

LightHouse

Portland Rescue Mission | NEWSLETTER



*“I came to
Shepherd’s
Door because
I knew my son
deserved better.”*

TOGETHER IN HOPE

A Mother’s Transformational Journey

Spring represents a season of rebirth and renewal, and for Emily and her son, Raiden, the season mirrors their life-transforming journey. Their story is one of hope, healing, and the incredible power of family, strengthened by the integrated services at Shepherd’s Door. **Continued on page 3** ➔

OUR MONTHLY SUPPORTERS

THANK YOU TO PRM'S CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

At Portland Rescue Mission, we are deeply grateful for YOU—our incredible monthly supporters. Your steadfast support provides hope and stability to those we serve day in and day out. Because of your generosity, neighbors experiencing homelessness find safe shelter, individuals battling addiction discover the path to recovery, and mothers with children can thrive in a nurturing environment.

Your commitment transforms lives, creating brighter futures and stronger communities. Thank you for ensuring hope never runs out for those who need it most.

FAMILY HOMELESSNESS: How Community Support Transforms Lives for Mothers and Kids

Part 1 of PRM's "Did You Know Series?"

Family homelessness in Oregon has reached critical levels with nearly 56% of homeless families with children living unsheltered—the highest rate in the nation.* This crisis profoundly impacts families by disrupting education, creating emotional trauma, and fostering long-term instability.

While many associate homelessness with visible encampments, women and children experiencing homelessness are often hidden from view. They may seek shelter in cars, double up in hidden tents, or stay in remote areas where they feel safer. Their invisibility can lead to a misunderstanding of the scope of family homelessness. **Many families are struggling in silence on the streets without stable housing or the support they desperately need.**

Amid this challenge, Portland Rescue Mission shines as a beacon of hope. Our year-long New Life Program and the specialized Children's Center at Shepherd's Door, provide a comprehensive approach to healing and stability for moms and their children. Mothers find a safe community to recover from addiction, rebuild their lives, and strengthen family bonds. Meanwhile, their children receive trauma-based care in a loving environment, creating a foundation for a brighter future.

Our program works. **89% of graduates from Shepherd's Door in the last five years are sober and housed**, a testament to the life-transforming impact of Portland Rescue Mission's holistic care.

**Source: 2024 Annual Homelessness Report*

Portland Rescue Mission



If you're not a monthly supporter, joining this impactful group is easy. Visit PortlandRescueMission.org/COF to help provide hope all year long. Together, we can make a lasting difference!



TOGETHER IN HOPE, continued



➔ Continued from the Cover Page.

As a single mother struggling with addiction and the weight of a life marked by hardship, Emily knew something had to change—not only for herself but also for her four-year-old son, Raiden. Trauma from her childhood and a devastating car accident in 2020 left her emotionally and physically scarred. Drugs became her escape. Beneath the surface, she knew her addiction wasn't just hurting her—it was impacting her son.

"I came because I was broken. My life felt hopeless," Emily recalls. "The



second I walked into Shepherd's Door, I no longer had to fight."

The New Life Program, our year-long faith-based recovery program at Shepherd's Door, provides a unique opportunity for mothers and their children to heal together in a safe space with a wrap around support system. At our Children's Center, Raiden found teachers who embraced his individuality and worked to support his needs. Emily watched in awe as the staff went above and beyond to help him. Raiden began to flourish!

"The Children's Center staff didn't make Raiden seem like a burden," she says. "They just loved him unconditionally!"



As Emily immersed herself in the supportive community at Shepherd's Door and progressed through the year-long recovery journey, the trauma-informed care and parenting techniques she learned empowered her to meet Raiden's needs with patience and purpose.

"When I came here, I thought it was just about me getting better, but I realized Raiden needed healing, too," Emily reflects. "This place gave both of us a second chance."



Emily's transformation was possible because of the breadth of services Portland Rescue Mission offers. From the peaceful setting of Shepherd's Door to the individualized care at the Children's Center, every aspect of the program worked together to address her and Raiden's needs. Emily recently graduated from the New Life Program and is working on her GED! And Raiden? He is thriving!

"To other moms who are struggling, I would say: Don't give up! Find a community like Shepherd's Door that cares."

Giving Hope. Restoring Life.

CELEBRATING HOPE AT THE BURNSIDE BIRTHDAY BASH



A Heartfelt THANK YOU:



OHSUHealth
Adventist Health Portland

The recent Burnside Birthday Bash for All was heartwarming, bringing together our community to celebrate hope and second chances. Guests enjoyed delicious food, uplifting music, and a sense of belonging as we honored the lives and value of each person who walks through our doors. A special highlight was seeing the joy on the faces of those we serve. This unforgettable event wouldn't have been possible without the incredible partnership of **Adventist Health**. Their generous support and shared commitment to building healthier communities made all the difference.

Thank you, **Adventist Health**, for helping us bring light and hope to so many!

The Future is **BRIGHT!**

For 75 years, Portland Rescue Mission has been a beacon of compassion, love, and grace to the community suffering from homelessness and addiction. With a dedicated staff and the invaluable support of 1,400+ volunteers, Portland Rescue Mission is committed to offering life-transforming care that leads to real, permanent change.

We offer compassionate care through personalized, integrated services, including Christian discipleship, life skills training, and addictions recovery. Portland Rescue Mission is 100% community-funded, offering all services free of charge to those in need. Every day, hope and transformation are realized at Portland Rescue Mission.

**Donate to
Portland Rescue Mission:**



PortlandRescueMission.org/MarchNL