



Lighthouse

Portland Rescue Mission | Winter 2022

All Things New In 2022

**FOR RONI AND SO
MANY OTHERS!**



Giving Hope. Restoring Life.

The Beginning of Better Things to Come



ERIC BAUER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Change is hard. Even a change for the better can be a stress factor: a new job, a new home, or the birth of a child. For nearly every person who joins Portland Rescue Mission’s New Life Recovery Program, it’s a choice to change everything. To make all things new.

For men at The Harbor, the journey typically begins when they walk through the door and speak with our Intake Specialist. For many, this marks the first time they’ve had to stop, reflect, regret, or even mourn the choices they have made.

It’s during this conversation that they bravely take the first step toward a second chance. It’s also then that they learn the path toward restoration and self-sufficiency is not a path that they will have to walk alone.

Recently I asked Shane, a program participant, what it felt like to make the decision to enter the recovery community at The Harbor. After a moment, he said, **“I saw it as the beginning of better things to come.”** Now it’s Shane that greets the newcomers. He said, “I look at them with sincerity, and I tell them, it’s good that you’re here. This is the right place to be, and it’s been a game-changer in my life.”

Roni, who is featured in this newsletter, had a similar experience at Shepherd’s Door – the women and children’s New Life Recovery Program. And in 2022 our prayer is that every neighbor in need who comes through our doors will receive the hope, grace, and community they need to experience the relational healing that changes lives.

The changes experienced by the people we serve are truly transformational. About 80% of the men and women who completed our recovery programs in the past five years remain free from substance abuse and in housing.

Thank you for giving people a chance to change, to heal, and to be the men and women that God has created them to be.

Blessings to you in the New Year,

Eric Bauer, Executive Director



← HEALING HAPPENS IN COMMUNITY

New Start for Roni!

It’s amazing to think that one terrible phone call could be the start of healing in somebody’s life, but that was the case for Roni.

By age of 11 she had already weathered the divorce of her parents and a physical attack that had never been addressed. Years later she fell into a painkiller addiction that followed a bout of endometriosis. When the prescription ended, she supplemented with heroin, which led her to the street. “It was dark, cold, and empty. And yes, I was lonely,” she said.

Then a call from the police informed Roni that her dad had passed from a heart attack. **“I was crying out and asking God for help. I needed Him to show up, and He did.”**

Soon after, Roni found Shepherd’s Door, the long-term recovery program for women and children at Portland Rescue Mission. “This program is beautiful,” she said. “They laugh with you, they cry with you, and they love you.” It’s the

relational model that restores lives and families. Speaking of families, while in the program we also celebrated the birth of Roni’s beautiful daughter, Kennedy. Today Roni has not only graduated from the program, but she is also serving as a staff intern ministering to other moms and kids in our Family Life Center.

“I think the biggest change in my life is confidence. I’m not bound by guilt and shame anymore. I’m proud that I can live out everything I’ve learned here at Shepherd’s Door.”

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Isaiah 43:18-19



THANKS TO YOU RONI NOW ENJOYS TIME WITH HER DAUGHTER



See a video testimony from Roni herself when you visit: www.PortlandRescueMission.org/WinterNL



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

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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 or PO Box 3713 Portland, OR 97208 five days prior to the scheduled payment date.

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IT'S TOO

COLD

TO BE OUTSIDE

January is the perfect time to join our **Circle of Friends**. Your monthly support will provide:

- Hot, nutritious meals
- Warm, safe shelter
- Showers, restrooms, clothing, and hygiene supplies
- Access to healthcare, housing, and employment resources
- Invitation to join programs that address addiction recovery, spiritual renewal, and life skills training

This New Year one simple act of kindness can provide life-restoring care to neighbors in need. *Become a monthly donor today.*



Start your automatic monthly donation today at www.PortlandRescueMission.org/WinterNL

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"/> \$24/mo to help 24 people a year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ a month |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$48/mo to help 48 people a year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ one time gift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$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:
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your support!*