needs of those we serve. Donations may be used to support the area of our ministry with the greatest need.

Year-End Giving

Ensures

Ongoing Blessings



Your generous year-end gift to Long Beach Rescue Mission helps ensure we can bless our homeless guests with vital assistance and life-changing guidance well into the months ahead. Your gift may be tax-deductible for the current year if made by December 31!

- ✉ Give online at **LBRM.org**.
- 📧 Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.

Annual

CHRISTMAS TOY

Giveaway

Long Beach Rescue Mission has partnered with generous friends like you for more than 40 years to make Christmas special for local children who have so little. You can ensure kids who are staying at the Mission, as well as underprivileged children in our community, have a special gift to open on Christmas morning.

Simply purchase new, unwrapped toys for children – newborn through 12 years old – and drop them off at the Mission before December 13.

You can also make a financial gift that can be used to shop for toys and stocking stuffers, or volunteer your time at the giveaway and see for yourself the smiles on little boys' and girls' faces.



To learn more, please visit **LBRM.org** or call **(562) 216-7614**. Thank you for everything you do to make the holidays a time of joy for precious young children!

