



# Lighthouse

Portland Rescue Mission | Fall 2021

## SAFE AT LAST

Safety, Community, and  
Hope for women and  
children in need



Giving Hope. Restoring Life.



# Safety, Community and Hope

Homelessness is isolating. Isolation creates vulnerability which is particularly dangerous if you are a woman on the street. All too often the tyranny of the urgent - finding food, safe shelter and hygiene - leaves no time for relational development. And the relationships that do develop can often be toxic, only adding to the danger.

That is why the doors of Portland Rescue Mission remain open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Here all services that we offer, from the daily meals, safe shelter, clean clothes, hygiene products and referral services are delivered in a manner to develop relationships and create community.

*In community we can meet someone where they're at, assess their needs and walk with them at a pace that they can sustain.*

This happens in our short-term Connect Program where women have the opportunity to stabilize from street life and form supportive relationships as they receive job training and assistance with housing and employment. It's also seen in our long-term Shepherd's Door Program where women and children can stay in a retreat-like setting receiving holistic, highly relational care in overcoming substance use disorders, vocational training, parenting classes, and spiritual mentorship.

The opposite of isolation is community. Community is where a woman can heal and grow towards self-sufficiency (like our friend Amanda who you will meet on page 4.) Thank you for being a vital part of this community.

Thank you for providing safety, community, and hope,

  
Eric Bauer, Executive Director



## WE DELIVER



Portland Rescue Mission is now delivering life-sustaining meals and supplies to people who are sheltering in place. Our outreach van is equipped with meals, water, blankets, socks, and hygiene products. The van makes frequent stops at makeshift shelters across the city.

*"Although it is more effective to provide emergency and recovery support from a safe central location, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused us to stretch to support our neighbors in crisis."* -Eric Bauer, Executive Director

The mobile outreach effort is led by Bradley Thatcher, a former member of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, who previously survived months on the street before finding and eventually graduating from our New Life Recovery Program. **"Surviving on the street is much tougher than most realize,"** Bradley recently told a reporter. **"Our intention is to build relationships that instill hope by providing for critical needs."**

This is one more opportunity for Bradley and a team of caring volunteers to build relationships with people unable to make their way to our Burnside Shelter. And, as Bradley put it, **"Building relations is essential to helping people find pathways toward stability."**

## OUTREACH AT WORK



Loading essentials into the mobile outreach van



Building relationships and providing meals



One of the many stops around the city



Bradley and volunteer offering help

**A nutritious meal costs just \$2.09! Please donate today to provide as many meals as you're able for hungry neighbors in need. [www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallINL](http://www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallINL)**





# safe at last

## Amanda Finds Safety, Community, And Hope

**“Broken. Lost. Hurt. Hopeless. Ashamed.”**

These are the words that Amanda used to describe her life before February of 2019.

She had been struggling with homelessness for the better part of ten years. **“You are not safe. You have nothing. If you slow down for one minute, someone could hurt you or take advantage of you.”** After learning that she was pregnant she knew something had to change, and it did with the click of the remote. **“I remember seeing Portland Rescue Mission doing a Christmas special on TV and I saw the beautiful rooms that you had.”**

Amanda found more than shelter when she joined the Shepherd’s Door Program for women and children. Amanda found safety, community, and hope.

Now that Amanda has graduated the New Life Program, there is no stopping her. **“I literally feel like all things are possible through God because this was a hard year, especially with COVID. I never graduated high school, but I was able to graduate this program with the Lord’s strength. I can move forward and conquer even more things in life!”**

Now, when Amanda describes life for her and her son, the words she uses are completely different.

**“Worthy. Loved. Blessed. Healed. Faithful.”**



**“It’s beautiful. I want to reach out to others and bring them in because here you have family, and you have Jesus. It all comes together, and it fills the gaps because they really do care about us.”**



Amanda and her son feel loved and blessed

# Providing Safety

For Women  
and Children

*Kelsey*

“This is a safe haven for women looking to transform their lives, and to live a happy and sober life.”

*Lena*

“I was just so excited because I knew when I came here I was going to be safe. I had time to get my life together.”



Michelle



Rashawna



Candice



*Amanda*

“I can breathe and enjoy life without being panicked, and it means everything just to know that my son is safe to grow up to be the man that God has called him to be.”

*Melissa*

“If I needed clothes, they’d give me clothes. If I needed something to eat, they’d feed me. At least I know that God’s got somewhere for me to go.”

You can be a bright light in a dark place! Donate today:  
[www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallINL](http://www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallINL)



# Growing Together

## IN RECOVERY

The garden at Shepherd's Door started in 2012 with twelve raised beds, and it's been "growing" ever since. Every Friday, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., program participants learn to plant, grow, nurture, weed, and prune the garden. Along the way they learn how to work together to accomplish something delicious! You can see the results every day at lunch where a salad bar full of healthy options is made available at multiple locations.

