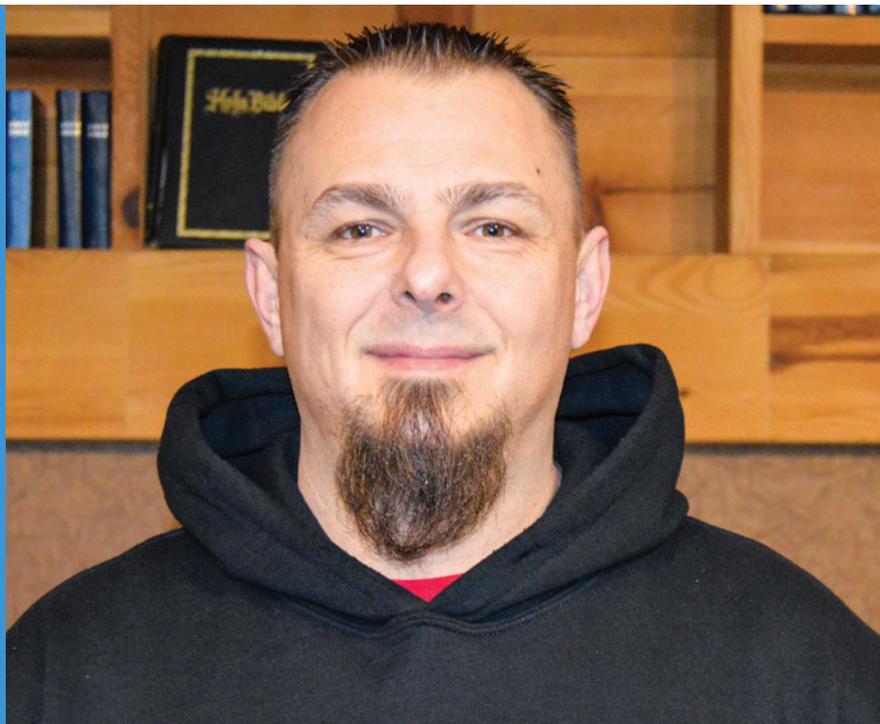


# the MISSION

## Stories of Second Chances

## Thank You for Helping Me Get My Life Back!

by David



My name is David, and my son who is 6 means everything to me. I think our bond is especially strong because I grew up in an abusive home where I was either being whipped or ignored, and I want him to have a different, better childhood. There's nothing I won't do for him, and that includes defeating my drug addiction.

That's why I'm here at Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. I've struggled with drugs since my teens, when I started smoking pot with friends in an attempt to find acceptance. Over time, hard drugs took over my life and became my priority. And getting high became my way of dealing with life.

Things came to a head when my wife, our son, and I were evicted from our home. I went to social services for help, but when I failed their drug test, they immediately took my son into custody. I was shattered. It was the worst day of my life, and I felt like there was no hope, that I was never going to see my son again.

But here at the Mission, I've discovered there is hope in Christ. After years of holding on to stuff from my past, I've learned to forgive, just as I've been forgiven. And now I feel like a weight has been lifted off my chest. I have joy in my life now, and I have a purpose. I know that I'm a good man—a child of God and that He accepts me.

**“When I failed their drug test, they immediately took my son into custody.”**

Soon I'll graduate from the Mission's recovery program and I'll be reunited with my wife and son. I know that without God in my life, there's no way I could possibly have done this. Thank you for supporting the Mission and helping me get my life—and my son—back.

