the CHARLOTTE RESCUE MISSION BEACON

September 2024



Breaking cycles

Since she was a little girl, Jennifer was haunted by addiction. You gave her a place to heal — and now, God is using her story to inspire healing in others!

"It just got worse and worse," says Jennifer. "No matter what the consequence, I couldn't stop."

Desperate for an escape from the pain of her unravelling marriage, Jennifer turned to the only thing she knew to bring instant relief — alcohol.

Jennifer knew the risks of alcohol all too well. When she was just a little girl, her dad died behind the wheel while drunk driving. She found herself haunted by the very addiction that ended her father's life.

Before her downward spiral, Jennifer's life looked perfect from the outside. She had a college degree,

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Every \$3.42 you give today will provide a meal and open the door to life-changing recovery care!

Breaking cycles . . . (continued from page 1)

got married, and started a beautiful family. It seemed she had escaped the generational cycle of addiction.

But when her marriage grew rocky, she turned back to drinking. This time, it consumed her.

The void left by her crumbling marriage and the pressures of motherhood felt impossible to fill. Jennifer tried to drown it in alcohol, but it was never enough.

Life took a turn for the worse after Jennifer was prescribed opioids for a surgery recovery.

"I want to help others find the peace and sobriety I've found."

The relief painkillers provided was instant and powerful. She started mixing opioids with alcohol—a dangerous combination that quickly spiraled out of control. She knew she needed help. But she didn't know how to get it.

Within a year, Jennifer found herself facing legal troubles. Her life was falling apart. Time behind bars was her darkest moment — but it was also her turning point.

Her son told her about Charlotte Rescue Mission, where he himself found sobriety. He urged her to seek help there, sharing how it transformed his life.

Desperate and out of options, Jennifer followed her son's advice. She entered Dove's Nest, the women's program at Charlotte Rescue Mission. "I surrendered when I went into Dove's Nest," she says. "I wanted to do whatever it took to find sobriety."

Jennifer is walking in sobriety and inspiring others to believe for a better future. Her story is a testimony of your generosity and God's faithfulness! Because you give to make transformational recovery care possible, Jennifer found a structured, supportive, safe place to heal. She learned how to cope without substances, discovering there was life on the other side of addiction.

Now a year and a half sober, Jennifer works as a case manager at a local treatment center, helping others who are in the same position she once was in. She speaks at the prison where she once served time, sharing her story and offering hope to those still struggling.

"I am so very grateful," Jennifer says. "I want to help others find the peace and sobriety I've found."





Every transformation story begins with an open door . . .

To begin healing, a struggling man or woman has to start *somewhere*. The door-opener to transformation is often a meal, hot shower, or safe place to sleep. But the services you make possible extend far beyond physical care.

From faith-based residential recovery to hands-on career training to transitional housing, you help make lasting transformation a reality for men and women once trapped at the intersection of homelessness and addiction. A meal is just the first step on the journey to sobriety and stability!



"I thought all I needed was a hot meal and a warm place to get off the streets. I quickly realized I needed so much more. I found what I truly needed at Charlotte Rescue Mission."

— James



"I was tired of wondering where my next meal was going to come from. So I gave this place a shot. They gave me a lot more than a meal."

— Janie



"I came to the mission three times for a Thanksgiving meal. On the third time, I decided to stay. I was tired of letting my addiction write my story."

— Donald



Every day is a day of gratitude at the Mission



Trina Fullard
President & CEO

I wonder how much more we'd give thanks for food on our tables, our families, our steady jobs, and our homes

if we knew what it felt like to go without.

Men and women building better lives at the Mission will tell you that gratitude takes on a whole different meaning when you've experienced the loss and pain of homelessness and addiction.

The Thanksgiving season is a reminder to be grateful for God's faithfulness and provision. But for the people who've experienced lasting transformation because of your giving, they don't need a reminder.

Because every day is another day free from addiction. Another day away from sleeping on the sidewalk. Another day without crippling loneliness. Another day of new life.

It's because of your generosity and God's rich mercy that each man and woman seeking transformation at the Mission has so much to be thankful for.

As we lift up gratitude to God in this upcoming holiday season, know that I'm giving thanks for you!



Will you open the door to lasting stability for someone hurting from homelessness?

The intersection of homelessness and addiction is a miserable place.

Men and women who find themselves there don't know when they'll eat their next meal. They're terrified. Lonely. Desperate for a second chance at life.

Today, you can open the door to transformation for a struggling man or woman in our Charlotte community. That door-opener is a \$3.42 Thanksgiving meal.

After a guest finds their fill at our table, they'll be encouraged to take next steps toward sobriety and stability — free residential recovery care, workforce training, transitional housing, and more.

You make it all possible! Will you give today so someone can leave addiction and homelessness behind them for good?

Thank you for sharing the hope of Jesus! Your gift will change lives!



3 EASY WAYS you can provide transformational care!

1. GIVE BY MAIL by completing the enclosed reply form.



2. GIVE ONLINE at charlotterescuemission.org/ SeptemberNL24.



3. GIVE BY SCANNING here with your mobile device.



Charlotte Rescue Mission • PO Box 33000 • Charlotte, NC 28233 • (704) 333-HOPE (4673) For news and testimonies about how you help change lives in the Charlotte area:







