

The Connection



A FRESH Set of Eyes



Jennifer is in a very exciting place in her life. Although living in a homeless shelter and still a little scared of what the future holds, she sees doors are beginning to open and it is exciting!

Jennifer's parents and grandparents battled alcoholism. Her most vivid, childhood memory was coming home from school at age 11 and seeing her grandmother laying on the floor, covered by a sheet. She had died because of her alcoholism. "I never did drugs or drank alcohol. With my family history I had seen enough," laments Jennifer.

Growing up in the church and loving the Lord, Jennifer says she has a strong, personal relationship with Christ and has always turned to Him. "Being at the Mission has helped me reinforce my relationship with God."

Raised to be a strong woman, Jennifer was taught to not show weakness. But one day she realized she had lost herself and who she was while in her marriage. Determined to see her two sons go to

"I remember being angry and numb"

college, she opened her own catering business to help make it happen. Her boys both graduated; one an engineer and the other a teacher and mentor with his Master's Degree. Jennifer is very proud of them.

When she arrived at Good Samaritan, Jennifer was enduring great loss. Her marriage had failed. She lost her home due to lack of adequate income. She says she couldn't safely take care of herself.

"I remember being angry and numb at the same time when I realized my life had spun so out of control," recalls Jennifer. Turning to the Mission in search of help, a staff member assured her things would be ok. She wasn't so sure at the time. Now Jennifer says, "The Mission has helped me switch the focus of loss to embracing all that I have to be thankful for."

With new doors being opened, she is expecting her new apartment keys soon. With her background in retail, customer service, and owning her own business, Jennifer is enjoying the prospect of her new employment. She loves to learn and grow. "This stay at the Mission has me looking at life through a fresh set of eyes."

DIRECTOR'S DESK



For 27 years I have been involved with Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan with different responsibilities. One thing that has been constant for 27 years is that people continue to show up in need. For as many lives that have been assisted and impacted, we haven't run out of people in this region that are hurting, homeless, and requesting our help.

Occasionally someone makes a mistake and needs to come back for a follow up stay, but the majority, over 85%, move out and gain stability. That is an amazing success rate that is twice the rate of other shelters in the State of Michigan. Our biggest reason for success is putting Christ first.

You can focus on all of the peripheral issues of budgeting and life choices, but if you don't minister to the soul, only superficial and temporary change will occur. Believe me, we focus on the peripheral issues as well, but without Christ, they become meaningless.

Even with great outcomes, we still see over 200 people per night in our region needing emergency assistance, and the most sobering part is that there are new faces walking through the door every day. It would be easy to become weary, disillusioned, or frustrated. I am thankful for a staff and volunteers that see the bigger picture. God has given us a window of opportunity to sow spiritual seeds into lives. Unlike most agricultural pursuits though, sometimes we get to see harvest results within days or weeks.

One thing that has been consistent over the years is that there are never enough laborers for the harvest. We could use your help. Food prep? Light maintenance projects? Mentoring? These are just a few of practical projects that would engage you in the world of ministry. You never know what doors of ministry opportunity God will open once you start. Prayerfully consider what you can do to be a laborer in your local mission field.

"Say not ye, 'There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest?' Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35

Dan Streeter
Chief Executive Officer

MISSION NEEDS:

- Diapers and Pull ups (sizes 4-7)
- Italian Dressing
- Coffee
- Rice
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Cereal – low sugar





2020 Vision



SAMARITAN YOUTH SHELTER

Campaign Goal: \$600,000

The Great Lakes Bay Region is experiencing a new wave of homelessness among twelve to seventeen-year-old teens. A 10-bed shelter for unaccompanied youth is being developed in an area of the Mission previously used as rented office space.

PROJECT GOALS

- Provide short term shelter
- Connect youth to counseling services that address the impact of trauma and cultivate social and emotional well-being
- Promote interventions that seek to prevent sexual exploitation and trafficking among runaway homeless youth
- Cultivate permanent connections to families, schools, and other social networks
- Promote building skills and capacities that contribute to a healthy, positive and productive functioning of children and the healthy transition of youth into adulthood

For more information contact Kimberly at (989)893-5973, x 123 or visit our website www.r3monline.org.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HOCKEY FOR THE HOMELESS

— SATURDAY —

March 14, 2020



Single Tickets are \$14

Visit www.saginawspirit.net/groupsales to order your tickets

GROUP ID: **rescue2020** PASSWORD: **spirit**

Groups of 20 or more are just \$12 (EACH)

and must be ordered by calling

KIMBERLY ANCEL at 989-752-6051 ext. 123



Mission Statement:

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

114TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

RESCUE MINISTRIES OF MID-MICHIGAN

FEATURING:

DAVID PHELPS WORLD TOUR

Italy.France.England.USA.Switzerland.Germany.South Africa.Norway.Brazil

OCTOBER 29
AT 7:00PM

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

HOPEVALE CHURCH
4873 N. CENTER RD.
SAGINAW TOWNSHIP

GENERAL
ADMISSION

\$20

RESERVED
SEATING*

\$30

purchase online at
www.r3monline.org

A love offering will be
taken to benefit
**Rescue Ministries
of Mid-Michigan**

*Limited reserved
seating available.

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