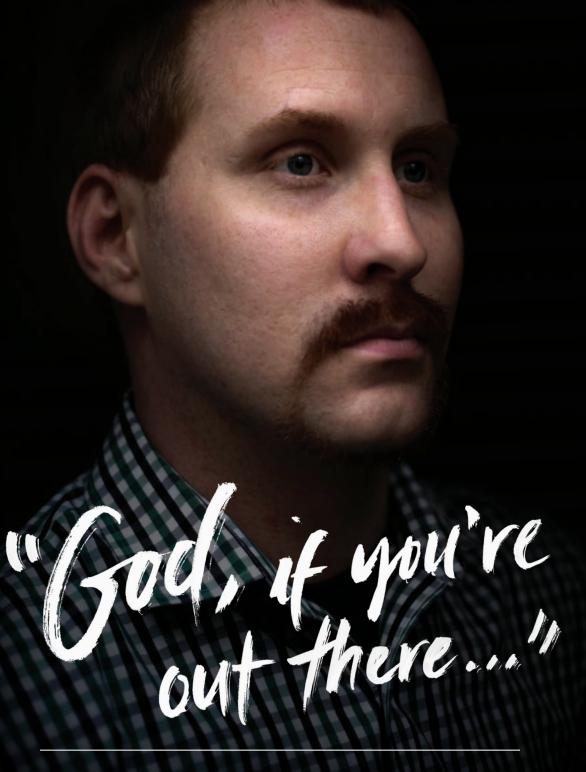


RESCUE PORTLAND



BRIAN'S HEARTFELT PRAYER HELPED SET HIM FREE

It's 3:00 a.m. and he's wide awake. The cold, misty light of a street lamp casts a long shadow over a lonely park bench and Brian's slumped silhouette. The city is sleeping, but there's no way he can rest. Fear pierces his heart like the icy winter wind chilling his tense body. Regrets echo endlessly in his head. Maybe this is what Brian deserved, to be homeless and alone.

"How did I get here?" Brian thinks. His tired eyes peer out from the scarf wrapped around his face, longing for the first light of dawn to break his misery. "How am I ever going to get my life together?"

Sobriety was a fleeting achievement for Brian. The fun of drinking and partying in his 20s had long worn off. Like a prisoner with the cell door thrown open, he was ready to move forward in life, but the chains of his addiction still held him down. After getting sober for several months, Brian joined our 3-month Connect program to help him transition to independent housing and employment. But he wasn't ready for it.

"I had hopes of getting back to work," says Brian. "but I just couldn't stay off alcohol. I wasn't strong enough in my recovery." In desperation, Brian called out for help. "I got on my knees and prayed to God deeper than I've prayed in my whole life. In tears, I said, 'God, if you're out there, help me. I can't stay sober without you. I certainly can't do it without other people in my life. I'm done with me. I need to seek You, because without You, I don't have a chance."

Portland Rescue Mission's programs are thoughtfully

integrated to help people
just like Brian. If short-term
recovery isn't enough, our
New Life Ministries for men
and women provide in-depth,
year-long recovery in peaceful
residential settings. The thought
of spending an entire year
in recovery was daunting for
Brian, but he decided to join our
program for men at The Harbor
in northeast Portland.

"The moment I walked through the door here, I was home," says Brian. "I felt like I had gotten off this nightmare roller coaster and suddenly it's quiet and calm." More than just sobriety, Brian's recovery has been about surrender and selflessness. He finds himself waking up every morning with a humble prayer of yielding, "God, I need Your help. I can't do this without You."

The awareness of his own frailty brings him to a sense of centeredness he'd longed for.

"I was chasing after peace, serenity, calmness and comfort in alcohol. I was looking for God in that bottle. God provides me all of those things. My parents and friends tried to tell me, but I was just too self-absorbed to listen."

As Brian has let go of his selfishness, he's found freedom. "A year ago, I was angry, lonely, sad, hopeless, helpless, arrogant, prideful and ashamed," he says. "I still have a lot of work to do, but I want to stay in a place of humility. I believe God wants to do work in everyone's life. We just have to let Him in. I've seen it happen multiple times here. The miraculous happens when we let God work on us."



Recovery is hard, but people like Brian are finding help through your support. Please give a generous gift today.

SEE BRIAN'S VIDEO AT:
PortlandRescueMission.org/Brian



Like many supporters of Portland Rescue Mission, Patricia Strohm gave faithfully and quietly for many years. It wasn't until she passed away last spring that her adult children discovered her compassionate generosity to share God's love with men and women who struggle with hunger, addiction and homelessness.

"It was important to me to honor my mother somehow," says Tami King, Patricia's daughter, who decided to make a substantial memorial gift to commemorate her mother. "I believe quite strongly in God's mission that we love everybody and take care of the less fortunate. This was a blessing for me to honor both God and my mom at the same time."

We're deeply grateful for people like Patricia and Tami, who care about helping our neighbors in need. You, too, can give gifts that keep on giving.

4 Great Ways To Give

HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH A MEMORIAL GIFT.

Complete the "Honor / Memorial" information when you donate online: www.PortlandRescueMission.org/Donate

PLAN YOUR OWN LEGACY GIFT.

Get free resources at www.PortlandRescueMission.org/Legacy

SPONSOR A ROOM AT ONE OF OUR LOCATIONS AS A CARE PARTNER.

