



RESCUE PORTLAND

SPRING 2016



I CHOOSE TO LIVE

Easter is a time of celebrating new life,
which is just what Eric needed and found, thanks to your support.



DEAD MAN WALKING

God can do the impossible. But it is hard for us to believe that without seeing it first. Even Jesus' most faithful followers abandoned hope when he was brutally killed. It didn't matter that he had explained it all before, that he would rise again. It didn't matter that they'd seen Jesus bring other people back from the dead. Their grief and fear drove all faith from their hearts. Jesus was gone.

When I'm driving around town, I see men and women living in tents under the overpass or panhandling to get by. I don't know them, but I have heard hundreds of painful stories from people in similar situations who come to the Mission for a hot meal and a dry place to sleep.

To many of these hurting people, a new life seems impossible. Like Jesus' followers, grief and hurt drives hope from their hearts. Each night is filled with fearful, fitful sleep. Each morning brings the uncertainty of survival. It is a slow, living death.

You and I have a unique gift to offer these hurting people. For the man caught in addiction, we can dream of a new life of freedom. For the woman and child desperately looking for safety, we can cast vision for a new life of stability and healing. We share with them our faith, because we've seen the impossible happen. As a wounded person surrenders to God's forgiveness and accepts His healing grace, the hard shell of hopelessness gives way to fresh, verdant life!

“The glory of God is man fully alive.”

— ST. IRENAEUS

Thanks to your partnership, we rejoice each day as we see men, women and children, once paralyzed by despair, now walking in new life. Thank you for believing the impossible. Thank you for giving hope.

Walking with you in life,

Eric Bauer, Executive Director

P.S. For so many people, hope begins at that first meal they enjoy at our Burnside Shelter. Your gift today helps provide more than 25,000 meals we'll serve this Easter season. Thank you.



**Portland
Rescue Mission**
Giving Hope. Restoring Life.®

P.O. Box 3713
Portland, OR 97208-3713
503-MISSION (647-7466)
www.PortlandRescueMission.org

MISSION NEEDS

URGENT NEEDS

- **New undergarments**
- **Socks**
- **Cold weather clothing**
- **Blankets**
- Backpacks
- Deodorant (spray or solid)
- Disposable razors
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Travel-size toiletries
- Jeans
- Life Recovery Bibles (NLT)

For donation drop-off locations and times please visit:
pdxmission.org/donateitems

MAKE A BIRTHDAY WISH COME TRUE!

Send a birthday card to show you care

Too often, to be homeless is to be forgotten. No one should feel alone and unloved, especially on their birthday. But thanks to the generosity of friends in the community, our homeless guests will feel loved and celebrated at our Annual Birthday Party with gifts, cake, ice cream and colorful decorations.

All we need now are the birthday cards! Send a card with an encouraging message for a man or woman in need. Your enclosed donation will provide a hot meal, safe shelter and vital care to restore their lives.

For birthday card instructions and mailing address, visit:

www.PortlandRescueMission.org/Birthday





This Easter, Eric is grateful for a new chance at life focused on a deeper, daily relationship with God, and building healthy friendships.

I CHOOSE TO LIVE

Eric held a steady job most of his life. His life wasn't perfect, but he was getting by. He certainly never expected to be homeless.

Addiction crept over Eric slowly, a seemingly harmless habit that snaked its tendrils deep into his heart. By the time he noticed, the grip was too tight to escape on his own. Eric tried several recovery programs, but couldn't seem to rip his addiction out at the root.

Last year, Eric hit bottom. "I was coming off a relapse and I was broken," he remembers. "I had 69 cents in my bank account and I was just wondering, 'When did this happen?'" Unable to pay for his cheap motel room, Eric faced a frightening reality: he was now homeless. He weighed his future. Would it be a lethal dose of heroin, or should he just hang himself? Whether by accident or choice, he knew he couldn't last much longer.

"I can either live or I can die," he thought, "and I want to live."

Immediately, Eric worried about where he could get food. "I've gone without eating and it's horrible," he remembers. "You can't think or concentrate. You're agitated and irritable. It's really hard to function."

He didn't sleep much his first night outside on the streets of Portland. "There were people hovering over me. Drug deals going down. Fights happening around me. I needed to get off the street and into a safe place." Eric had no idea how to survive or where to get help.

