

Rescue

R E V I E W

Long Beach Rescue Mission Helping the Homeless ■ Changing Lives

Celebrating rebirth
this Christmas.

2



"God is in my
life now."

3



Give a toy.
Share some joy.

4



Thanks to you...

Kenan

has been given a
life-changing gift
this Christmas.



“God is **IN MY LIFE NOW.**”

Growing up, Kenan always felt like an outsider. This insecurity led to a lack of confidence and a need for approval from others. So, at age 15, when his peers began experimenting with drugs and alcohol, he joined in, not knowing it would derail his life.

“In my twenties, it started to get out of control, started to become an everyday thing,” Kenan says. **“It got to a point where I felt like I couldn’t function without using.** I was trying to go to work and be a family man, but it wasn’t working.”

For a long time, Kenan’s wife tried to be supportive, hoping he would get clean. But with young children in the picture, her patience eventually ran out. “When I lost my job, she just couldn’t do it anymore,” Kenan says. “She took the kids and went to live with family, and I became homeless.”

After living out of his car for months, Kenan came to Long Beach Rescue Mission and entered

our New Life Program. He quickly learned that real change would take patience and putting things in God’s hands.

“I wasn’t deeply spiritual,” Kenan says. “I knew of God, but I wouldn’t call it a relationship with God. That’s one of the things that was missing in my life.”


As Kenan worked on his relationship with God and overcoming his addiction, he also began taking steps toward a promising future, which included enrolling in college to finish his accounting degree. And he’s committed to being the best dad he can be. “My kids are still young, so I’m hopeful that I still have time to make things right in their lives,” he says.

This year, it’s going to be a Christmas filled with joy for Kenan – and he is so grateful to you for this wonderful gift of a new life. “This is the longest I’ve been clean and sober since I started using. And now I’m able to see the potential in myself and what I can accomplish.”





**“Now I’m able to see
the potential in myself
and what
I can accomplish.”**



Celebrating Christmas with JOY for All People

In Luke 2:10, the angel says,
*"Behold, I bring you good tidings
of great joy, which shall be to all
people."*

During the Christmas season,
we hear a lot about joy. It has me
thinking about how joy is something
all people can have in their hearts.
This time of year, our greatest joy is
celebrating the birth of our Savior
and the eternal life we have been
freely given.

That joy is what fills our hearts
Christmas morning... and, hopefully,
every day of the year. It's the same
joy I see on the faces of the children,
women and men that have come
to Long Beach Rescue Mission and
experienced God's life-changing love
up close and personal. The joy YOU
help them experience through your
heartfelt prayers and support.

This Christmas, as you reflect on
the "reason for the season," I hope
you will remember our neighbors
who are hurting. As Kenan's story
shows, your generosity offers help,
healing and a chance to be held in
the arms of a loving God.

I am continually humbled by the
faithfulness of friends like you who
joyfully bless others. Thank you, and
may God fill your heart with peace
and love.



Serving with you,

Lupe Lopez
Lupe Lopez
Director of
Development

A delicious Christmas meal for our homeless neighbors...

... STARTS WITH YOU!

As you prepare to celebrate the joy
of Christmas, please remember our
hurting neighbors. It's been another
really tough year for so many in our
community – and the very best gift
you can give them is the help they
need right now!

Just \$2.20 provides a meal and care
for one person.

That meal is often the first step
toward a new life through God's love.



\$2.20
for 1 hot meal



A night
of safe shelter

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**

**Healing
Hope
And a Second
Chance!**

Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

SEE HOW YOU HELPED CHANGE KENAN'S LIFE!

You Can **Transform Lives** Before the Year Ends!

This year has been tough for so many of our neighbors. They're trying
to rebuild their lives after losing their jobs... their homes... or even
their hope. **But your year-end gift will
give them a chance to transform
their lives completely.**

Your tax-deductible donation before
December 31 will help so many people
start over now and in the new year!

☑ Add your special year-end gift to the
reply card and send it today.

📄 Give online at **LBRM.org**.






November 30 GIVING TUESDAY

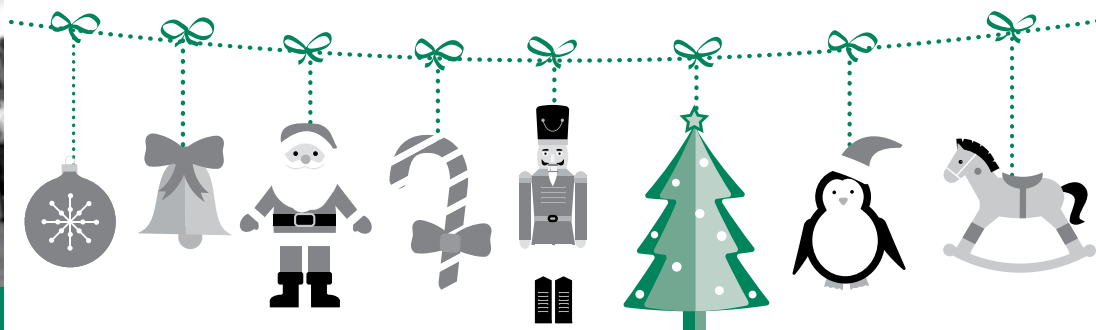
It's a day for neighbors to help neighbors... and join together as a community on **Giving Tuesday!**

On November 30, your compassionate gift to our ministry will provide life-changing essentials like meals, shelter and recovery services to help people right here in the Greater Long Beach area.

Many people are still struggling to overcome hardships and rebuild their lives on solid ground. *Your help is needed now more than ever.* Give our neighbors hope on Giving Tuesday!

**Why Wait? Celebrate
GIVING TUESDAY Now!**

 Give online at **LBRM.org.**



Give a toy. Share some joy.

Take part in the Annual Christmas Toy Giveaway!

It's here: our Annual Christmas Toy Giveaway! And you have a special opportunity to bring the joy of the season to a local child in need.

For over 40 years, caring friends like you have partnered with Long Beach Rescue Mission to deliver Christmas toys to girls and boys in the community. Some of these children are staying here at the Mission. Others are from struggling families who can't afford any kind of holiday celebration.

Imagine the excitement in a child's eyes – the joy in their heart – when they open your special gift on Christmas morning! Simply purchase a new, unwrapped toy(s) for a child, newborn through 12 years old, then drop it by the Mission before December 18. Perhaps you'll even volunteer at the giveaway and experience firsthand some heart-warming holiday spirit.

To learn more, please visit **LBRM.org** or call **(562) 216-7614**. Thank you... and Merry Christmas!

