

the MISSION

Stories of Second Chances

He's Not Finished with Me

by Terrell



My name is Terrell and I believe God brought me here to Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. I was traveling by bus to another state, but when it was time to transfer to another bus, I got on the wrong one by mistake. The last stop was Reno.

With no money, I started walking and ended up by the river where a lot of homeless people live. I started hanging out and sleeping there. I'm no stranger to addiction. I'd been hooked on crack cocaine for years. That was my drug. But out here they have crystal meth. It's just all over the place, so I started using that.

After a couple weeks, I was actually thinking about killing myself. I walked around town, thinking about jumping in the river and ending it because I was all alone. I had nobody. But suddenly, something told me

**“I was all alone.
I had nobody.”**

to look up. When I did, I found myself staring at the Mission. I came inside and learned they had a program for guys like me, and finally I felt like I had some hope.

Here at the Mission, it's like family. Everybody's there for one another, encouraging each other. The program includes Bible classes, anger management, recovery classes and counseling, and job skills training. I even completed my GED.

More than anything, I feel like God brought me to this Mission because He's not finished with me. I tried to run from Him and He drew me here to finish the work in me. Now, I'm learning to just keep putting Him in everything I do.

Thank you for paving the way for God to do a new work in Terrell's life...and in the lives of countless others!



The Collateral Damage of COVID-19

Your continued prayers and support are especially needed as we work to overcome the pandemic's impact.

Rising Need: Nevada has been hit extra hard by job losses, driving significantly more people to the Mission for help.

Thrift Stores Shuttered: Our thrift stores, which help fund our addiction recovery programs, were closed for two long months. Now that they've been reopened, we hope you'll stop by!

Mega Meals: An additional 200 meals per day are being served, stretching our kitchen staff and our budget.

Food Basket Spike: The Mission is experiencing a severe spike in requests for food baskets from hungry and hurting neighbors.

To help, please send your generous gift today. Or give now at www.rsgm.org.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Luis Santoni



Humbled by Your Partnership

Dear Friend of the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission,

In these uncertain times we're living in, at least two things *are* certain: The need around us is great...and God is still in control.

Over the past few months, as the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic robbed people of their livelihoods and left many literally penniless, requests for food assistance at the Mission skyrocketed. While we normally serve about 1,300 meals each day, that number quickly jumped an **additional 200 meals per day**.

But God has been faithful, working through caring friends like you to meet the needs of neighbors experiencing homelessness, and others in crisis. Your response has been a beautiful expression of compassion and selflessness. And I am humbled by your partnership.

Now, as we approach the season of Thanksgiving, one of our busiest times of the year, I pray you will continue your support today. So many people in our community—some who are experiencing homelessness and struggling to just survive another day on the streets—are in need of real hope, the hope that comes from new life in Christ. With your help, they can find that hope here at Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission.

Thank you for your friendship, your heart of compassion, and for all you do to help restore broken lives!

Your servant,

Luis Santoni

Hurting Men, Women, and Children

That's what *The Mission* newsletter is all about...praising God, proclaiming His name, and letting everyone know what He has done in the lives of hurting men, women, and children at Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. It's also about how God is working through compassionate people like YOU to provide struggling neighbors with food, shelter, grace, healing, and even the hope of salvation. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

Please remember hurting people this Thanksgiving

This fall, please continue to remember our neighbors experiencing homelessness, and all those in need, who are turning to us during

This Place Is a Miracle

by Taunya



I was looking at one to four years in prison for drug possession and identity theft. Thankfully, after 91 days, the court gave me an opportunity to enter the 13-month recovery program at Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission, and that has changed everything.

I'd been doing drugs for 25 years, ever since some friends introduced me to meth. During that time, I was raising three children. But as I got worse and worse into drugs, I ended up walking away from my family. Soon after, I became homeless, started couch surfing with friends, and for a while slept in the back of a truck. Eventually, I began selling drugs for a living, which led to my arrest.

Being at the Mission has completely changed my life. This place is amazing, so loving. And the people here are so

“I ended up walking away from my family.”

God-centered. They've helped me to stay clean, stay focused, and get my life back together. This is definitely the right place for me, and I feel blessed that I was welcomed here.

Now, relationships are the most important thing to me—my relationships with God and my kids. I talk with my kids every day on the phone and on Sundays they come to attend church with me. We're so close!

I want to thank you for supporting the Mission because your donations change so many lives. This place is a miracle, and it's people like you who keep it going. I'm very grateful. Very!

MISSION WISH LIST

In the wake of the pandemic, donations of the following items are greatly needed at this time:

- Cleaning solutions
- Gloves
- Masks
- Disinfectant wipes
- Toilet paper
- Non-perishable food items
- Clothes

Your generous donation of goods can be dropped off at our warehouse:

Where: 2115 Timber Way,
Reno

When: Monday–Friday

Time: 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

For more information about donating goods, please call us at 775-323-7999. Or visit **www.rsgm.org**. Thank you!



Children Need Your Help This Fall!

these challenging times. *There is so much suffering from the effects of the pandemic and people in our community urgently need help.*

Your support will be a huge help and will ensure that every man, woman, and child who comes through our doors will receive nourishing food, warm clothing, safe shelter, and the promise of God's transforming power.

Be sure to read their stories, then please take a moment to send your fall gift today using the included reply slip. You may also give your donation by visiting us online at **www.rsgm.org**. Thank you!

“Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.”

(1 Chronicles 16:8)

Oh, the Difference YOU Make...

With every kind gift you share, you forever touch the lives of hungry, homeless, and hurting neighbors.



Emergency Housing
for Women
& Children



Coat & Blanket Drives



150 Warm, Clean Beds



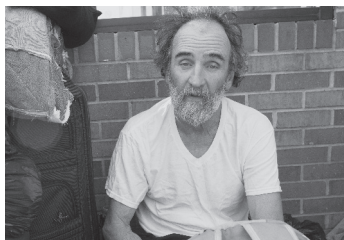
Food Pantry
for Hungry Neighbors



Thousands of Thanksgiving & Christmas Meals Served



Transformed Lives



Addiction Recovery
for Men & Women

Please continue your support this Thanksgiving season by sending a generous gift today. Thank you!



MY FALL GIFT

YES, Luis! I want to help reach hurting people with food, shelter, and new life this Thanksgiving season. **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 _____

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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. You will receive a receipt.