

The Connection



Matachia Hardy

When Matachia begins telling her story, she reveals she is one of 23 children! Yes, her mother gave birth to 23 children. Matachia is number 20. Growing up in a Pentecostal church, Matachia has very fond memories of her mother and in fact quotes her often. "My mom would always talk about the importance of being humble," she remembers. Matachia also went through some hard times like a lot of people. But she never lost her faith.

The year 2000 was pivotal for Matachia. Her mom passed away and she bought a 7-bedroom home. Unfortunately she lost her home two years later, which was followed by a short, abusive marriage. This started her homeless issues. Matachia has been able to stay with her youngest daughter at times but she is raising her own four children. So Matachia couldn't stay there too long. "My biggest supporters through everything have been my children and my pastor for over 20 years."

"God has always brought the right people into my life at the right time." Surviving bad relationships, abuse, and losing everything she owned, Matachia found herself at Good Samaritan Rescue Mission. Matachia is very grateful, "All the women at GSRM

Harvest of Blessings

are beautiful. They all help me. I love them so much." She leans on several scriptures and can quote them all. Isaiah 54.17, Romans 8.35-39, and 2 Chronicles 7.14, "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

"My disobedience got me here, my obedience got me out." Matachia acknowledges it has been her disobedience to God that has gotten her into this situation but putting God back at the center of her life and being obedient, He has put her back on His path for her. "Jesus was always my Savior, now He is my Lord. I would never accept Him as my Lord before."

Matachia is a great example of how if you keep God first and work hard you can reap a Harvest of Blessings, no matter the obstacles. Matachia has moved into her own apartment. She continues working with Bay Human Resources who have been very supportive of her work as an in-home caregiver. And she continues to have a great relationship with her children and grandbabies. "God never allowed me to sleep on the ground. He always provided a roof over my head. I'm so grateful, happy and content," she says humbly.

DIRECTOR'S DESK

One of the joys of living in Michigan is our diverse seasons. Normally, we are thinking of apple cider, farmers' fields being harvested, leaves changing colors, and cool, refreshing days. This has been one of the most unique starts to fall that I can remember in many years. The extremely high temperatures for such a long period of time have broken many records in Michigan.

Another unique trend over the last couple months has been the dramatic need for our emergency shelter services. In 2016, the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission and City Rescue Mission on average would assist 188 men, women, and children with emergency shelter. Over the last two months we have been in overflow status, and several nights had 230 combined residents! If we continue our present pace, we will assist more men, women, and children with emergency shelter than we have ever done in 112 years of ministry.

As much good news that is voiced about the overall economy of Michigan, the reality is that the economic gains haven't made their way to the majority that are struggling in or near poverty. We have been working hard to help connect people to life changing opportunities like the story of Matachia that you read on the cover. Vocational training, vocational counseling, life management classes, budgeting, transportation assistance partnered with spiritual discipleship counseling and classes are the enhanced services that we offer to our guests to help get them back on a stable base.

With the increased numbers, comes increased opportunity. God has entrusted us with the chance to make an impact on more lives. Additional examples of this impact are in the lives of Adam and Naomi. Visit our website r3monline.org to view their video testimony and see the dramatic change that is happening in lives every day.

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." *Galatians 6:9*

Dan Streeter
Chief Executive Officer



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Congratulations

SAMARITAN AWARD HONOREES

Pat and Debby Downing

The Downings were honored at the annual Rescue Mission Anniversary Dinner Monday, September 18 at the Doubletree.

Each year the Rescue Mission leadership considers all of the volunteer efforts that have occurred. The Mission, being a volunteer driven organization, literally has hundreds of potential "Samaritans" demonstrating love to the hurting and homeless every year. It is always a tough choice to select only one recipient. Pat and Debby Downing have been faithfully volunteering in the Mission kitchen, among other places, since 2008.



Thanksgiving & Pantry NEEDS

FOOD ITEMS

- Turkeys
- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- 100% Juice (with Vitamin C)



Thank you!

BIG thank you to mentors and students of the 2016-2017 Youth Leadership Bay County! Your summer project, Movies for the Mission, was successful and fun for everyone who came out to the movies. Thank you for raising \$672.43 to help the homeless who come to the Rescue Mission!

Great job! An equal amount was donated to the Bay Arts Council as well. Special thanks to Anderson Bearden, Michael Bacigalupo, and the Men's Philanthropy Group at the Bay Area Community Foundation for all of your help with this project!

Mission Statement:

To glorify God by serving people in need, proclaiming the Gospel, and establishing disciples among disadvantaged people.



112th Anniversary Concert

Friday
November 3, 2017

7:00pm

Doors Open at 6pm

Tickets \$10 Each

Hopevale Church

4873 N. Center Rd. • Saginaw, MI 48603

Tickets available online at:

www.rescuesaginaw.org or

www.gsrmbaycity.org or by calling

Katie at 989.752.6051 x125

or 989.893.5973 x125



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Mark Your Calendar!

Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan's annual

Hockey for the Homeless

Saturday, March 3

with SAGINAW SPIRIT HOCKEY Featuring pre-game
Concert with MODERN DAY CURE



Bring your church
groups, employees,
family and friends!



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