When someone pointed Eric to Portland Rescue Mission, his heart quickened with relief. "When you're on the street, you

exist moment to moment just trying to survive. At the Mission, I had something to eat, some friendly conversation and a place to stay. The volunteers cared a lot and were helpful."

The welcome he received and a good night's rest helped Eric feel like tomorrow could be better. He eventually joined The Harbor, our New Life Ministry for men with a yearlong residential addiction recovery program.

"I had some dark moments in my addiction," says Eric. "Here, you look at yourself and all the regret and pain. I'm learning that if I forgive myself and other people, and give it to God, I can move on to better things."

Central to Eric's recovery has been embracing his faith with God. "One of my goals was to be a mature man of Christ. I have a mentor who really shows me what that looks like." Eric gets up at 4:00 a.m. to make sure he has time to read his Bible and listen to God. "To have a relationship with God is my main hope. Everything else falls into place from there."

As part of his recovery, Eric gives back by helping out in the evenings at the Burnside Shelter. It's a good reminder of the hope that stirred within him when he was on the streets, hungry and exhausted. "I'm able to give other people a bed at night," he smiles. "It's full circle for me now. It's just a miracle."

Homelessness can be a matter of life and death. Your gift today offers new life when people like Eric need help.

ANOTHER YEAR OF HOPE AND RESTORATION



Our community has thousands of people in need.

They come to Portland Rescue Mission desperate, isolated, often amid life crises.

With your help, we meet them with friendship and dignity.

We give them hope through immediate relief, and support their journey to a restored life through numerous programs and services. Our highly relational approach lovingly supports each person's unique transition away from the street and toward a safe, stable, productive life.

As a privately funded non-profit, our work is made possible by thousands of individuals and organizations.

Your funds, goods and time make it possible for us to give hope and restore life. Together, we are making a difference.

Here is a 2015 summary.

Thank you!



We support people in need by giving hope and restoring life.



Caring staff and volunteers support each person's unique journey to a better life.



RECORD MEALS

333,383

Placed in a row, those meals would span 85 miles from the Mission's Lighthouse on Burnside to Tillamook Head lighthouse at the coast.

2014	331,346
2013	282,938



SHELTER NIGHTS

74,238 nights

We provided safe rest away from the street at three locations.

2014	83,197
2013	61,696



ESSENTIALS

759,271 lb.

We received 380 tons of food, clothing and toiletries for distribution to people in need.

2014	699,464
2013	621,005



VOLUNTEERS

37,488 hrs.

Hundreds of individuals and groups gave time, ranging from meal service and fellowship to personal mentorship.

2014	31,687
2013	30,000



DONATED CARS

1,080 cars

Our Drive Away Hunger program provided jobs, generated funds, and provided maximum tax deductions to donors.

2014	954
2013	904



SUCCESS

50% +

More than half of men and women who complete our recovery programs are living successful lives a year after graduation.



SOURCE OF FUNDS

Individuals 86%

Churches
Businesses 9%

Foundations 5%



USE OF FUNDS

Programs 75%

Fundraising 17%

Administration 8%



Fiscal 2015 Overview

Revenue* **\$9,864,392**

Cash Donations	\$6,018,340
Other Cash Revenue	\$11,985
Sales Donated Vehicles	\$1,127,597
In-Kind Contributions	\$2,706,470

Expenses **\$9,540,299**

Program Services	\$7,130,603
Fundraising/Development	\$1,662,000
Administration	\$747,696

Change In Net Assets **\$324,093**

*Excludes property transactions



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Christine and Kat leave behind a painful past, embracing God's healing, forgiveness and joy.

HOMELESSNESS AND ADDICTION END!

Two Graduates of Shepherd's Door Celebrate New Lives

Your support changes lives! Two women recently graduated from our New Life Ministry at Shepherd's Door. Over the last year, Christine and Kat have embraced addiction recovery, learned new life skills and deepened their relationship with God. Their graduation was a joy-filled celebration of forgiveness, surrender to God and commitment to live healthy new lives.

"I was in the deepest, darkest place that I have ever been in my life when I came to Shepherd's Door," Kat explained to the audience at graduation. "I was drowning in depression. I was coming out of an unhealthy marriage, I was getting a divorce and I was pretty deep into my addiction."

