FMSSION

Stories of Second Chances







DON'T MISS...

- 2 Take action against hunger!
- **2** Join us in celebrating healing and hope!
- **3** "The Mission gave me my life back."



After a difficult divorce, Mariah realized her glass of wine with dinner had escalated into full-blown alcoholism. But she was helpless to stop it on her own. She was hospitalized due to her addiction and ended up losing custody of her children. "But I kept drinking. I was literally on a death spiral," she says.

"I remember praying 'God, take me in my sleep or show me where you want me. Because I'm done," she says. "And in my blackout, I made an appointment to detox. I don't remember doing it, but I wrote it down and that's when I came into the Mission."

She kept the appointment and set her life on a different path. She detoxed and graduated from the Christian Addiction Recovery Education Program. "For someone like me, no insurance, nowhere else to go, the fact that you can just walk through these doors and be completely taken care of is just incredible."

Since completing the program a decade ago, Mariah's life has been transformed. Her faith in God has been rekindled. "I grew up in a very religious family, but it wasn't until I came to the Mission that I was introduced to who Christ really is," she says. "I had all the knowledge in my brain, but I didn't have it in my heart."

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This Mission is essential. It's a matter of life and death.

"

She has been able to watch her children grow up and have children of their own. She also joined the Mission's staff to help others through the same challenges she faced. "Being a part of lives that are changing is such a gift."

Your gifts are bearing fruit in the lives of people like Mariah. Now, her heart is full of hope this fall... thanks to your kindness! "Since coming to the Mission, I'm alive. I am thriving – not just surviving anymore."

Hearts and lives are full... thanks to YOU!





A Message from LUIS SANTONI

As the seasons change, I'm reminded of Jesus' words to His disciples: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." As one of

our most devoted "workers," your support and care for our brothers and sisters in need is a powerful source of hope. For the people who come to us for help. For our staff... and for me personally!

This month, you have a special opportunity to make a difference for our struggling neighbors. <u>September is Hunger Action Month – and we're inviting you to provide 30 meals over 30 days for our hungry guests</u>. It's a meaningful way you can be a force for change here in Northern Nevada.

In September alone, we're preparing to serve 39,000 meals – and more in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Your support will help provide these life-changing meals that fill bellies with nourishment... and fill lives with hope.

Just read how your generous gifts are bearing fruit in Mariah's life, whose story is on Page 3. She is looking forward to a more hope-filled future – because of the dedication of "workers" like you!

Thank you for investing in the lives of more people like Mariah during Hunger Action Month and throughout the fall season!



Luis Santoni, Executive Director

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING HEALING & HOPE!

The road to recovery is a long and difficult one, filled with obstacles. But millions of Americans have successfully made the journey from dependence and despair to freedom and hope.

This month we join thousands of other recovery programs around the country to celebrate National Recovery Month! We applaud the hard work and dedication of the courageous men and women who have transformed their lives in our Christian Addiction Recovery Education Program.

As we recognize their incredible progress and the gift of God's healing in their lives, we are more committed than ever to help reach those still trapped in the cycle of addiction.

Thank you for coming alongside these neighbors and for your continued support of the men and women who will come to our doors in search of recovery!

national Regvery Month To see the faces and read the stories of men and women who've found healing and hope at the Reno-Sparks Gospel

Mission, visit www.rsgm.org/Recovery.



SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT: HUNGER ACTION MONTH





39,000Meals Needed by Sept. 30!



September is Hunger Action Month! Join our community in this month-long movement to fight hunger... and TAKE ACTION to help even more hungry neighbors we'll welcome this fall.



Sign up to serve a meal



Donate canned goods



Provide groceries



Invite others to join you

For just \$2.17, YOU can provide a nourishing meal to end someone's hunger.
Send your gift today OR online at www.rsgm.org.





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OUR CURRENT NEEDS

Donate essential items this fall!

Throughout the busy fall season, we'll welcome even more guests than usual here at the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission! And with more people to care for, our needs also increase.

Our 3 most needed items:

- ☐ Toilet paper
- ☐ New, warm socks
- Body wash, shampoo & conditioner

This fall season, you can give hope and healing by providing for these and other immediate needs of our neighbors.

Visit www.rsgm.org/NeedsList to see our current needs list.



HOW WILL YOU GET INVOLVED THIS FALL?



Donate essential items!

From food that stocks our pantry shelves to warm clothes that comfort weary neighbors – every item you give helps provide lifesaving care for our community. And you can even spread the joy of giving by hosting a donation drive!

To see our urgently needed items, visit □ www.rsgm.org/NeedsList



Join us as a volunteer!

We'd love to see you here at the Mission. Sign up to serve a meal, lead a class or share a message at a chapel service. There are many ways you, your family, friends or church can volunteer with us this fall!

To learn more, visit

□ www.rsgm.org/Volunteer



Become a monthly giver!

Join other faithful friends who give monthly through our monthly giving club! Start giving monthly this fall to provide a steady stream of support for our neighbors during our busiest season.

To learn more, visit

☐ www.rsgm.org/GiveMonthly