Call Rob Anderson at 503.746.9672 to learn more.

START AN AUTOMATIC MONTHLY DONATION THROUGH OUR CIRCLE OF FRIENDS.

Learn more at: www.PortlandRescueMission.org/COF

WHAT WAS YOUR BEST MOMENT IN 2016?

We asked the men and women we serve to reflect on the hope you gave them in 2016. Thank you for giving them hope for a new life!

Celebrating my one-year sobriety with my mom and son! Thank you, Shepherd's Door!

All four of my kids and me together holding hands and praying together.

Moving to Portland and Laving a great community.

> TODAY - FOR IT IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF MY LIFE.



GRADUATES SHARE

Men and women share some of the most significant memories in their journey out of addiction and homelessness.



"Bottom line: I am blessed. Every day that I wake up and meet [people] wherever I go - I have an opportunity to share with them the joy that I know. The future for me looks good. Hope is huge."



"I tried to commit suicide. I didn't succeed. I heard God tell me, 'I still love you.' And here I am today. I'm so grateful for everyone at Shepherd's Door. They gave me confidence in myself when I didn't have it. They made me feel like I belong."



"I was able to get to the traumas that I had never healed from. I could move on, and I could trust people. Now I give back by working with people who are homeless. I can share my experience about being homeless and I can pray with them."



"Love is what brought me here. All I knew is I needed somewhere to come and rest and look at myself in the mirror and figure some things out. This place has done that for me. If God is love, then I see Him everywhere."

THANK YOU TO OUR RADIOTHON AND TELETHON SPONSORS

Our generous community is changing lives

- Fred Meyer provided gift cards for anyone that signed up to be a monthly donor.
- AKA Direct sponsored all three of our events. They also provided our Christmas eve meal at the Burnside Shelter.
- Gresham Ford joined us as an in-kind sponsor.
- Dannon, CenturyLink and Standard TV and Appliance joined us as partner sponsors.

DEFINING MOMENTS

ast fall, America held its breath as the Chicago Cubs battled the Cleveland Indians in the World Series. After a 107-year drought, the Cubs emerged with a hard-won victory, breaking a century-old "curse" of loss.

Even people who weren't die-hard Cubs fans had to smile at their dramatic turn. It was a Disney movie feel-good experience, the defining moment where the relentless underdog grabs victory from certain defeat. The crowd goes wild. The winning team rushes the field in a leaping pile of hugs and high fives. The struggle was worth it all.

People like Brian, Bradley, Lisa, Jesse, and Michal have their defining moments too. I love our graduation events where men and women mark an important milestone in their recovery. It's a World Series celebration of heartfelt hugs as we cheer courageous underdogs claiming victory over addiction, homelessness and all the pain of the past.

The Cubs were known as the team you knew would let you down. Like the Cubs, victory can seem unlikely for the people in our programs. The odds are stacked against them. They've tried and failed countless times before. But with God, there's <u>always hope.</u>

In baseball and in recovery, victory takes daily dogged determination. It's not just one defining moment, but countless thousands. The Cubs had to win 103 games before even getting to the World Series. People like Brian hammer out daily victories — sometimes moment-by-moment — to stay sober, face hard truths, accept help, surrender to God, ask for and receive forgiveness. It's grueling work that can't be done alone.

Recovery, like baseball, is a team sport. Brian knew he needed the help of people who had been there before, counselors to guide and train him, friends to cheer him on, mentors to remind him of the basics, and a real relationship with God to give him calm, centered courage to do whatever it takes to win.

You are part of the team, my friend. Your unwavering support fuels daily wins for men and women in our programs. Thank you for volunteering, praying and giving. Thank you for breaking the seemingly unending curse of addiction and homelessness in their lives. Thank you for giving them their defining moments of victory.

Celebrating with you,

En Baun

Eric Bauer, Executive Director

They've tried and failed countless times before. But with God, there's *always hope*.



☐ Donate via credit card:		
Circle One: VISA Mostercord. Mostercord. Expiration Date:		
Card Number:		
Name: Phone:		
Address:		
Donate securely online: www.PortlandRescueMission.org/WinterNL		
☐ Keep me updated with news and stories through email:		
a reep me apaated with news and stones through email.		
Email:		

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.

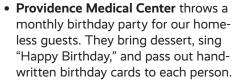
Any gifts received above our current need will be used to help care for hurting people throughout the year.

THANK YOU, COMMUNITY PARTNERS!



 Chick-Fil-A at Clackamas Promenade brought 37 volunteers to serve dinner at our Burnside Shelter.

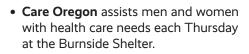




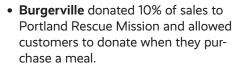














 ASML engineers served a meal at our Burnside Shelter and brought hundreds of pounds of clothes and hygiene items.



 Michigan State University alumni served dinner and brought 300 "snocks" (socks filled with snacks) for our men and women in need.



• Clark College donated 400 pairs of shoes from their shoe and sock drive.

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

DONATE TIME

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







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 me	als a year
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- ☐ \$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.



Portland Rescue Mission

Giving Hope. Restoring Life.®

P.O. Box 3713 Portland, OR 97208-3713 503.MISSION (647.7466)

To donate online, visit **PortlandRescueMission.org/WinterNL**

