

the MISSION

Stories of Second Chances

The Mission Is a Miracle to Me

by Seth



My name is Seth and when I was 14 years old, my stepdad was sent to prison and my mom lost custody of my two younger sisters. Everything felt like it was falling apart.

I began hanging around bad people who were not good influences on me. Then I started drinking alcohol and doing meth. Meth was everywhere. Everybody I was hanging out with either used it or sold it. After a while I was selling it too...and stealing cars.

In my late teens, I was arrested and the judge said my choices were one to five years in prison or coming to the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. I didn't want to come to the Mission, but I really didn't want to go to prison. So, I chose the Mission.

I'd been to a rehab program before, which didn't work so well because it was only 28 days. But I could tell the Mission was different. I quickly learned that this is a place that changes people's lives.

Working through my addiction, one of my favorite classes here has been about the relationship we have with God—about loving others, pointing people toward Christ, and not falling into sin. I've always believed in God, but I never put Him first. Now, I'm learning that I can't do it on my own. And God is helping me through prayer and learning His Word.

“I quickly learned that this is a place that changes people's lives.”

The Mission is a miracle to me. I've never seen anything like it. With guidance from the staff, my goal when I graduate from the program is to go to automotive school and become a mechanic. My heart is full of gratitude for the help I'm receiving.

Your continued support today will give more people like Seth a fresh start and hope for a brighter future. Thank you!



Walk a Mile in My Shoes

On February 19 at 9:00 a.m., hundreds of men, women, and children will be converging on Wingfield Park for our annual Walk a Mile in My Shoes event.

This year's mile-long walk will conclude at the Mission, where participants can tour our Record Street campus and catch a firsthand glimpse of the life-changing work God is doing through the support of friends like you. Vans will be available for transportation back to Wingfield Park.

Individuals, families, church groups, businesses, and other groups are all welcome. Suggested registration is \$30 per adult (\$25 if part of a group of 4 or more). Kids under 12 are free. **All proceeds go directly to meeting the needs of hurting and homeless people in Northern Nevada.**

Register today by calling **Mariah Peaslee at 775-323-0386, ext 16.** Then lace up and come join us! Follow us on Facebook for event updates @renomission.



**FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Luis Santoni**



“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!”

— Luke 24:5-6, NIV

Dear Friend of the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission,

The Easter season is so special and a wonderful reminder of the powerful work God is doing here at the Mission.

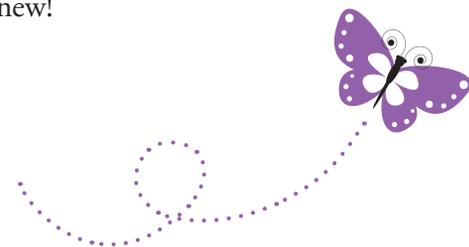
Every day, as I walk the halls, I see men and women who were once “dead” in their addiction. But through Christ, they’re experiencing revival and are being changed from the inside out. They are coming back to life.

That’s what Jesus does...he offers new life! I see it in the faces of those who graduate from our program. The woman who was once lost in addiction but is now a transformed woman of God. And the man who had traded everything for drugs and alcohol but is now made new in Christ. These people understand what it means to overcome the tomb.

It’s such a blessing to be a witness to it all, to see the power of Jesus reclaiming and restoring the lives of His children. It’s a blessing, too, to be in partnership with you. Thank you for the selfless sacrifice you make for the sake of those we serve—and for allowing God to work through you to make old lives new!

Your servant,

Luis Santoni



Please Give Meals and Easter

Tonight, thousands of men and women in the United States—many of them here in Northern Nevada—will have no place to call home. For people who have never experienced homelessness, it’s impossible to fully understand the misery and hopelessness they feel.

But as Christians, we know there is hope—the hope of an empty tomb that Jesus left behind when he rose to new life that first Easter morning. It’s a hope that promises the chance for that same new life to everyone who believes. And it’s the hope we preach every day to hurting people at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission.

You Are My Hero

by Krystal



I was born a heroin baby due to my mother's addiction and spent the first two years of my life recovering in a medical unit. Growing up, drugs continued to be the norm in my family. Every morning, I'd wake up and there'd be people passed out on the floor, half naked, needles everywhere. I started drinking alcohol at the age of 12, and by my teens I'd moved on to hard drugs and eventually meth.

Over the years, I tried every which way to overcome my addiction: treatment programs, self-help books, even moving. But every attempt failed. I knew I was a good person, but I hadn't felt like one in a long time, and I started to think I was going to live and die with drugs. That all changed when I walked through the doors of the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission.

Suddenly, there was real hope. I found myself surrounded by people who genuinely care about me...care about

my well-being...care about my future. There was a bit of culture shock. But I could feel the genuine love. I'm speechless at how much love I'm shown here, and that's thanks to the people who donate and keep this program going.

“I started to think I was going to live and die with drugs.”

It's amazing that this program is going completely off donations, not off government funding. I'm eternally grateful for the people who support the Mission. They're my heroes because they've saved my life and have given me the opportunity to strengthen my relationship with God. And by having God in my life, I now have hope.

Thank you for all you do to help people like Krystal find restoration and new life in Christ!

2021 Report: Your Compassion in Action

Despite the many challenges of 2021, compassionate partners like you made it a year of hope. That's because you rallied together in an amazing show of support to help meet the needs of our hurting and homeless neighbors.

You helped provide:

- Food for more than 1,300 hungry people every single day.
- 50,000 nights of safe shelter for those with nowhere else to go.
- Christmas toys and clothing for thousands of local children and families.
- Life-changing hope for people in desperate need of it.

Your continued support today will help rescue and change even more lives in the new year. Thank you for all you do for our neighbors in need!

Hope

This Easter season, many more struggling men and women will come seeking help, hope, and a hot meal. And for some, that meal will be the first step toward a new life in Jesus Christ—a life free from addiction and homelessness.

Please give meals and hope this Easter season by sending a special gift with the enclosed reply slip. Or make your donation online at www.rsgm.org/Easter. You may also call us at 775-323-0386. Thank you for being an Easter friend to those who need your help!

Your generous gift today
will bring real help and
life-changing hope
to a hurting neighbor!

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; By his wounds you have been healed.”

—1 Peter 2:24, NIV



Bless Local Hungry Families with Emergency Food Baskets

After another challenging year, and with the lingering effects of the pandemic, many families in our community are still struggling to make ends meet. And a growing number are turning to Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission for help meeting their urgent need for food.



Your support today will help reach our most vulnerable neighbors with emergency food baskets to ensure they have the groceries they desperately need. These food baskets are given out twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Each one is jam-packed with nutritious food staples, including fresh produce, and contains enough to feed a family for one week.

In addition to the baskets, your kind support will also help stock our pop-up pantry for food distribution on the last Saturday of every month.

Please open your heart and send a gift today to bless local hungry families when they need help the most. Thank you!

Help Hurting and Homeless Neighbors of All Ages This Easter!

Send your gift with the reply slip below. Or give online at rsgm.org/Easter. Thank you!

Connect with us!   

Be sure to follow us for the latest news and updates on the impact you're making!



MY EASTER GIFT

YES, Luis, please use my gift to bring new life to struggling neighbors during the spring.

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



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ACCOUNT NO. _____ EXP. DATE _____

NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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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/Easter. You will receive a receipt.