

the **MISSION**

Stories of Second Chances

THANK YOU FOR
GIVING COLLEEN

a life-changing

GIFT THIS

Christmas!



RENO-SPARKS
GOSPEL MISSION
INC.

DON'T MISS...

2 Walk the halls where
YOU help change lives

3 "I am content and
have joy."

4 Give a meal.
Spark a miracle!

*You help make
Christmas
miracles possible*

Get ready... the busiest time of the year is upon us! I imagine your calendar is filling up quickly. But **before the year ends, please save a few moments for our neighbors who are sleeping in unfit conditions.**

I know you agree no one should live in a car... in a tent... or outside in the cold. Certainly not a child. Being homeless means living with constant fear and uncertainty. It's a terrible way to spend any day... much less Christmas Day. If there's anyone in need of a miracle, it's them.

You can make a Christmas miracle possible for a brother or sister in need by giving \$2.17 to provide a hot meal at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. It may not seem like much – but each meal you provide can be someone's first step toward recovery and a new life. Where you see a meal, a hurting neighbor sees a miracle.

With your support, no man, woman or child in Northern Nevada has to be hungry or homeless this Christmas. People like Colleen (whose story is on page 3) can find the miracle of hot meals, safe housing and Christ-centered care at the Mission this holiday season... and all year round... thanks to you!



Luis Santoni
Executive Director

TAKE A TOUR

Walk the halls where YOU help change lives

See the impact of your donations! Schedule a tour of the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission for an inside look at how we provide Christ-centered, life-changing care for hurting men and women.

You'll see how your support goes to work in our long-term recovery program and various services like preparing meals or providing free groceries to our hungry brothers and sisters.



Come by yourself, with your family, friends, church or your company for a firsthand look at how much your support has helped rescue and restore lives in our community!

Schedule a tour by calling **(775) 323-0386** or email us at **info@rsgm.org**.



The Christmas season is upon us! It is the busiest time of the year at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission, and we have many events planned. We would love to have you join us as a volunteer or guest anytime throughout the year, but especially during the holidays.

Check out our website and **follow us on social media** for information on our upcoming events and programs, or to sign up to volunteer or donate.

Plus...

- Stay up to date on urgent needs and read stories of healing and hope.
- Donate online easily and quickly through our secure website.
- Connect with other people in our community who share your heart for helping our hurting brothers and sisters.

Please visit **www.rsgm.org** today.

You can find us on:



@renomission



@renosparksgospelmission



@renogospel

“I am content and have joy.”



Colleen grew up in a “good, hearty, wholesome family,” but a series of losses and mental illness shook her once-stable environment.

She lost her grandmother – her rock – at a young age, followed by her uncle. Her mom began experiencing bipolar manic depression, and Colleen turned to substances to cope with her grief. “I was still always an overachiever, straight-A student, the workhorse of my family,” she explains. “I masked my addiction for years.”

Although Colleen managed to raise her two daughters and have a close relationship with them, she hid her addiction from them. As a gift for herself on her 45th birthday, Colleen came to the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission. **“I knew I needed God to pull me out from my pit,”** she says. She immediately felt welcomed and relieved – at peace.

Colleen is thankful for the fellowship and stability she found in our Christian Addiction Recovery and Education (C.A.R.E.) Program. **“I have learned that all that matters is the freedom of the love of God,** and the freedom that comes with integrity, accountability, honesty and forgiveness.”

“Coming here has been a gift from God because this is the best place for me to heal,” Colleen says. “My children are so proud of me.” She is grateful to the staff, who have such love for everyone. “They have a passion and invest their lives into changing our lives every day.”

Colleen is inspired to pay it forward, sharing, “I love working at the Mission thrift stores because I get to minister to people and tell them my testimony.”

She plans to become a high school substitute teacher and looks forward to a new beginning.



This Christmas, Colleen is experiencing all the joy this season has to offer – because YOU believed in the power of a fresh start and the promise of God’s unending love.

“I’m so glad I came to the Mission. I have a new life. I went from chaos to peace. I am content and have joy in the small things.”



“The Mission helped me realize that I was made for more. I HAVE FOUND A FUTURE AND A PURPOSE.”

Give Relief From Colder Days

Falling temperatures will put lives at risk this holiday season.

With average lows of 25° in Northern Nevada – and added factors like rain and wind – our neighbors are at risk of hypothermia and other health challenges this winter.

You can give them relief from the cold at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission:

- **Safe housing** includes a warm bed and a roof over their heads
- **Hot food** offers comfort and nourishment to cold, weary neighbors
- **Winter clothes** like coats, clothing and shoes are in high demand

To see our most urgently needed items, visit www.rsgm.org/Needs

Give a meal. Spark a miracle!

It's hard to find a reason to celebrate Christmas when you're homeless or hungry. **YOU can give JOY and spark a miracle** with a gift to lead someone to join our long-term recovery program and experience a new life! It all starts by providing a meal for \$2.17... because where you see a meal, they see a miracle.



\$2.17
for 1 hot meal



**CAN SPARK
A MIRACLE**



**That leads
to new life!**

Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!



We Need **YOU** To Volunteer!

The holidays are just around the corner, and we're getting ready for this very busy time of year! **We're seeking volunteers** to prepare food, serve meals, clean up or donate holiday supplies.

If you have a heart to serve this Thanksgiving or Christmas, we would love for you to join us! For more information visit www.rsgm.org/ways-to-help/volunteer.