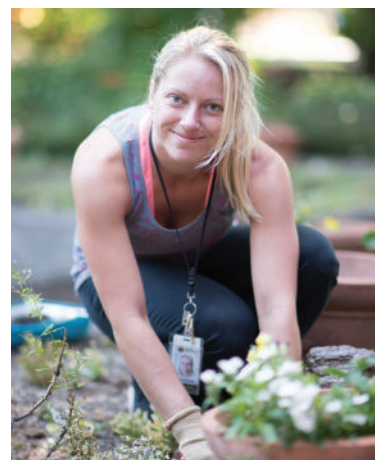
Of all the lessons learned in the garden, the greatest lesson is that of "companion planting."

In agriculture, companion planting happens when you plant different crops in close proximity because, together, they will help each other grow. But in our garden, we're not just talking about a raised box full of corn, green beans, and squash. We're talking about program participants, volunteers, churches, and staff all learning, healing, and growing together in community.

As the garden thrives, so do the women in community at Shepherd's Door.



Working and growing together



Picking fresh produce



Daily salad bar!

# Joshua Returns to The Harbor to Give Back

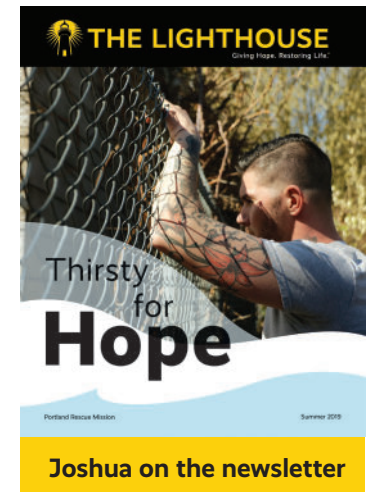
A lot has changed for Joshua since he graced the cover of our Summer 2019 Newsletter. There, Joshua described the years spent struggling with hunger, homelessness and addiction. He also shared the story of the time, while watching a sunrise, he felt as though God told him that his life could be greater than he ever imagined. Now, two years later, it's clear that God (as always) has made good on His promise.

Since graduating the New Life Program for Men at The Harbor, Joshua remains active in his church while working in construction.

This month he will be starting a five-year program at Multnomah University which will equip him with a master's degree in Church Leadership.

As if that wasn't "great" enough, Joshua and his bride recently welcomed the birth of their son!

When Joshua came back to speak to the men at The Harbor he said, "I wanted to encourage them to stick with it because the life that God has for them is greater than they ever thought possible. My life is a testimony of that!"



Joshua on the newsletter



Joshua and his family today

Put your gift to work right away when you donate online: [www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL](http://www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL)

### GIFT INFO:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ One-Time ☐ Monthly: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gift Amount Start Date End Date

☐ I authorize Portland Rescue Mission to charge my credit or banking account as described on this form. This payment authorization is valid and to remain in effect unless I notify Portland Rescue Mission by sending written notice to [donations@pdxmission.org](mailto:donations@pdxmission.org) or PO Box 3713 Portland, OR 97208 five days prior to the scheduled payment date.

Printed Donor Name (as it appears on credit card or bank account)

Donor Signature

Phone

E-mail

Donations to Portland Rescue 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 people in need throughout the year. You will receive a receipt for your gift.

### CREDIT CARD GIFT:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

3- or 4-Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Billing ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

### CHECKING / SAVINGS ACCOUNT GIFT:

☐ Checking ☐ Business Checking ☐ Savings

Bank Name

Bank Routing Number

Bank Account Number

All programs at Portland Rescue Mission are provided free of charge to anyone in need – thanks to your compassionate donations. Thank you!



# HOMELESSNESS HURTS



With the holiday season on the horizon, help us stock our shelves so that nutritious meals, safe shelter, and access to life-restoring care can be offered free of charge to anyone in need, any time they need it.

Start your automatic monthly donation today at:  
[www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL](http://www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL)

## MY GIFT OF **HOPE**

☒ **Yes**, I want to help hurting men, women and children struggling with homelessness, addiction and hunger. Here is my gift of:

☐ **\$24/mo** to help 24 people a year

☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ a month

☐ **\$48/mo** to help 48 people a year

☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ one time gift

☐ **\$96/mo** to help 96 people a year

**Every \$12 provides a hot meal, safe night of shelter, a shower, clean clothes and access to life-restoring programs.**

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**Portland  
Rescue Mission**

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To donate online, visit:  
[PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL](http://PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL)

*Thank you for  
your support!*