

The Connection



Glorifying GOD by Serving People in Need

When Jessica arrived at Good Samaritan Rescue Mission with her two children, they were hungry and in need of a safe place to plan their next move. "I was here 12 years ago before my children were born. I remembered it was a place with good values and structure. I need structure," recalls Jessica.

Born in Bay City and a John Glenn High School graduate, Jessica wants to stay in Bay City to raise her children. With her mom and brother in the local area she and the kids are happy to have family around but, Jessica does not want to burden them.

Jessica was born with Achondroplasia and has developed spinal stenosis, which is a common development with this bone growth disorder. Prior to developing spinal stenosis Jessica was able to hold a job, now she is no longer able to do so. While at the Rescue Mission, Jessica's case manager is helping her connect with people who can assist her in applying for social security and disability benefits.

Her son Levi has also been diagnosed with

Achondroplasia. He and his sister Everly, are a joy to be around and Jessica is thankful for the help she's receiving at the Mission. Levi was enrolled in pre-school at Trinity Lutheran and Jessica loved it. Unfortunately, he had to stop attending because she could no longer afford it.

"With the money I've already saved while being here, I was able to get the car repairs I needed."

Jessica

"We've been here since December. With the money I've already saved while being here, I was able to get the car repairs I needed. The help with diapers and wipes is awesome! They even help with hygiene products, boots for the kids, etc."

Jessica's goals include; "a place with room for the kids to play, our own space, and regular family kind of stuff. Yes, I'm really looking forward to that." She also wants to find a daycare.

"I really appreciate the women staff here. They're awesome," says Jessica. She enjoys the Life Skills classes, but admits she forgets about chapel services and doesn't always attend. "I believe in God and what the Bible has to say. I will try attending chapel more because I do want to find a church for me and the kids when we leave."

DIRECTOR'S DESK



One of the best forms of hospitality is inviting someone over for a meal. Taking the time to specifically prepare your home, plan the menu, shop for the meal for the day, fix and prepare it, and then serve and share. It creates a bond, it opens doors for friendship, and leads the way toward many positive memories. That is what we strive to do each day at Rescue Ministries. Build bonds with the homeless and destitute, demonstrate God's love that leads toward conversation and care, make friends with the hurting, build positive memories that lead toward hope and restitution.

In Leviticus, God shared the importance of being charitable and caring for the poor.

[9] And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. [10] And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:9-10

Between last fall and this winter, we have seen a marked increase of the people coming to the Mission seeking assistance. We aren't sure yet for the reasons for the increase in numbers, but we are sure of their need. For the first time in our history, we have provided care for over 300 people in one night, and that has now become more of the norm than the exception. More people mean more opportunities for hospitality. Prayerfully consider what you might be able to do to demonstrate your hospitality to the poor and needy this winter.

Dan Streeter
Chief Executive Officer

Pantry Needs

- CHICKEN BROTH
- CANNED FRUIT
- CANNED VEGETABLES
- CANNED TUNA/CHICKEN
- SALAD DRESSINGS



With the new ministry endeavor ahead, we've decided to postpone the sale of our delicious Dutch Apple Pies this year. We know this news may be disappointing for some. However, we know that you, as our faithful supporters, will embrace and support the new Samaritan Youth Shelter.

HOCKEY FOR THE HOMELESS

— SATURDAY —

March 14, 2020



Plan to join us for a fun-filled night which includes:

Saginaw Spirit Hockey game, Broomball Hockey Tournament and Pre-Game Concert featuring Frankenmuth Bible Church, plus fun kid activities. To order discounted tickets go to www.r3monline.org. For groups of 25 or more contact Marlene at 989-893-5973 x 221 for details.

Operation Hope and Care



A little bag makes a big difference!

The annual Operation Hope & Care launches March 1, 2020. Operation H & C project is a great project for church groups, civic groups and individuals. Every family and individual who checks in to the Mission's emergency shelter receives a Hope & Care tote filled with NEW hygiene products. Call Marlene to order your bags and posters at 989-893-5973 x 221. Changing Lives... one life at a time!

Fill a hope and care tote with these items!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste
(Children & Adult) | <input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant
(Men & Women) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Body Wash | <input type="checkbox"/> Tissues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-Bacterial Liquid Soap | <input type="checkbox"/> Disposable Razors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lip Balm | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand or Body Lotion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shaving Cream
(Men & Women) | <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-Bacterial Wipes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo & Conditioner | <input type="checkbox"/> Diaper Wipes |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer |

Mission Statement:

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

The Great Lakes Bay Region is experiencing a new wave of homelessness among twelve to seventeen year old teens. Bay and Arenac Counties are simply not prepared to meet this need because emergency shelter services for teens are simply non-existent. This crisis is magnified because problems with opioid abuse and human trafficking seem to be growing at a parallel level with teen homelessness.

The need for a youth shelter for Bay and Arenac Counties has been critical ever since Cory Place closed their doors in early 2015. Right now the Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District, the Bay County Continuum of Care, and the Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency are all serving homeless and runaway youth without the benefit of an emergency shelter. These agencies are joining with Bay/Arenac DHHS to support GSRM in our efforts to develop and operate the Samaritan Youth Shelter.

The Samaritan Youth Shelter is being developed in response to community concern for homeless youth. When Good Samaritan Rescue Mission opened we had the foresight and good fortune to acquire a facility much larger than initially needed for this undertaking, and during the past decade we have seen the services of GSRM develop to wonderfully meet many needs in the Bay area. Today there are new requests from the Bay Community to develop the Samaritan Youth Shelter and they are more fervent than the requests heard fifteen years ago for the initial Bay County program.



The Good Samaritan Rescue Mission is the ideal location for establishing a new youth shelter for several reasons:

- The facility is attractive and well identified by the community as the place to address homelessness.
- Good Samaritan Rescue Mission (GSRM) enjoys public acceptance and is financially stable.
- GSRM is close to the city center.
- The community perception of GSRM is very favorable and therefore it is inviting to shelter guests.
- The location of GSRM is adjacent to the beautiful Birney Park (maintained by Bay City).
- GSRM is on the bus line, and within walking distance of many helping resources.
- Samaritan Youth Shelter has the advantage of lower costs because of the shared expenses with GSRM.



YES! I Want to Help Homeless Bay Area Youth Find Safe Shelter

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____ AMOUNT _____



Printing Production:



713 9th St • PO Box 613
Bay City • MI 48707