

Holiday ISSUE 2022

the **MISSION**

Stories of Second Chances

The best Christmas
gift there is...

Chelsea

has a new life,
thanks to you!



RENO-SPARKS
GOSPEL MISSION
INC.

DON'T MISS...

2 The Joy that Comes
from Christ

2 Double
your help

3 "I want God
in my life."



Give 2X the help on GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday, November 29

A Message from
LUIS SANTONI

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 Chelsea, 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.



Luis Santoni
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!



\$2.17
for 1 hot meal



A night
of shelter
and care

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**



Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

\$15,000 Year-End Matching Challenge DOUBLE YOUR HELP!



Here's a huge blessing as we end this year: Thanks to a generous group of partners, **any gift you make until December 31 will be matched through our \$15,000 Matching Challenge!**

That's right... your gift today doubles to provide twice the food, shelter and care. And that means twice the hope for many of our neighbors who are struggling with inflation, soaring gas prices and other hardships.

DEADLINE TO GIVE: 12/31

- ✉ Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.
- 📄 Give online anytime at www.rsgm.org.

THANK YOU
for doubling your
impact during
our Matching
Challenge!



**“I want
God
IN MY
LIFE.”**

Chelsea felt good... it had been several days since her last drink. But as she continued with her day, she started to feel a little strange. She thought she was getting a migraine, but soon realized this was different. She doesn't remember anything after that. She'd had a seizure. Thankfully, the staff at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission were there to help.

“The timing of it was amazing – it was the day after I arrived at the Mission. I'm so glad I was here... I don't know what would have happened if I was alone,” she says.

But it wasn't just because of the seizure that Chelsea was grateful. The Mission was helping her heal in other ways, too. Chelsea had gotten married and started a family at a young age. But the marriage didn't last, leaving Chelsea hurt and lost. She turned to alcohol to numb the pain.

“I had a great job and was doing well at work. I thought I could control my drinking, but I couldn't. I wasn't being the mother, daughter and friend I needed to be. I was miserable.”

Chelsea's brother had faced similar struggles and turned his life around at the Mission. Chelsea came here hoping she could find a new start too.

Through our programs, Chelsea received the

support she needed to overcome her addiction and heal from her seizure. She also transformed emotionally and spiritually. She realized the importance of fellowship and of surrounding herself with people who understand what she is going through. And, most importantly, she got to know the Lord.

“Now I know that I want God in my life. I'm falling in love with Him over and over again,” she says.

As Chelsea continues to heal, she's looking forward

“I found myself at the Mission. I now feel peace and joy... and a new sense of wonder.”



to a new life – free from addiction and grounded in the foundation of God's love.

Chelsea is excited to celebrate the restored hope she has been given this Christmas – and wants YOU to know just how grateful she is. “No person here is the same... their identity is not their addiction. They need help in different ways, and the Mission is able to meet those needs.”



Pledge to Give Monthly in 2023

We're so grateful for our faithful friends whose regular support as a monthly donor provides a predictable stream of revenue to fund our programs of rescue, recovery and restoration through Christ.

We invite you to join this vital group!

Your monthly pledge in 2023 will help build a foundation of hope for men and women working to rebuild their lives, restore their families and return to their communities, healthy and healed.

To become a monthly giving partner, simply complete the back of the enclosed form, call **(775) 323-0386** or visit **www.rsgm.org**.

Shop at our
Thrift Depot stores...
Help change a life!

You'll find clothing, furniture, household items, tools, toys and more at our Thrift Depot stores! Your donations – and your purchases – not only raise money to support the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission's transformational programs, but also provide work experience for guests in our recovery program.

Shop or drop off your donations at any one of our four locations. New and unique items arrive daily, so you never know what you'll find!

For locations and shopping hours, visit www.rsgm.org/thrift-stores/.



Thank you!



There's so much more online!

There's only so much we can share in the pages of this newsletter. But there's so much more online! Read about the latest news and events, discover volunteer opportunities, and donate securely at www.rsgm.org.