



**eugene mission**   
 Rescue + Revitalize + Restore

## Trusting Our Good Shepherd



Claiming Psalm 23's Promises for Guests of the Eugene Mission

As we walk the path of healing with our guests, we claim the promises of Psalm 23 for these precious individuals. Our guests are doing the courageous work of recovery. They are often overcoming devastating loss

and poor health and are rebuilding broken relationships.

*“The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.”* Verse one reminds us that He has provided everything we need. Though to the world our precious guests may have lost everything, they are the children of a loving God who will restore what the locusts have eaten.

*“He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake.”* Verses two and three provide such comfort. As our guests navigate the chaos and darkness of recovery from addiction, grief and loss, they can trust our Good Shepherd will refresh and guide them to a better life.

*“Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”* Verse four reminds us that He is always present, providing needed protection against evil and providing perfect guidance through even the darkest of times. At a season in our guests’ lives when all may seem lost, He provides safety, comfort and a way forward.

*“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.”* The lavish blessings of verse five crowd out the false promises our guests leave behind. Our guests’ new or renewed lives in Christ overflow with blessing.v

*“Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”* Far from a momentary fix for our guests’ hurts, this most important “long-term housing” plan is part of the most important relationship of all. Verse six sings of the eternal security, joy, meaning, passionate purpose and connection of a life in Christ.

Hallelujah,

*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.*

Tour on Monday,  
February 7th at 11:30 a.m.

This will be a recurring opportunity on the first Monday of each month. Lunch will be provided by our hospitality team in our new Learning Center Community Room.

RSVP to reserve your seat:  
[beths@eugenemission.org](mailto:beths@eugenemission.org)

*(Please note, this is not a fundraiser.)*



## From Rescue to Recovery

New Year's Eve was dark and frosty as Calvin Jones, guest of the Eugene Mission, packed boxes of cold-weather gear in the Mission's donation warehouse. The Rescue Shelter was filling up as one of the local warming centers helping people escape the frigid snow and sleet. More blankets were needed.

"I know a lot of the folks in there," shares Calvin, who volunteers that night alongside staff preparing sleeping spaces and pouring hot coffee. "I was one of them."

Calvin lifts several boxes of emergency supplies onto a furniture dolly and makes his way to the dedicated room on the southwest corner of the Mission property. Anyone stable enough to not harm themselves or others can take advantage of the warming center services when temperatures plummet.

Calvin volunteers through the long, chilly night to help keep folks as comfortable as possible in a shelter, in the winter, on a holiday eve, during a prolonged pandemic. In fact, Calvin is ubiquitous on campus these days as he prepares to return to work and housing.

"I am a guest in this house," says Calvin. "I like to contribute to the work around here. It's the polite thing to do."

Calvin was once a regular of the Mission's day services. Now, two years into the Rescue + Revitalize + Restore Program, Calvin is a superstar, and we appreciate him! He has been working hard on his sobriety and is active in recovery after decades of heroin addiction. He is also enrolled in welding classes at Lane Community College.

"I was in a tent for five, maybe six years," shares Calvin. "Drugs do something to you up here," he says, tapping his left temple. "You make poor decisions or no decisions at all."

Calvin had worked as a welder for years before drug use took over his life and he lost everything. He joined the Eugene Mission's R<sup>3</sup> Program as the pandemic swept into Lane County in early 2020. Drop-in day services were suspended, and Calvin decided it was time to take his life and his health seriously.

"I used to come in here at 6 every morning, dry off, charge my phone, shower, eat and prepare for another night of partying," Calvin shares. "When those gates were getting ready to close, I had to make a choice."

Calvin stares straight ahead as he recounts those years.

"This place saved my life," he says. "If I was still in a tent, I am pretty sure I'd be dead."

The pandemic-caused pause of day-use services provided a unique opportunity for the Eugene Mission to strategically re-boot our service model. Guests now enter the Eugene Mission through a 14-day, low-barrier Rescue Shelter. If guests choose to exit the Rescue Shelter, they will not be re-admitted for a period of three to six months to eliminate the "in-and-out" cycle many guests, like Calvin, utilized for years.

