



Lighthouse

Portland Rescue Mission | Fall 2023

MISSION:

RESCUE PORTLAND



Giving Hope. Restoring Life.

HOPE is Contagious



Eric Bauer, Executive Director

Homelessness is not just an economic issue.

After 26 years in Rescue ministry, I can tell you that most of the people I've served who are struggling with homelessness have experienced significant trauma leading to homelessness, the inevitable trauma that comes with homelessness, or both. And mental health challenges. And severe addiction issues that make it difficult to hold a job or maintain relationships. All of which leads to isolation.

That is why shelter and housing without community is insufficient. Community is needed for healing, relational development, job training, addictions recovery, mental health support, and life restoration.

The doors of our Burnside Shelter remain open 24/7/365 to offer more than shelter, more than meals. Since 1949 Portland Rescue Mission has been here to offer a healing community that meets people where they are and offers them hope, training, and assistance off the streets. Our New Life Recovery Program serves up to 125 men, women, and children. About 85% of the men and women who've graduated from our New Life Program over the last 5 years are housed and addictions-free. But the good news doesn't end there. Children are reunited with their mothers. Participants and graduates chose to serve others.

As you will see in our New Life update (page 3) and Avery's story (page 6), that hope spreads. It's contagious, and it makes our community a better place.

Thank you for your compassionate partnership in transforming lives!

Eric Bauer, Executive Director



"Negative generational cycles are broken every day at Shepherd's Door for up to 25 kids at a time. Here, Benji's life has changed through the superpowers of God's love and grace!"



PAYING IT FORWARD

Our New Life Recovery Program at Harbor and Shepherd's Door offer healing and life-transformation. Compassionate staff walk alongside participants on a journey involving addictions recovery, spiritual growth, peer-to-peer group work, life skills training, relational and emotional development, legal and healthcare advocacy.

After all of the hard work, the real joy comes when our program participants get to give back. For instance, Portland Rescue Mission has been partnering with Catalyst NW to make a difference for people in need.

MEN FROM THE HARBOR helped restore the home of someone who was facing eviction after being injured in a car accident. Stairs were replaced, a deck was re-planked, and a great time was had by all!

WOMEN FROM SHEPHERD'S DOOR went to work for a disabled woman whose mobile home needed new flooring and bathroom upgrades. When they were done, she said her heart was "bursting with pride!"



Your partnership makes New Life possible for Avery and so many others! Please give today.

www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL



MISSION: RESCUE PORTLAND

Keeping the Lighthouse Shining

Much has been said regarding the decline that we've seen in our city, and how that decline has impacted the lives of people struggling with homelessness and addiction. There's no hiding the fact that things are dark. That is why, since 1949, Portland Rescue Mission has been a lighthouse piercing through the darkness and shining the light of hope

and life transformation. Not receiving government funding, it's your ongoing partnership that continues to provide compassionate engagement that guides our neighbors in great need toward a brighter future. The worse things get and the harder it becomes, the sweeter it is to see precious lives changed forever. And we do, every day.

THE DARKNESS

SHELTER

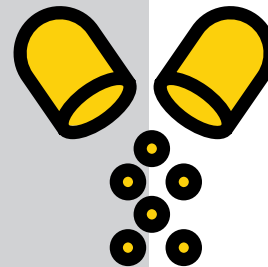
Oregon is ranked first in the nation for chronic homelessness according to the 2022 HUD Annual Homelessness assessment. The 2023 Point in Time count lists **6,297 people struggling with homelessness** in Multnomah County alone.

DRUGS

Oregon is ranked first in the nation for the problem of substance use disorders according to the 2023 National Drug Helpline assessment. The Oregon Health Authority reports a **600% increase in the number of fentanyl overdose deaths** in Oregon between 2019 and 2021.

HOPE

There is a tremendous **loss of hope** being experienced not only by those suffering from homelessness and addiction, but by the community at large.



THE LIGHT

SHELTER

In addition to offering shelter for hundreds each night, Portland Rescue Mission has implemented a **HOPE VAN outreach** to those not able to access services at our Burnside Shelter.

DRUGS

About 85% of the people who have graduated from Portland Rescue Mission's New Life Recovery Program over the last 5 years are housed and addictions-free.

HOPE

Staff and hundreds of volunteers **share hope and offer restorative services to thousands of our neighbors** each year at our 24/7 Burnside Shelter and our New Life Recovery Programs.



Your support makes a real and lasting difference in the lives of people seeking a way out of homelessness and addiction. www.PortlandRescueMission.org/FallNL

A Time to Mend

Avery's Story of Hope



Avery enjoys safety and community every day at The Harbor

When Avery lost his mother at age 12, he needed reassurance. He needed to know he would be cared for. He needed a safe place to express his feelings. That is not what he found when he moved in with his dad and stepmother. He was surrounded by addiction, abuse, and trauma. By the time he was 18 he took what comfort he could find in his own addiction. **“I think I did that more to just protect myself than anything,”** he said.

“I lived in a basement room where you’d be afraid to step on a needle,” Avery shared. **“I was lonely, I was isolated, and my addiction was out of control.”** Thankfully the sister of his dad’s girlfriend knew about Portland Rescue Mission, having graduated from the Shepherd’s Door Program herself. **“I remember people coming up to me in the first ten minutes, making me feel welcome, offering me food, bringing me coffee.”**



I felt like God was telling me, you are exactly where I want you to be right now.”

From there, the healing began. **“I learned what it means to stay sober, how to build a support network, and I learned a LOT about Jesus!”** **“It was surreal to have that kind of support.”** Now that he’s graduated, Avery is making a difference in our Service Program. **“It’s a program extension where I can give back by working with the guys in the program, creating community, going on hikes, things like that.”**

And what’s next for Avery?
“I know I’m going to do something to help people.”



“I know I’m going to do something to help people.”

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

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

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/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"/> \$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/FallNL

*Thank you for
your support!*