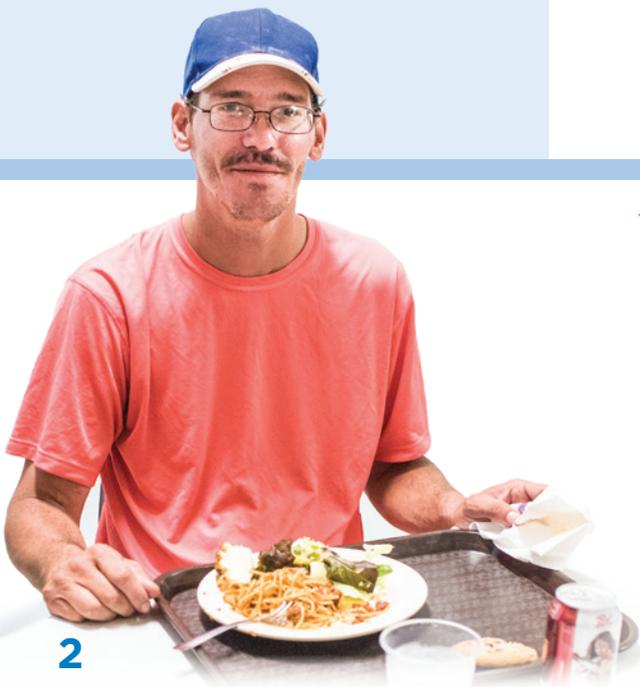
# Is Your Loved One in Need of Help?

Do you know someone who is struggling with addiction and urgently needs the life-changing help of Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission? If so, we've got good news. One hundred beds are now available in our Christian Addiction Recovery and Education (CARE) program.

This no-cost, 13-month residential program guides hurting clients to the heart of their spiritual, psychological, educational, physical, and emotional needs. Then, equips them to overcome their addiction and begin a transformed life in Christ.

If someone close to you needs help, we're here for you both. Please contact us today at 775-323-0386x0. And help them start a journey that will change their life forever.

**There's Hope at Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission! Call Today: 775-323-0386x0.**



**FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Luis Santoni**



## You Are a Blessing to Neighbors in Crisis

Dear Friend of the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission,

God is faithful. And throughout the pandemic, I've continually seen His faithfulness poured out through our wonderful family of supporters. In a time filled with so much uncertainty, you've linked arms with us to ensure men, women, and children in crisis receive the help they need. And I'm forever grateful.

As we head into the summer months, I want to let you know about a few ongoing needs at Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. Disposable masks and gloves, as well as disinfectant wipes and cleaning supplies, are greatly needed and can be dropped off at our warehouse, if you feel so led.

I also want to let you know we have beds available in our recovery program, and we're here to help if you know someone battling addiction. (See the article to the left for more information!)

Please take a moment to also read the stories of grace and restoration you've helped make possible. Then, I hope you will continue your generous support with a gift to help this summer when the heat will bring even more vulnerable people to our door. Thank you...and God bless you!

Your servant,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Luis Santoni'.

Luis Santoni



## Your Support Is a Special Blessing

Summertime poses an extreme challenge here at Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. Over the next few months, we'll experience a large influx of homeless men and women seeking shelter from the extreme heat—in addition to the many people we're already serving on a daily basis.

Adding to the challenge is that contributions to the Mission drop significantly during the summer, as many of our supporters are away visiting friends and family. This creates a real dilemma.

# Because of You, I Know God Loves Me

by Sharay



My name is Sharay, and my struggle with meth started when I was just 14 years old. It was just me and my mom, and she worked a lot. So, I felt isolated and was always reaching for love but in the wrong places. Though I was always an overachiever in school and sports and the piano, I just never really felt good enough. I couldn't find my place. Meth became a way out and a survival tactic.

Later in life, after I married and had my first of four children, I really tried to get clean. I entered several different recovery programs, but nothing worked for me. Oh, I had a few short spells of sobriety, but when my marriage failed, I fell back into my old ways.

Thankfully, I heard about Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission from a family member. This place is completely different from the other programs. Everybody is just so loving and caring, and they welcome

you with open arms. I really feel like God was calling me here, and it's been important for me to be here to get close to God and know Him. That is definitely the piece that was missing.