Over the course of his 24 months at the Eugene Mission, Calvin's "navigator team" has helped address several medical and legal issues, including knee replacement surgery and recovery (which is tricky for an addict who needs help with pain control), resolving a DUII and reestablishing his identification and his driver's license. Calvin has paid down his fines with careful budgeting and financial coaching.

To drive again, Calvin needed two different pairs of prescription eyeglasses, which he just received with the help of a local Lions Club. They look great on him! When Calvin is not at work in the warehouse training program at Food for Lane County or in welding classes, he volunteers to drive the Eugene Mission truck route to pick up food donations.

"I've got my paperwork in order for housing," smiles Calvin. "When I finish my welding recertification, I'll be heading back to work with two years of sobriety."

When Calvin moves on to housing, he shares that he would like to stay in touch with the Mission, including by volunteering.

"This place saved my life," he says. "I am very grateful to you all for everything."

And we are grateful for you, too, Calvin. Amen.

## Ways to Give

- + Give online and become a monthly sustaining donor at [eugenemission.org](https://eugenemission.org).
- + Give by mail using the enclosed envelope.
- + The Eugene Mission gratefully accepts stock donations and vehicles in good working condition.
- + Please remember the Eugene Mission in your estate planning, will or instrument.  
FEIN#93-0563797.



## Welcome In

Jonathon Barnes comes to the Eugene Mission Rescue Shelter to escape the violence and chaos of street life. When Jonathon arrives, his face is bruised, his clothing ragged and he has no shoes. He has been homeless off and on for three years and is looking to turn his life around.

Though “high” when he arrives at the Rescue Shelter, Jonathon is stable enough to come into a communal setting and is welcomed for an initial crisis intervention stay in the low-barrier entry point. The Rescue Shelter is a dedicated 20-bed wing of the Mission and provides guests an opportunity to rest, sober up and be screened for COVID-19.

Rescue Navigator Emily Hargood welcomes Jonathon and begins the process of registration check-in. After being shown his bed and taking a hot shower, Jonathon tucks into a warm meal. Like many guests who come into the Rescue Shelter, Jonathon will sleep for several days.

We are commonly asked “Do you offer detoxification services?” The Eugene Mission is not a medical facility and most of our new guests do not require medically supervised detoxification. When they do, we work closely with Buckley Detoxification Services and issue a “bed hold” for that guest to return once medically stable.

Jonathon takes several days to rest and sleep off the drugs he has taken. After a prolonged period of living in chaos and uncertainty, it takes time to establish cyclical sleep patterns and stability. The Rescue Shelter is a 14-day continuous stay to avoid the temptation to step out and use. Given the prolonged pandemic, this is also a time to get a COVID-19 screening and get up to date on vaccinations and access to care.

During that time, Jonathon will meet with Mission staff and volunteers from our community and guest population. He may see Dr. Willy during his Saturday Occupy Medical Clinic that operates at the Eugene Mission. He begins to meet

other guests, acquire clothing and shoes from our donation warehouse and enjoy wonderful meals.

The Eugene Mission recognizes the brutal suffering caused by substance addiction and supports its guests in their sobriety. We are committed to changing the terrible trajectory of addiction in the lives of our guests and providing a pathway out of addiction. Recovery is a critical piece of the journey off the streets, and we recognize the recovery journey takes time, dedication and resources. Because of this, we are a sober residential campus, recognizing that many addicts will use right up until the moment they are ready to quit. The Rescue Shelter provides the low-barrier entry necessary to begin the courageous work of recovery.

As his 14-day stay approaches its end, Jonathon attends a “Mission 101” presentation to learn about the two programs for Mission guests: the Life Change Program or the Rescue + Revitalize + Restore (R<sup>3</sup>) Program. Jonathon is interested in the R<sup>3</sup> Program and signs up to begin.

On day 14, Jonathon clears his drug test and COVID-19 screening. He is assigned a staff navigator who will begin working with Jonathon on a daily schedule of life skills, activities and classes. Together, they will address what brought him to the Eugene Mission, including addiction and mental and physical health challenges.

Guest volunteer Calvin Jones provides a tour of the men’s facility and shows Jonathon where his bed and locker are. Jonathon’s R<sup>3</sup> application is completed and approved.

Now the real work begins!

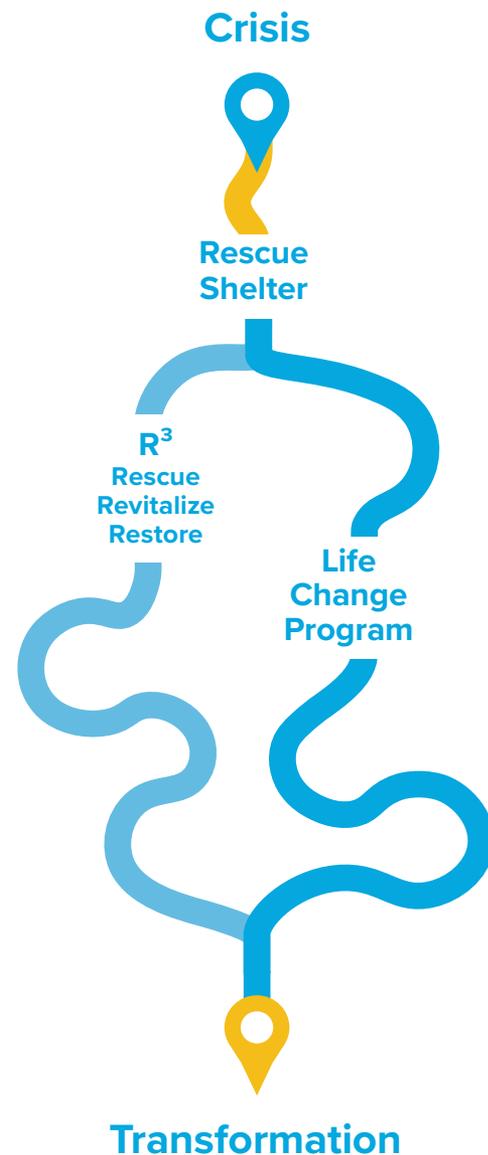
## Sparks are Flying!

Serge Lemay, a recent graduate of the Life Change Program, has completed his welding certification with the help of Goodwill Industries STEP program and Lane Workforce Partnership. "I love metal and welding and going to school to become a welder is one of the best things I've ever done. Thank you, Life Change and the Eugene Mission, for all of the help getting me here."

– Serge Lemay, Life Change Program Graduate



## Path off the Streets



## On the Move

"Eight guests have moved successfully into housing since Thanksgiving. The day before Christmas we were able to move our mother with five children into a six-person housing unit. My favorite part of this entire process is taking our guests to the donation warehouse to help pick out furniture and housewares for their new place. I get to help the warehouse team load up the truck, drive them to their new home and move them in. It just crushes me every single time."

– Chelsae Miller, Director of Staff and Guest Development



## In Kind Wishlist

- + Fresh salad greens (we are low on these in the winter)
- + Diapers size 4, 5, 6
- + Baby wipes

- + #10 cans of green beans, corn and marinara sauce
- + Large containers of salsa

## Prayer Requests

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

## Transformation

### Rescue Shelter

Guests enter the Eugene Mission in our low-barrier 14-day continuous stay shelter to stabilize and apply for the R<sup>3</sup> or Life Change Program.

### Rescue, Revitalize, Restore (R<sup>3</sup>)

A residential program for all residential guests not in the Life Change Program. Guests are supported with daily schedules, classes, activities and resource navigation.

### Life Change Program

A 18-month residential addiction relapse prevention program that is structured and intensive to address intractable addiction. Currently available for men with Women's Life Change hopefully beginning in 2022.