



Lighthouse

Portland Rescue Mission | Spring 2023

a Light in the Darkness

Lighting the Way
to Transformed Lives
Since 1949

Giving Hope. Restoring Life.

A BEACON OF HOPE



Eric Bauer,
Executive Director (on right)

Things are dark. And they have been for some time. Since the **“Homeless Crisis”** was declared in 2015, we’ve seen the proliferation of tent camping, addiction, violence, and behavioral health issues. The statistic that hurts the most is the shocking increase in the number of deaths from fentanyl and P2P meth.

But in this darkness, Portland Rescue Mission remains a lighthouse piercing through and lighting the way to transformed lives. For those who are willing to follow it, this light leads to community, hope, and self-sufficiency.

Despite all that has changed, what hasn’t changed is our focus on expressing the love of Jesus through engaging with people directly; learning their names, hearing their stories, understanding their barriers, and encouraging them to transition off of the streets. That’s what we’ve always done. That’s what we’re still doing. It’s just getting more challenging to do it. And that is why, more than ever, you are appreciated.

You are the keepers of the lighthouse. Everything we do at Portland Rescue Mission is free to those in need and funded by the good will of the community. We take no government money. It’s neighbors helping neighbors, and it works.

Thank you for being a light.

Eric Bauer,
Executive Director

“Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.” - Isaiah 58:10



The First Step To a Second Chance



There is a Chinese proverb that says, **“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”** For people who are ready to journey off the street, away from addiction, and into restored lives that first step is often Portland Rescue Mission’s 5-week Discovery Program. Discovery is designed to assess a person’s needs, give them a chance to stabilize, and equip them with tools to prevent relapse. And, as with all of our programs, to offer them a safe and encouraging community.

Hannah Doser, Women’s Discovery Program Manager, recently shared that **“One of the many joys of Discovery is the moment when people start to feel safe and cared for - it changes everything. They begin to relax, to laugh, and to reach out to others. For me there is no greater privilege than that.”**

Many who complete Discovery will continue in our long-term New Life Program. Others will have received what they need to move on. One thing we know for sure, nobody leaves the same way that they came in.



Hannah Doser,
Women’s Discovery Program Manager

If you know of someone struggling with addiction, we’re here to help!
www.PortlandRescueMission.org/I-Need-Help

something so Beautiful

Finding help and hope in our New Life Program

“Lord help me.”

After growing up in a broken home with a mother struggling with addiction. After attending over 20 high schools. After nine years on the street, addiction, incarceration, and an abusive relationship had taken their toll. One day Quintesa found herself walking from Beaverton to Portland during the winter storm of 2021. There, in the blistering cold, she uttered those three powerful words.

Shortly after, Quintesa’s grandfather asked her if she was ready to make a change. As a pastor, he was familiar with Portland Rescue Mission. **“I am so glad that I made the choice to join the New Life Program,”** she said. **“I felt like I was in the right place, like I belonged.”**

It didn’t take long for Quintesa, or Q as she’s known around Shepherd’s Door, to see that her prayer

was being answered. **“I had my own room,”** she said. **“I didn’t have to sleep in a stairwell or an elevator, and I didn’t have to be on guard.”** And when those walls came down, that’s when the real healing began. **“God put all of these women in my life for a reason. This program is relational and spiritual. That’s what I was longing for, to find my true identity in Christ.”**

And if you know Q, you know she’s just getting started. **“My hope is to learn more and to become a mentor for homeless youth. This program gives you opportunities to grow. It’s a mustard seed that flourishes into something so beautiful.”**

Q finds supportive community at Shepherd’s Door. Your support transforms lives. Please give today:
www.PortlandRescueMission.org/SpringNL



“I am so glad that I made the choice to join the New Life Program”



SHEPHERD’S DOOR

is a free one-year program in Northeast Portland, where up to 40 women and 25 children with recovery needs can find comprehensive recovery, vocational training, and parenting classes in a retreat-like setting. **About 85% of graduates** in the last five years remain free from addiction and in housing.



glimmers of hope

At Portland Rescue Mission we have something that we like to call **"Glimmers."** These are examples of how God is moving and working at the Mission. We use them to encourage each other, and now we'd like to share a few to encourage you!

"Coming close to the end of my time at The Harbor - When I look in the mirror, I see a completely new person. Praise the LORD!"

