



# Lighthouse

Portland Rescue Mission | Fall 2022

## **BUILDING COMMUNITY** *Through Hospitality*



Giving Hope. Restoring Life.



# LIVES CHANGED

THROUGH RELATIONAL CARE AND COMMUNITY



Eric with a Guest at the Burnside Shelter

Homelessness hurts. The pain takes many forms but can be summarized in one word: isolation. This was always the case, but the pandemic certainly exacerbated the problem. We added our “Mobile Mission” van (page 3) and adapted immediately to new spacing requirements, new sanitation protocols, new health challenges, and a dramatic increase in demand for meals which had to be served out the door to maintain physical distancing. When meals are served “to-go” and crowds cannot gather inside, conversations become less frequent, and relationships become harder to cultivate. Our guests felt it, and we felt it too.

That is why we are celebrating the reopening of our dining area and welcoming our guests to come inside. Now a meal can be enjoyed surrounded by staff and volunteers who genuinely care about them and desire for each individual to know God’s love (as seen on pages 4-5).

*Inviting people inside for a meal is the most common first step toward meeting people where they are and walking with them at a pace they can sustain out of isolation and into healthy community.*

And this whole process often starts with a meal (as it did with Anette-page 6).

Thank you for providing a safe, comfortable, and clean place where our neighbors in need can experience the love of Jesus, rebuild their lives, and re-enter community that can lead to a thriving life.

Eric Bauer,  
Executive Director

# DELIVERING HOPE

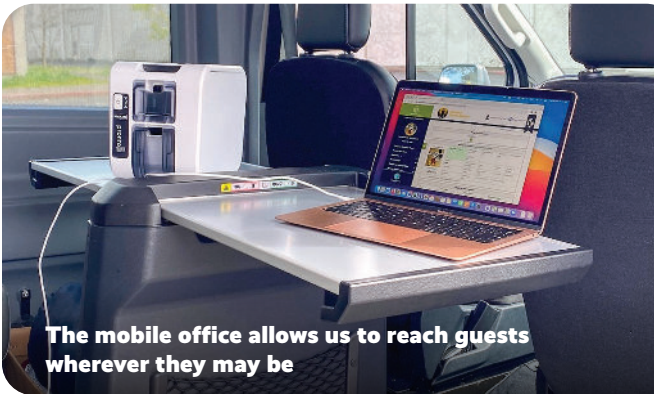
to neighbors in need



There are more than 4,000 unsheltered men, women, and children in the Portland-Vancouver area, many of whom are unable to make their way to our Burnside Shelter. That is why, two years ago, we introduced our Mobile Mission campaign. The “HOPE VAN” hits the street to deliver hope and paths to healing for neighbors in crisis. The goal is clearly stated on the side of the van; **We’re Here to Help.**

“Help” in this case can take different forms to meet different needs. **The back of the van is fully stocked with bottled water, hygiene items, coffee, snacks, clothing, and other essentials. But that is just the start.** The middle of the van is a fully equipped office where our guests can speak with staff, get an ID, and access a full slate of Portland Rescue Mission services, including shelter, referral assistance, and the opportunity to enroll in our life-restoring programs.

This outreach ministry brings connection and cultivates trust as we continue to offer restorative pathways off the street ... **one mile at a time.**



The mobile office allows us to reach guests wherever they may be



Our staff now has the opportunity to reach even more people in their communities



We Deliver HOPE!

Thank YOU  
for your  
ongoing  
support!



Please donate today to provide meals, shelter, and life-restoring care to neighbors in need.  
[www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL](http://www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL)



# Back to **Doing** What We Do Best

PORTLAND RESCUE MISSION IS NOW ABLE TO SERVE MEALS **INDOORS**

Portland Rescue Mission’s response to the pandemic was quick. It had to be. The people we serve needed to know that we would continue to provide life-sustaining services. In addition to those services, we increased our meals, implemented physical distancing, purchased, and used PPE’s, installed air purification services, quadrupled our nursing care hours, and started our HOPE VAN outreach (page 3). When the challenges and needs increased, we didn’t retreat. With your ongoing support, we advanced. But it was not without sacrifice.

The first casualty was forgoing our indoor table service so that meals could be served safely in to-go containers. Director of Burnside Services, Timothy Desper said: **“We have really missed sharing meals with people in our dining room. Relationships have always been at the heart of what we do. We provide life-sustaining services and compassionate care to lift people out of the danger and isolation of the streets. Through**



Timothy Desper welcomes guests to Burnside



these highly relational services, our guests receive the support they need to transition into stability and housing.” So, imagine our joy when the day finally came, and our doors swung open for our first breakfast meal inside. And the first person in line was a familiar face.

