

Take action
against hunger!

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Help Families "Shop" for
Thanksgiving Dinner

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"I was finally safe."

3



Rescue

R E V I E W

Long Beach Rescue Mission Helping the Homeless ■ Changing Lives

YOU are 
a blessing!

INSIDE: Sam shares
how your support gives
him hope.



“I was finally **SAFE.**”

Sam was raised in a loving family, and as an adult he had a good job and a home. Very slowly, alcohol abuse became a problem. “I struggled on and off with drinking too much,” he remembers, “then I lost my job.”

He felt lost and struggled with feelings of hopelessness. “Depression led me to drinking even more, and then I began using drugs.” **Even as his life was spiraling downward, Sam was scared to admit that he needed help.**

Addiction continued to destroy his life, he couldn’t find another job, and eventually he lost his home as well. “It wasn’t until I experienced homelessness that I finally reached out to a family member for help.”

Sam’s family pointed him to the Mission, and Sam knew that starting over would be hard work. “My biggest challenge was just to remain sober and clean.” But he also felt a newfound peace. “Having a roof over my head, a shower and a warm bed... I realized I was finally safe.”

In the New Life Program, Sam had the opportunity to practice responsibility and productivity, and learned to work with others as a team. “The chance to practice leadership really impacted me,” he reflects.

“**I WAS FINALLY ABLE TO TELL SOMEONE, ANYONE, THAT I NEEDED HELP GETTING BACK ON MY FEET.**”

Sam also had the chance to find faith and a relationship with God. **“When I got here, I didn’t know where I was spiritually. I was confused, but now I have faith, and I believe. I was even baptized.”**

Looking toward his future, Sam is excited to graduate, find a job and continue to rebuild his life on his new foundation. “I want to be a productive member of my community, to give back.”

Your gifts are bearing fruit in the lives of people like Sam. Now, his heart is full of hope this fall... thanks to your kindness! “I’m so thankful for how the Mission has helped me start over. They gave me a second chance, and I’m so blessed.”



Hearts and lives are full... thanks to YOU!



A Message from JEFF LEVINE

As the seasons change, I'm reminded of Jesus' words to His disciples: ***"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."*** As one of our most devoted "workers," your support and care for our hungry neighbors experiencing homelessness is a powerful source of hope. For the people who come to us for help. For our staff... and for me personally!

This month, you have a special opportunity to make a difference for our struggling neighbors. September is Hunger Action Month – and we're inviting you to provide 30 meals over 30 days for our hungry guests. It's a meaningful way you can be a force for change here in the Greater Long Beach area.

In September alone, we're preparing to serve 24,000 meals – and more in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Your support will help provide these life-changing meals that fill bellies with nourishment... and fill lives with hope.

Just read how your generous gifts are bearing fruit in Sam's life, whose story is on Page 3. He is looking forward to a more hope-filled future – because of the dedication of "workers" like you!

Thank you for investing in the lives of more people like Sam during Hunger Action Month and throughout the fall season!

Serving with you,

Jeff Levine, President & CEO



LYDIA HOUSE EXPANSION: GLORY TO GOD!

For years, our Lydia House – a safe-haven for women and children experiencing homelessness – has operated at full capacity, with a waitlist that reflected the deep need in our community.

Moved by this burden and led by God's call, we took a step of faith. And on July 7, construction began on our Lydia House Expansion and we are humbled and in awe of God's faithfulness.

This expansion will provide 60 additional beds and improved facilities, giving us the opportunity to serve more women and children with dignity, care and the love of Christ.

We are deeply grateful to every donor, community partner and supporter who has helped make this vision possible. Your generosity is creating room not just for shelter, but for transformation: for lives to be restored through the power of the Gospel. As we prepare to open our doors next year, women and children will be welcomed into this safe space to experience God's love, and find healing & hope for new life.

If you'd like to learn more about this ministry or schedule a personal tour with Chaplain Jeff Levine, please call **(562) 277-4697**.

SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT: HUNGER ACTION MONTH

24,000

Meals Needed by Sept. 30!

September is Hunger Action Month! Join our community in this month-long movement to fight hunger... and TAKE ACTION to help even more hungry neighbors we'll welcome this fall.

Sign up to serve a meal

Donate canned goods

Provide groceries

Invite others to join you

For just \$2.43, YOU can provide a nourishing meal to end someone's hunger.
Send your gift today OR online at **LBRM.org**.

Scan to take action now!



Become a Member of The Lydia House Ambassadors Guild

We would be blessed to have you join us in advocacy, prayer and support of our women and children. The Lydia House Ambassadors Guild meets bi-monthly at Lydia House, enjoying lunch, fellowship, worship music and an opportunity to hear an inspiring testimony.

If you would like to learn more about the Guild, and be part of this life-changing ministry, please contact Lynda Peluso, Development Supervisor at (562) 591-1292, ext. 113.

Thank you!



Help Families “Shop” For Thanksgiving Dinner – FOR FREE!

Each year, Long Beach Rescue Mission arranges one of our classrooms in the style of a grocery store to create a free Thanksgiving Shopping Experience.

Local families are invited to come “shop” for all the essentials they need to make Thanksgiving dinner. From food items and ingredients for classic Thanksgiving dishes, to other pantry staples and even hygiene items – they’ll find everything they need to celebrate a bountiful, nourishing Thanksgiving.

350 families were served last year alone. We’re counting on faithful supporters like you to help meet this year’s great need with even greater generosity and love.

For more information and to see our most needed items, visit **lbrm.org/ways-to-help/current-needs** or call **(562) 591-1292**.

**Donations can be dropped off Monday – Sunday,
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Samaritan House: 1335 Pacific Ave.,
Long Beach, CA 90813.**

