



A Passion for “What’s Next”



“I can’t wait to start my new job on Monday,” a thrilled guest called out across the parking lot. He beamed with anticipation and joy.

It’s a common experience at the Eugene Mission. Guests are excited about “what’s next” in their lives. Whether it’s restored opportunities to connect with family, to heal

in recovery groups or to learn new skills, the energy and optimism in our halls is palpable.

For individuals who were previously stuck in the “no-future” trap of life on the streets, it’s a new lease on life. The Eugene Mission’s Rescue + Revitalize + Restore path forward provides not only healing, but it also restores a passion for life.

A major part of our guests’ healing is rediscovering relationships. Through their relationship with Jesus Christ and healthy individuals, guests rediscover their God-given gifts and purpose in life. We delight in partnering with our guests and affirming that God has a purpose for everyone.

This purpose gives meaning and focus to the important work of rebuilding the broken pieces in our precious guests’ lives. Far too often, prior to coming to the Eugene Mission, our guests believe the lie that an unstructured life is as “good as it gets.” When the scales fall from their eyes and they see what a restored, purpose-filled life could be, they are excited but fearful that such a life is either not possible for them or that it could be taken from them.

That’s why our commitment to our guests and our reassurances of God’s promises are so critical. With their lives having profound and eternal purpose, our guests can rest in the reassurance that Our Mighty God’s purpose for their lives has not been “lost” and can be lived.

“I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.” [Job 42:2]

With this reassurance and Hope, our guests bloom!

May it be to God’s glory,

Sheryl Balthrop

Executive Director

Meet the Eugene Mission

Learn more about who we are and how we serve. Join us for a Lunch and Learn every first Monday of the month.

Next tour March, 7th at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch will be provided by our hospitality team in our new Learning Center Community Room.

RSVP to reserve your seat: beths@eugenemission.org

(Please note, this is not a fundraiser.)



From Recovery to Career

It's six in the morning and Jackson Conrad and Kyle Endicott, graduates of the Eugene Mission's Life Change Program, are clocking in for work at Monaco Tool Company. Jackson has just celebrated his one-year work anniversary and Kyle is not far behind. Both are working full-time at the local manufacturer of heavy-duty diesel engine tools.

"This has been the biggest blessing of my life," says Jackson. "This place is more than a job, it's become a family. My foreman is a mentor to me. I am so grateful for this opportunity."

Joe Monaco, company founder and owner, started in the industry in 1959 when he joined the Army and trained as a diesel engine mechanic.

"I started my own company in 1986 and it has really grown from there," says Joe. "This is God's business. I firmly believe that. We do the best we can for our customers and for our employees."

Kyle heads to his workstation where he operates the massive, computerized saw. He reviews the day's priorities and lines up the blueprints to cut raw pieces of steel and aluminum into precision components before taking them to the machinist.

"I review the blueprints and double check the calculations before starting up the saw and inputting the data," says Kyle. "I came here with no experience, but I had a strong desire to learn a trade and work hard."

It is a stark juxtaposition to the Kyle who came to the Eugene Mission two-and-a-half years ago, emaciated and addicted to methamphetamine.

Kyle is now over two years sober from methamphetamine, alcohol, marijuana and tobacco after completing the 18-month Life Change Program and graduating in 2021. He has full custody of his two-year-old daughter and is living independently.

"Leah is doing great," beams Kyle as he speaks of his daughter. "My parents and her foster family have been very supportive with childcare."



Across the shop floor, Jackson works on the grinder.

"I have six different things going on at all times," shares Jackson as he assesses the busy workstations surrounding him. "I keep an eye on the welding station, the engraving station and the grinder. When the machinist brings a piece that needs to be welded, I weld it. I engrave parts that need to be engraved and grind tools that need to be precisely ground. Then I test each part."

Jackson appears to be a natural.

"I wasn't qualified for this job, but I was eager to learn, and they taught me," he shares.

It is incredible to see Jackson thriving with two years of sobriety from addiction to alcohol.

"I would drink until the wheels fell off," shares Jackson of his past.

Jackson relapsed after four consecutive 30-day rehab programs before committing to the 18-month Life Change Program.

"The Life Change Program gave me the time I needed and the tools to live sober-minded," says Jackson.

"If a person really wants to change their life, and they work hard at it, I believe in second chances," says Joe. "If you don't offer a second chance, who will?"

Jackson smiles as he says, "Joe is an amazing boss. But I did wear long-sleeved shirts for the first five months," referring to his tattooed forearms.



"I'm an old man," says Joe. "I don't get this generation and all their tattoos, but if I hadn't given these two men a chance, it would have been my loss. Both men have been a great fit for the company."

Way to go, Jackson and Kyle! We knew you could do it!

The Eugene Mission extends heartfelt appreciation to Joe Monaco and Monaco Tool Corporation. We continue to be inspired by your devotion to helping our guests embrace positive, lifelong change.



"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them."

[Hebrews 6:10]

Beginning Anew

Darren Banks is in the Eugene Mission parking lot early on a Friday morning, securing his tool trailer and attaching it to his truck. Recently re-licensed as a residential contractor, Darren is heading back to work as he begins the final phase of the Life Change Program.

"I am excited to be back to it," beams Darren. "Doing everything from tile, to windows, to siding and remodels."

Darren came to the Eugene Mission in early 2021 after multiple attempts to overcome addiction to alcohol, marijuana and methamphetamine.

"My life had become completely unmanageable," shares Darren. "I could not function as a parent, a human being or in my profession."

Darren shares his journey to the Mission with honesty.

"I tried a few programs and I had short stints of sobriety, but I kept relapsing," says Darren. "What I have learned is that I would get sober, but I didn't change the rest of my life. It didn't stick."

The Life Change Program is a 12- to 18-month program with five distinct "phases" that build upon one another in an intentional progression. Each of the five phases has a time interval that can adjust to accommodate individual needs and benchmarks. Upon successful completion of each, the individual advances in a process called "Phasing Up."

"This program has been top-notch," says Darren. "From the classes to the homework, the process groups, community service and the daily work schedules."

The entire Life Change Program focuses on accountability and coming to terms with trauma and thought patterns that drive destructive behaviors.

"When I was in my addiction, my anxiety was through the roof," recounts Darren. "I would self-isolate. I wanted to be with people, but I kept getting in my own way. This program has taught me to trust God, trust the process and to slow down and be intentional."

Over the course of Darren's stay at the Eugene Mission, he has been an incredible helper, including assisting the morning kitchen crew and helping the hospitality program host meetings for Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis.

"Daily shifts and work have been an important aspect of this program," explains Darren. "Through service projects and work, our days are filled with purpose. We are learning how to show up, be responsible and get back into life again."

Most important to Darren is the restoration to his son, three older brothers and his mother who is currently in hospice care.

"One of my brothers had disowned me," shares Darren. "My son didn't speak to me for five years. Now they get to see sober Darren. We are back in communication and it is such a blessing."

Darren finishes connecting his truck and trailer. He has a new set of tires and received a gift of tools from a generous donor. His first job is building a new home upriver that was destroyed in the 2020 wildfire season. With a steaming cup of coffee and a new outlook, Darren drives up First Street to begin Phase 4 of Life Change: Returning to Work.

Darren will be walking the stage at Life Change Graduation on June 17, 2022 (see back page). The public is invited to celebrate the courageous work of eight men who will be graduating with employment, housing and a bright future.



Life Change Program Restored for Women

Danyelle Daniels, a 2017 Women's Life Change Graduate, recounts how she ended up at the Eugene Mission during a recent Zoom chat.

"I sat with my brother in his car in front of the Women's Center," she shares. "He said to me, 'I think by trying to help you, I've hurt you more. So, I am now going to walk away from this and let you figure it out.' It was the best thing he could have done at the time."

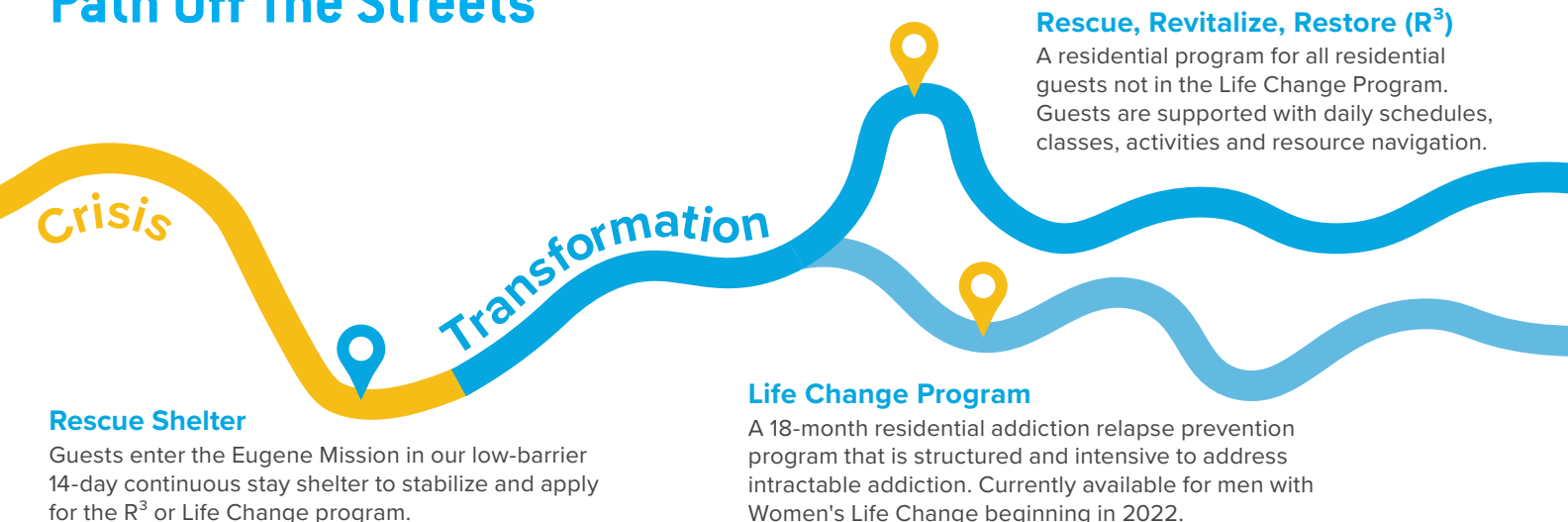
Five years later, Danyelle is working as a project manager for a marketing company, working remotely and pursuing a ministry certification. Danyelle is currently working in the Middle East as an intern with a program that ministers to women victims of human trafficking.

"I am moving forward with so many dreams," she says. "Through the healing power of Christ and the Women's Life Change Program, I was able to begin my walk into freedom from addiction that is very real to this day!"

In 2022, we plan to revive the Women's Life Change Program. The Women's Life Change Program will focus on the unique needs of women struggling with drug and alcohol addiction.

To join the effort, please contact Program Director Denver Harris at lifechangeinfo@eugenemission.org.

Path Off The Streets



Rescue Shelter

Guests enter the Eugene Mission in our low-barrier 14-day continuous stay shelter to stabilize and apply for the R³ or Life Change program.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for our guests as they pursue and transition into housing and employment. We pray for financial support as we collaborate with each guest to address barriers and embark on a Women's Life Change Relapse Prevention Program.

Ways to Give

- + Give online and become a monthly sustaining donor.
- + Give by mail using the enclosed envelope.
- + The Eugene Mission gratefully accepts donations of stock.
- + Please remember the Eugene Mission in your estate planning, will or instrument. FEIN#93-0563797