His name is Jay, but I doubt he would even answer to that. To everybody here, Jay is **“Cowboy,”** and he wouldn’t have it any other way. You can see his smile on the previous page. What you can’t see were the smiles of our staff and volunteers when they welcomed him. Longtime volunteer and friend of the Mission, Sean Berry, said it best. Watching our guests come out of the cold and into the lobby Sean smiled and said, **“I live for days like this.”** While the meals were enjoyed and the coffee cups were refilled, something special happened; conversation.

***It’s amazing how quickly “What’s your name?” and “Where are you from?” can blossom into something deeper.***

There was a father of three trying to get back to his children whose pictures were in his wallet and names were tattooed on his chest. There was a man named Bob who had travelled the world and hoped that this would be the day things would change. And there was Jason, who didn’t have much to say but was very grateful for a hot cup of coffee. That’s how it begins; real connection. Relationship. Community. It’s good to be back!

By the end of the year we expect to serve over 335,000 meals to those who are hungry and desperately need our services.

**BREAKFAST MENU**  
**Always healthy, always plenty!**

## A FEW OF OUR GUESTS on Re-Opening Day



Dennis

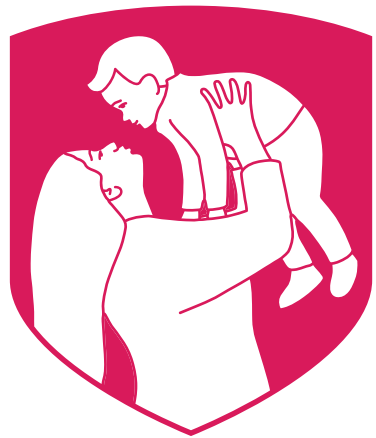


Leonard



Bob





# safe at last

## Annette's Story of HOPE

After decades of insecurity, it was an eviction that kicked off a seven-year struggle with homelessness for Annette. **"I let someone in who had no place to go,"** she said. **"When they got into it with a neighbor, they kicked me out. The person I was helping just disappeared."**

While that put her on the street, it was an addiction that kept her there. **"It was the lowest of lows,"** she said, **"and a woman is the**

**most vulnerable prey. You're going to end up in the ER or the ICU."** Another ever present concern was hunger. **"My body was screaming, "Feed me, feed me." I never thought that I could get back. Things changed when someone asked me if I'd heard of Portland Rescue Mission."**

After receiving nutritious meals, a warm bed, and access to life-restoring programs, the thing that meant the most to Annette was safety. **"By the second night in the program I slept like a baby. I didn't even lock my door!"** Since then, Annette has not only been rebuilding her life, she's also been building a community. **"This is a sisterhood, and they really care about how I am. Now, not only am I a better person than I was when I walked through the door, but I have the confidence to help someone else who is in the same predicament."**

**"This is a sisterhood, and they really care about how I am."**

# Fresh Start Catering is Here!

## MISSION BAR-B-QUE GETS AN UPGRADE

For years Mission Bar-B-Que served up tantalizing competition style BBQ while also providing vocation training for men and women in our New Life Recovery Program. With catering opportunities on hold during the pandemic, new ideas were born, new menu options were perfected, and Fresh Start Catering was born!

Let us put you at ease; **YES, the pulled pork, brisket, and our slow roasted BBQ favorites are still on the menu.** Only now, they're alongside a wide array of other entrees, healthy salads, wraps, charcuterie boards, delicious sides, and traditional favorites.

One thing that hasn't changed is our mission to serve people in our community who struggle with hunger, homelessness, and addiction. All proceeds of Fresh Start Catering support the work of Portland Rescue Mission to provide nutritious meals, safe shelter, vocational training, and life-restoring programs to people in our community.



Our hope is to serve great food, provide great service, and address a great need.

See for yourself at [www.FreshStart.Catering](http://www.FreshStart.Catering)



Put your gift to work right away when you donate online:

[www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL](http://www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL)

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Name (as it appears on credit card or bank account) Donor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Email:

☐ I prefer to send my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ each month and have enclosed my check. (We will send you gift envelopes)

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.

☐ I authorize Portland Rescue Mission to charge my credit card or banking account when this form is received at the mission. This payment authorization is valid and to remain in effect until written end date or upon sending notice to Portland Rescue Mission at [donations@pdxmission.org](mailto:donations@pdxmission.org) or **PO Box 3713 Portland, OR 97208** five days prior to the scheduled payment date.

### 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

Watch Annette share her powerful testimony at: [www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL](http://www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL)



# 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.

Donate online 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:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$24/mo</b> to help 24 people a year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ a month       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$48/mo</b> to help 48 people a year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ one time gift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$96/mo</b> 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.**



**Portland  
Rescue Mission**

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

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

*Thank you for  
your support!*