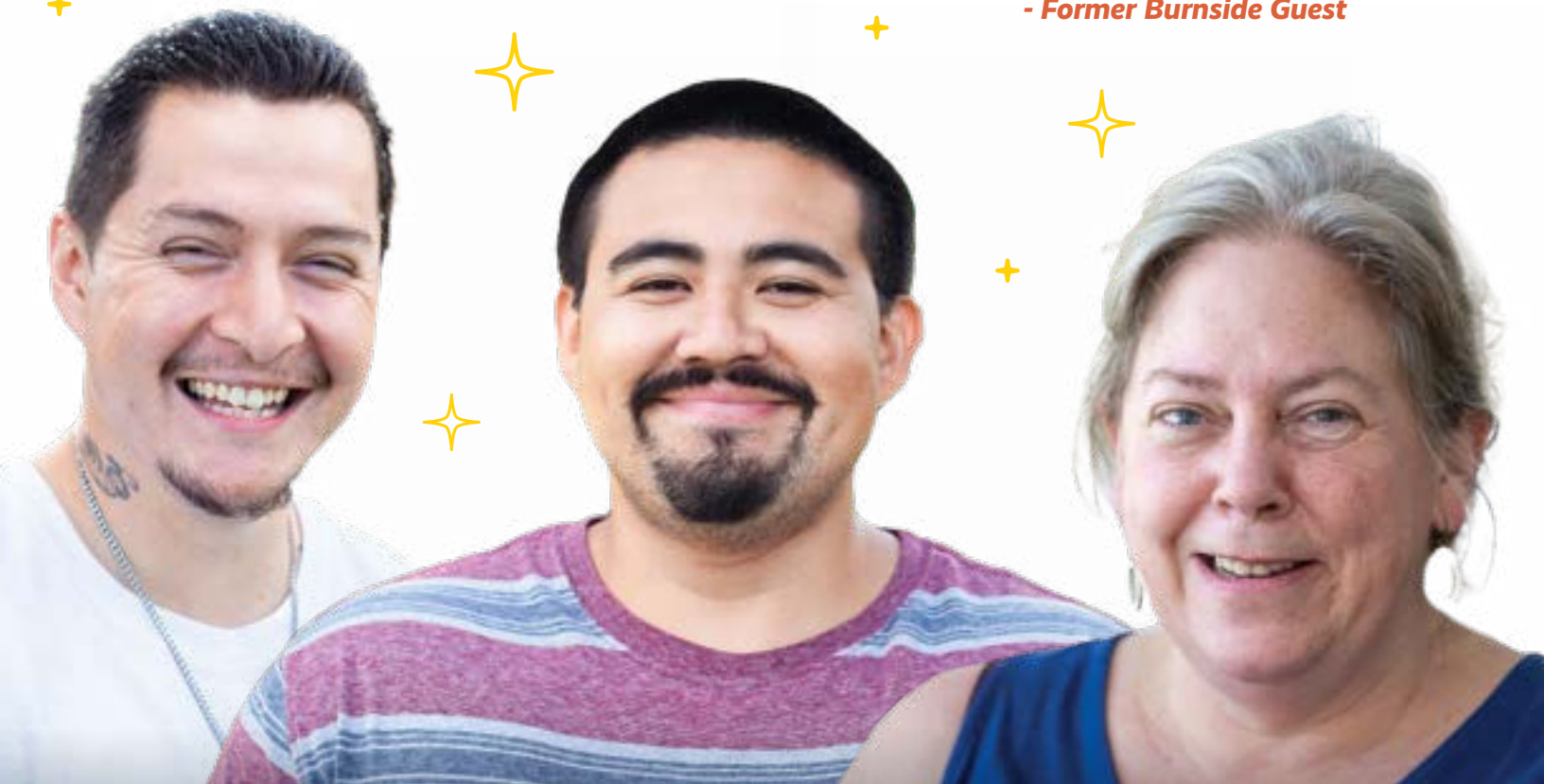
- Avery, New Life Participant

"On one of the coldest nights of the winter, a guest came up to me during dinner and asked, 'Wanna know how good God is?' Then he dangled a set of keys in front of me, 'These are mine. I moved in today.'"

- Tyler, Burnside Shelter Staff

"I remember a staff member sitting on the sidewalk and praying with me while I cried. I was a mess, but now I have a full-time job and I'm taking care of my mom. The work being done at the Mission is truly blessed by God."

- Former Burnside Guest



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

Fresh Start Catering Launches Spring Menu!

Spring is when everything comes to life. Seeds sprout. Plants grow. Hibernating animals wake from their slumber. And Spring is when Fresh Start Catering rolls out their latest seasonal menu! Here is just a sampling of our wide array of entrees, salads, charcuterie boards, and traditional favorites including pulled pork, and delicious sides.

Learn more about how Fresh Start Catering can meet all your catering needs while supporting the work of Portland Rescue Mission by visiting **www.FreshStart.Catering**. Don't forget to sign up for a 10% coupon while you're there.



Red Pepper Quiche



Lavendar Lemon Scones



Strawberry Feta Salad



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

www.PortlandRescueMission.org/SpringNL

\$ _____ ☐ 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** 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 _____

HOMELESSNESS HURTS

Provide shelter, meals, and life-restoring care year-round. Start your monthly donation today!

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS Monthly Donor Program is now ALL DIGITAL allowing for more of your funds to go directly to providing these life-restoring services.

- Nutritious meals
- Safe shelter
- Showers, restrooms, clean clothes, and hygiene supplies
- Access to healthcare, housing, and employment resources
- Invitation to join programs for addiction recovery, spiritual renewal, and life skills training



Donate Online At: www.PortlandRescueMission.org/SpringNL



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:
PortlandRescueMission.org/SpringNL

*Thank you for
your support!*