

The Connection



Thanks for Giving



*A*lready dealing with legal issues, both Wesley's girlfriend and brother unexpectedly passed away. Feeling devastated, hopeless, and trapped he turned to Good Samaritan Rescue Mission for help.

"When I got to the Mission, I was angry and felt defeated," recalls Wesley. "I just lost my girlfriend and my brother. I've been numb ever since." Over his life span, Wesley has lost both parents and all but one brother who lives out of the area.

Wesley grew up in mid-Michigan in what he calls an, "all American family." He grew up in church. The family was very musical. Mom and dad were active in the kids' lives. "My childhood was happy," he says. Wesley wound up married twice and has two beautiful daughters.

In his early adult years, Wesley experienced back issues and was prescribed pain medications. He would be on them for 11 years. Getting off the pain meds four years ago was difficult. He succeeded, but Wesley will admit, although he doesn't feel like he struggles with an addiction to anything specific, he does feel addicted to that feeling of being "high."

Having served in the Navy for 8 years, Wesley is now working with the local VA to help

him find a place to live. "I've always let my pride get in the way of pursuing my benefits as a veteran. I was proud to have served. Handouts weren't for me." Now Wesley realizes that he does need some help and the services that are available are there for veterans who find themselves in situations like he is in now.

"I've always worked in the restaurant field. I love working in that environment and I'm good at it," smiles Wesley. As he is actively seeking employment and a place to live, Wesley appreciates his opportunity to stay at the Mission. Although it was uncomfortable at first, he does 'compliment the staff' for the Christian example and direction he receives from them. "Rick Brown and Rick Scott (staff in men's shelter) have been incredible!"

Today Wesley is grateful and says, "I don't know where I'd be right now (without GSRM). I always thought I'd be dead by now."

"I've been numb ever since."

DIRECTOR'S DESK



2 Corinthians 9:11 "Being enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God."

Have you ever taken the time to meditate and think about how many people have crossed your path and had an influence in your life? The reality is that many of us think we have been the masters of our destiny, are the products of hard work and faithfulness, and have attained our current position in life. The reality is that no one is a self-made person.

Educators, nurses, pastors, neighbors, parents, friends, doctors, family...just a few of the potential influencers in our lives. We need each other... and there are others that need you.

Many of our homeless neighbors didn't get to choose which household to grow up in, may not have received nurturing and may have no idea of what it means to grow up in a loving, Christian home.

As we near the Thanksgiving holiday, take time to count the blessings and people God has placed in your life, and the opportunities He has given you, and maybe consider what you can do to be an "influence" for the next person in need.

Dan Streeter
Chief Executive Officer

PANTRY NEEDS

- CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP
- BEEF BROTH
- UNSWEETENED CEREAL
- COFFEE
- CANNED YAMS



Christmas WISH LIST



- Women's pajamas & slippers
- Bath and perfume lotions/sprays
- Make up/lip gloss/mascara
- Men's sweat pants and hoodies
- Bibles – Adult & Youth
- Children's toys – Legos, activities, games, etc.
- Children's pajamas

Please drop off unwrapped gifts
by December 13th. Thank you!



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 DINNER GALA

Mission friends gather on September 17, 2019 for Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan's 114th Anniversary Gala. The gala featured guest speaker John Ashmen, President of Citygate Network. Sponsored by Dick Williams Gun Shop, John E Green Company, Labadie Auto and Serenus Johnson Construction the gala raised over \$55,000 to help the homeless throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region.



Samaritan Award

Congratulations to the 2019 Samaritan Award recipients Melissa Cabine, Tom & Sibyl Clark and Kathy Estep. Annually the Rescue Mission leadership considers all the volunteer efforts that have been observed. The Mission, being a volunteer driven organization, literally has hundreds of potential "Samaritans" demonstrating love to their neighbors every year. Some share clothing, some dress wounds, and some offer transportation. Some give financially to help provide emergency shelter services, but all are interested in assisting those in need. The Samaritan Award is presented to those whose charitable acts have somehow stood out among the hundreds of kindnesses. A special thank you to our 2019 Samaritan Award sponsor Maier & Associates Financial Group, Inc.



Race for Rescue



The annual event hosted by Paramount Rehabilitation Services raised \$16,000 to benefit homeless youth in the Bay area. "We are proud to say that we raised \$16,000 for the Good Samaritan Youth Shelter this year with Race for Rescue. This brings our total over the last 2 years to \$37,000! Thank you to all our wonderful sponsors, volunteers, and participants!" – Paramount Rehabilitation Services.

114TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Over 800 guests joined Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan on Tuesday, October 29th at Hopevale Church to hear David Phelps perform. This special night helped to raise vital funds for Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan's Vision 2020 campaign. A special thank you to InCal Technologies, Inc. for sponsoring the 114th anniversary concert.



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