

# Rescue

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

The best Christmas  
gift there is...

*Emil*

has a new life,  
thanks to you!





# EMIL'S SECOND CHANCE



**W**hen Emil walked through the doors of Long Beach Rescue Mission, he felt lost, beaten and torn down. **He had spent a lifetime searching for God, love and a family he never really had.**

He was born an only child to a mother adrift in a life of drugs and prostitution. His mother abandoned him to his father, who also ran wild on the streets. He, in turn, abandoned Emil to an ex-girlfriend, who raised him.

"In high school, I started messing up, drinking and ditching school," Emil says. "I was out in the streets, just partying, having fun, chasing girls."

Eventually, he tried to settle down and started working as a phlebotomist for various hospitals and clinics. **But his drinking continued – and grew worse.**

"Drinking took a toll, especially after

my fourth DUI," he says. "I went to prison and lost my job. After prison, I started working for Disney, then lost that job because one day I went to work tipsy."

After that, Emil started cycling in and out of jails, homelessness and rehabs. But he could never shake alcohol.

**Finally, he turned to Long Beach Rescue Mission.** He realized that alcohol wasn't the real problem. *He* was the problem, and he needed God's help.

"This Mission is Christian-based," he says. "They helped me understand the Bible and I heard some great preaching. I learned how to pray, and I took anger management classes."

Slowly, Emil learned how to forgive and love others – and himself. He came searching for God and God's love. He found that here, and he'll leave with a heart full of gratitude.

"I'm thankful for Long Beach Rescue Mission because they gave me a roof over my head, they gave me clothes to wear, food to eat. Most of all, they gave me a second chance at life."

**“I’m thankful for Long Beach Rescue Mission... they gave me a second chance at life.” – Emil**

**Emil is excited to celebrate the restored hope he has been given this Christmas – and he is grateful for YOU!** "I hope more people like you will support Long Beach Rescue Mission, so more guys like me can have another chance."



# Help meet our \$20,000 GIVING TUESDAY Goal!

Tuesday, November 29

## A Message from JEFF LEVINE

### The JOY that Comes from Christ

Don't you just love the words of John 1:14? *"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

As we rejoice over the birth of our Savior, it's such a blessing to know God fills our hearts with joy everlasting – today and every day. His faithfulness sustains us through every circumstance and His grace offers renewal in our lives... as well as in the lives of those we serve.

While we do provide Christmas gifts to the guests in our care, what's most important is that they know about Jesus' sacrifice and the gift of salvation that is freely given to us all.

Thanks to your friendship, we're able to share the "good tidings of great joy for all people" during the holidays and throughout the year. Your fervent prayers and ongoing support help restore lives – and wrap local men, women and children in God's loving embrace.

Just like Emil, whose story we've shared on page 3, God still works miracles in the lives of people all around us.

This Christmas, I hope your heart overflows with peace, joy and love as your blessings abound.

Serving with you,

Jeff Levine  
Executive Director



## SHARE A CHRISTMAS MEAL...

You can help make this Christmas a time of celebration for our neighbors who are hungry and homeless. With so many obstacles to overcome during this season of hardship, they need a helping hand and to experience God's love!



**\$2.20**

for 1 hot meal



**\$13.38**

for 1 night of  
safe shelter

**CAN GIVE  
SOMEONE**



**Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!**



## Great Bargains and a Great Cause!

The Long Beach Rescue Mission Thrift Store is a place of hidden treasures and great bargains.

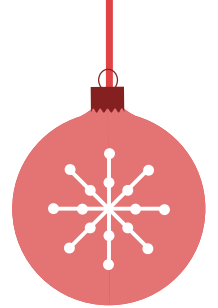
Thousands of square feet of new and used furniture, clothing, housewares, appliances, sporting goods, office furniture and knick-knacks await the discerning shopper – all at bargain prices.

**Drop off or shop!** For your shopping pleasure, we're open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays. Donations can also be dropped off during these hours.

Donations are tax-deductible, and all proceeds benefit those served by the Mission. For more information, please call (562) 591-1292 or email [info@lbrm.org](mailto:info@lbrm.org).



# Annual Christmas Toy Giveaway



## Give the gift that changes kids' lives!

While many individuals provide a lifetime of generous gifts for family, friends and organizations they care about, over half of U.S. adults do not have a will or other estate plan.

Without a will, your estate will be divided according to the state in which you live. And the result may be very different from what you had wished, especially if your desire was not only to care for those you leave behind, but to leave a lasting legacy for the causes close to your heart.

The Mission can help make sure your wishes are followed, and that your generosity lives on to transform hearts and lives for years to come.

For information on planned giving opportunities, please call Jeff Levine at **(562) 591-1292, ext. 111** or **jlevine@lbrm.org**.

*If you have already included the Mission in your will, please call so we can say "thank you!"*

Dedicated friends like you have partnered with Long Beach Rescue Mission to deliver Christmas joy to local children for more than 40 years!

You can give kids who are staying at the Mission, as well as children whose families are struggling, a special gift that will bring smiles to their faces this Christmas morning.

Simply purchase new, unwrapped toys for children – newborn through 12 years old – and drop them off at the Mission before December 18.

You can also make a financial gift that will be used to shop for toys and stocking stuffers, or volunteer at the giveaway to see for yourself the excitement of these precious little boys and girls.

To learn more, please visit **LBRM.org** or call **(562) 216-7614**. *Thank you for everything you do to make the holidays special for Long Beach's children and families this Christmas!*

