



Lighthouse

Portland Rescue Mission | Circle of Friends

Legacy OF HOPE

**NEW YEAR BRINGS
NEW HOPE FOR
ALUMNI**



Giving Hope. Restoring Life.

CATCHING UP WITH *New Life* GRADUATES

Once a month alumni from our New Life Recovery Programs meet to share updates, to express needs, to pray together, and to encourage newer graduates. Career and Transition Manager Cindy Johnson said, **“Our goal is to really help our men and women build a circle of support, and to really flourish in building family and friendships.”** This is one of the reasons we see a success rate above 80% from those who have graduated from Shepherd’s Door or The Harbor over the last 5 years. These are the men and women that you have been investing in and praying for, so let’s check in and see how they’re doing!



AMINA

Since I graduated in January of 2016, I’ve explored a career in tech, I got my master’s degree in education, and I was hired by the Portland Public School District as a full-time teacher. I’ve also remarried and built a life and a home that I never expected I could ever deserve. **Now I’m able to invest in the same community that helped me!** - Amina



MARK

I came here after my wife died. **I was desperate and broke, and that’s when the staff at the Burnside Shelter told me they could help me. It saved my life.** I finished the program and became an alumni. Now I feel like I have something to give back to the world. I can let people know that, “Hey, if I can do this, anybody can!” - Mark



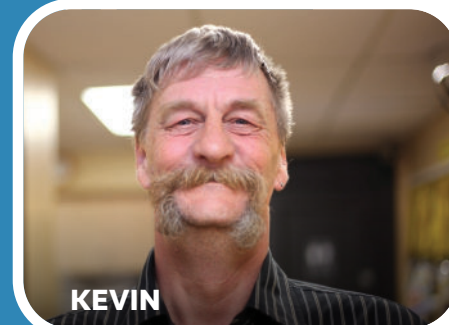
RONI

I look at my life before as just hopeless, utter darkness. Now I’m a single mother with a job and I’m active in my church. I’m busy, but what a gift! **My story is a story of hope.** It’s a story of redemption and God’s grace. - Roni



AMANDA

I was lost, broken, and emotionally bankrupt. Then I got a miraculous call that a bed had opened up at Shepherd’s Door. **It was such a relief to know that there was help for me and my son, Oliver.** I graduated the program on February 20, 2021. From there I was able to mentor some girls coming into the program, and that led to the career I have now. I’m not eating out of a garbage can anymore. But the biggest change is finding who I am in Christ. - Amanda



KEVIN

I would get off of work and then go back to sleep on a mattress in a tent in the woods, and then I’d go to work the next day. **This program saved my life.** This is my the first apartment that i’ve had on my own, and now I’ll be able to invite people over to my home! **It’s because of the hope I got from Portland Rescue Mission.** - Kevin

Watch Amina share her testimony and donate today to provide meals, shelter, and life-restoring care to neighbors in need at: www.PortlandRescueMission.org/WinterNL

Generational Healing

Through Relational Care



ERIC BAUER,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(Pictured on left with graduate on right)

Homelessness breeds isolation, and isolation robs people of hope. Hope is something that can only be restored through relationships. Relationships can provide the encouragement and safety needed to focus on the future instead of merely surviving in the present. In relationship, God's love can be shared, value can be conveyed, faith can be renewed, and trust can be fostered which, together, can lead to transformed lives. For those we serve every day, life restoration is not something that can happen over a meal, but it can start there. **When someone comes for a meal, shelter, mail, clothing, or to use our facilities, they're going to have an opportunity to begin a relationship.** Those who choose to engage will find staff, volunteers, and peers who will walk with them at a pace that they can sustain towards a shared goal of health, safety, and self-sufficiency.

Relationships such as these last long after graduation. **That is why we've dedicated the first newsletter of the New Year to our alumni; men and women who have graduated from our New Life**

Recovery Program. They, like over 80% of their peers that have graduated over the last five years, find themselves clean and sober, in stable housing, and full of hope; hope that they share with others who are just beginning their journey through recovery. Your love, your prayers, and your ongoing support have made this possible. Your legacy is one of hope, leading to transformed lives, and for that I am very grateful to you.

Blessings in the New Year,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Bauer".

Eric Bauer,
Executive Director

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