And then she walked through the doors of Shepherd's Door, our New Life Ministry for women and children. "I remember walking down the hallway and I immediately had a sense of peace." That peace has been instrumental in Kat's journey, allowing her to soften, to trust other people again. "God has changed my heart, and how I feel about people in general and their brokenness. He's equipping me in the areas where I feel weak, and He's strengthening me in everything I do. I have skills today that I never thought possible."

Christine's pivotal moment came the night her years of drug abuse led her to attempt suicide in a dark motel room.

"I took my life," Christine said. "There is absolutely no reason why I should have walked out of that room except for the grace and the love and the mercy of God. He saved me in that moment. ... and solidified my faith. I will never doubt Him again."

Entering Shepherd's Door, Christine's mission was set. She was ready to see herself the way God sees her—not how everyone else does. She chose to experience God's deep love for her and His forgiveness.

"God has done a mighty work in my life because I let Him in," she elaborated. "He prepared the soil in my heart. And since coming to Shepherd's Door, I've had so much healing. I'm so in awe of God that half the time, I can't even speak."

"He's restored my relationship with my son and I declare that God's will be done in my life, in my family's life and in my kid's life. God is good and I am grateful, redeemed and set free."

Hundreds more women are longing to escape their despair. Your gift today welcomes them with open arms. Thanks.

THANKS TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

UPS and Columbia Bank Step Up to End Homelessness

Sometimes a team-building exercise can build up more than a team. At Portland Rescue Mission, we've been blessed to have a number of local businesses join us in providing food, shelter and life-changing services to those in need. Here are two great examples;

▶ **Hadley Robbins and his team from the Multnomah County branches of Columbia Bank selected Portland Rescue Mission to receive funds collected during their Warm Hearts Winter Drive. Mr. Robbins was also kind enough to join us for a tour of Shepherd's Door.**



▶ **Mark Lasof and his team from UPS have been faithfully serving breakfast once a month for over nine years. The UPS Foundation has also contributed to a capital projects fund that will go towards renovating the playground at Shepherd's Door.**



We would love to invite your company to do likewise. Together, we will give hope and restore life to men, women and children struggling with hunger, homelessness and addiction.



Donate via credit card:

Circle One:     Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Donate securely online: www.PortlandRescueMission.org/NLSpring

Keep me updated with news and stories through email:

Email: _____

Please pray for: _____

Tell me more about:

- Monthly giving through checks, auto-pay, or electronic transfer
- Donating my car
- Planning my estate, annuity, or trust
- Volunteering at the Mission (Please complete contact information at left)

Donations to the Mission are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Any gifts received above our current need will be used to help care for hurting people throughout the year.



WAYS TO GIVE

DONATE FUNDS

- Join our Circle of Friends with your monthly donation
- Cater an event with Mission Bar-B-Que
- Leave a lasting legacy through your will, annuity or trust

DONATE GOODS

- Receive a maximum tax deduction by donating your car
- Drop off blankets, socks or jeans
- Plan a food drive

DONATE TIME

- Volunteer to serve a meal, teach a class or work with kids
- Spread the word by joining us on social media:



PORTLAND'S BEST BBQ

It's the time of year when our thoughts turn to spring, to Easter, and ... to BAR-B-QUE! That makes it the perfect time to remind you about Mission Bar-B-Que, a rapidly growing new catering business that offers slow-cooked, competition quality BBQ meats, sides and desserts.

We use an 18-step process to transform meats like pulled pork and chicken into the talk of your upcoming family reunion or graduation party. We'll put 20 hours into preparing our beef brisket and pork ribs so you can delight your staff or relatives, serving anywhere from 20 people to 350.

Along with mouth-watering sides like baked beans, coleslaw and mac and cheese, it tastes even better knowing that all of the proceeds support the ministry of Portland Rescue Mission. We've got pit-masters standing by now! www.PDXMissionBBQ.org.

See these and many other ways you join us in giving hope and restoring life at:

PortlandRescueMission.org/Join



MY GIFT OF HOPE

Yes, I want to help end homelessness, addiction, hunger and abuse. To help hurting men, women and children, here is my gift of:

- \$8 a month** to provide 60 meals a year
- \$16 a month** to provide 120 meals a year
- \$24 a month** to provide 180 meals a year
- \$ _____ **a month** to help give hope
- \$ _____ **one time** gift

Enclose your check or complete your credit card information on back.



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To donate online, visit
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*Thank you
for your support!*