

Summer ISSUE 2024

# the **MISSION**

Stories of Second Chances

## **The love YOU share**

gives neighbors like  
Haley hope for a  
better life...



**RENO-SPARKS**  
**GOSPEL MISSION**  
INC.

### **DON'T MISS...**

**2** Transforming Lives is Possible this Summer

**2** Become a Monthly Giving Partner

**3** "This program saved my life!"



# A meal for \$2.17 is an easy way to **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!**



## A Message from LUIS SANTONI

### Thank you for **REMEMBERING** your neighbors this summer

What does summer mean to you? Family vacations... lazy mornings... afternoons at the park or by the pool. As a kid, you probably remember time standing still over summer. Yet, now these months seem to be busier than ever..

Between work, family and community responsibilities, endless "to-do" lists crowd our days. In some ways, the "lazy days of summer" may be a thing of the past.

We've seen this at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission for a while now. As supporters in our community stay busy with summer plans, donations tend to drop off. I'm thankful you haven't forgotten about the needs of your neighbors – and that you respond with a heart of compassion... which is why I need your help.

As we enter **our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign, I hope I can count on you. Please give generously each month of this season** to help the men, women and children in Northern Nevada who are hurting and homeless.

Thank you for remembering to share love with your neighbors in need this summer – no matter how leisurely or lively these months may be.



Luis Santoni  
Executive Director

*"As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*  
- John 13:34b-35

## Your monthly gift makes a **HUGE** impact!

Setting up automatic, secure and ongoing support of the Mission is quick and easy. Your gift starts working immediately to help provide nourishing meals, safe housing, biblical mentorship, classes and job training. Thanks to these reliable funds, the Mission stays ready to help anyone who comes through our doors.

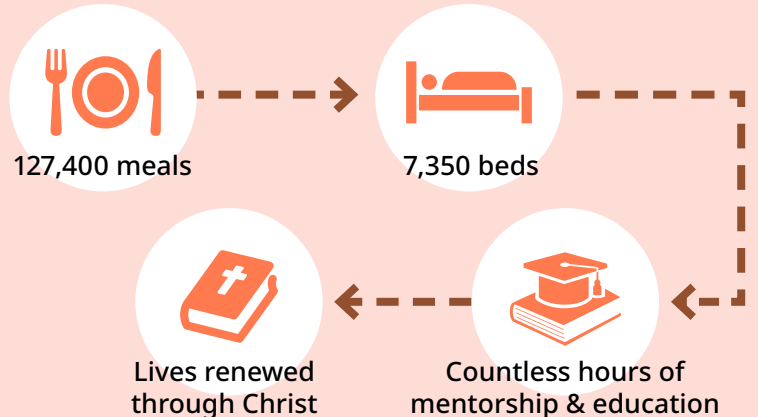


We'd like to thank our monthly giving partners for the generosity that allows us to care for our brothers and sisters in need all year long. If you'd like to join this extraordinary group, simply visit [rsgm.org/ways-to-help](http://rsgm.org/ways-to-help) and click the button at the bottom of the page.



## TRANSFORMING LIVES

is possible this summer... **thanks to YOU!**



**LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR**  
SUMMER CAMPAIGN

*At every step of their journey...  
YOUR gift helps change their lives.*

*Support our Summer Campaign to restore hearts & rebuild families!*

**Give now! [www.rsgm.org](http://www.rsgm.org)**

"I believe  
God put me  
here **for a  
reason.**"



## "THIS PROGRAM SAVED MY LIFE!"

**W**hen Haley was only 2, her father passed away, forcing the family to move and her mother into single parenthood. Haley idolized her mom, who worked long hours as an ER nurse, but she also watched as alcoholism took hold in the wake of grief. "Witnessing my mother and siblings fall into the grips of addiction made me promise I'd never let that happen," she remembers.

Haley was a good student and a hard worker, but she couldn't escape an unhealthy environment at home. In high school, she finally gave in to the pressure to try drugs. From then on, she was hooked... and addiction

began to rule her life.

Haley spiraled into a cycle of substance abuse and homelessness. During a period of sobriety, she gave birth to her son, but relapsed again. Trouble with the law served as a wake-up call: instead of jail, she was allowed to detox at her grandparents' home, and that's when she found the Mission. "I didn't want to lose my son, so I grabbed onto that second chance!"

In the past, Haley hadn't known God, but through coursework and mentorship at the Mission, she developed a relationship with the Lord and found a new, sustainable way of life. "I'm finally experiencing true acceptance, which

is uplifting and empowering," she shares.

Now sober, confident and radiating joy, Haley is a responsible mother who's preparing for the next chapter. She enjoys helping around the Mission as she looks toward a career in behavioral health. "Thanks to what I've learned here, I feel I can make a difference. My past no longer defines me."

**Haley now has strength for her future because of your heart of compassion for her and other neighbors in need. Because you chose to share God's love, she has a path forward in life.** "This is what true happiness feels like, and I'm so grateful!"



# Keep neighbors SAFE this summer

Many of us can count on cold drinking water, refreshing showers and air conditioning to make it through this summer's hottest weeks.

**But our neighbors out on the street have no relief.** They're at risk of heat stroke, dehydration or even death – especially those who are most vulnerable, like seniors or families with children.

Your gift can make all the difference for someone experiencing homelessness this summer. Just \$20.63 provides meals and a night of safe housing for a man, woman or child in need – along with other services like these!



## MISSION TOURS: A great way to engage!

Get to know the Mission better by scheduling a tour of our Record Street campus, where you'll witness firsthand the life-changing impact God is making through your support. Come by yourself, with family or friends, as part of a student or church group, or with your company or organization.

Schedule a visit by contacting **Mariah Peaslee** at **(775) 323-0386, ext. 16** or **mariah@rsgm.org**.

Tour the Mission – and see how you help make this ministry possible!



**Cool water to drink & nourishing meals**



**Refreshing showers & safe beds**



**Clean clothes & socks**  
*(Socks are our most requested item!)*



**Sunscreen & hygiene items**

Because of your support, hurting neighbors have everything they need to recover and rebuild at the Mission – so they can have healthier, more stable lives!

To see how you can help meet our neighbors' most urgent summer needs, visit [rsgm.org/needslist](http://rsgm.org/needslist) or scan here!