**"I just never really felt good enough."**

Now I have God in my life and I have a lot of hope. Upon graduation from the recovery program, I will race back to being mom to my four young children—a new and improved mom! And I'm looking to enter the field of phlebotomy and just see what God has in store for me.

Thank you for your help in keeping the Mission running and for saving the lives of people like me. Because of you, I know God loves me. And that's all I need.

*"If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness..."*

—Isaiah 58:10, NIV



*Give today to touch hearts and transform lives!*

## Give During Summertime

### Help neighbors who are in crisis this summer

Please send a gift today to folks devastated by homelessness and addiction. People like David and Sharay. They saw this place as their hope. And because of the generosity of friends like you, they have new hope for a life filled with promise.

To send a generous summer donation today, please use the enclosed remit slip or give securely online at [www.rsgm.org/donate](http://www.rsgm.org/donate). You may also call us at **775-323-0386**. Thank you for being a caring friend to men, women, and children who need your help this summer.

# In the Face of COVID, You've Kept Hope Alive...

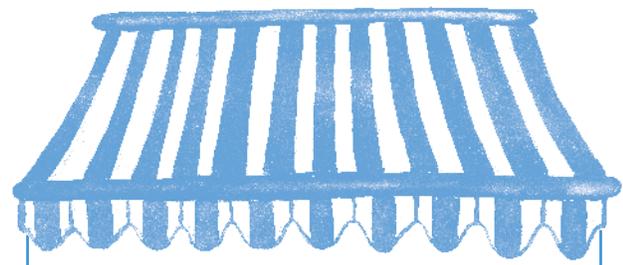
So much has changed at the Mission amid the uncertainties of the pandemic. But what hasn't changed is your impact on the lives of hungry and hurting people.



Following are some of the needs you've helped meet over the past year to ensure the safety of those we serve:

- **Plexiglass barriers, masks, and latex gloves** to help reduce the spread of the virus.
- **Disinfectant wipes** and other cleaning supplies to keep our Mission, warehouse, and thrift stores safe for clients and visitors.
- **Single wrapped utensils and to-go boxes** while we transitioned from our traditional dining hall to outdoor grab-and-go meals.
- And through it all, you've helped RSGM remain Northern Nevada's largest faith-based provider of services to hurting and homeless people, with **150 warm, clean beds** for men, women, and children, and nearly **500,000 meals served annually**.

Connect with us!   



## SHOP OUR STORES

Another way you can help homeless and hurting people is to shop at one of our four thrift stores. That's because every time you make a purchase, you're contributing to the life-changing work of the Mission.

### Thrift Depot McCarran (Reno)

2900 Clear Acre Lane (at McCarran)  
(775) 433-1737

### Thrift Depot Reno

575 E. Fourth St. (at Elko)  
(775) 786-4499

### Thrift Depot Sparks

640 Greenbrae Dr.  
(Greenbrae Shopping Center)  
(775) 331-5020

### Thrift Depot North Hills (Reno)

1075 North Hills Blvd., Ste. 360  
(Raley's Shopping Center)  
(775) 677-2266

### Hours (all locations):

9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Mon. – Sat.

Please continue to help hurting neighbors today!

Send your generous gift with the reply slip below. Or give now at [rsgm.org/donate](http://rsgm.org/donate). Thank you!

## MY SUMMER GIFT

YES, Luis, I want to help during the challenging summer months. Please use my gift to bring new life to hurting and homeless neighbors. **I've enclosed:**

- \$21.70 to provide 10 meals and other assistance
- \$30.38 to provide 14 meals and other assistance
- \$60.76 to provide 28 meals and other assistance
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide as many meals and care as possible
- Please bill my credit card: (please print)  VISA  MC  AMEX



ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission, Inc.  
P.O. Box 5956  
Reno, NV 89513-5956

Please mail this completed form and return it with your generous donation. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. You may also give online at [www.rsgm.org/donate](http://www.rsgm.org/donate). You will receive a receipt.