

The Connection

A Publication of Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan



Still Waters

— Finding Peace Through Life's Struggles —

Although Brenda grew up in a stable home with both of her parents, her life hasn't always felt stable. "My fiancé and I have been together for 22 years. Throughout this time, we have always owned our own home. In August 2021, our house burned down...we lost everything."

As an adult, Brenda has struggled with mental illness which, in turn, led to alcohol and drug abuse. Once she realized that she needed to get help, she checked herself into a facility in Ohio. Unfortunately, that's when an electrical fire claimed her house and everything in it. When Brenda was ready to come home from the facility, she had no home to go to. Brenda and her fiancé found themselves homeless in the middle of winter. "The thought of how we were going to pick up the pieces and start over was so mentally exhausting. It seemed like we were spinning in circles and getting nowhere."

After losing their home to fire Brenda and her fiancé lived in their car. Having a negative perception of homeless shelters, Brenda knew she had no other choice but to walk through the doors of Good Samaritan. Since she arrived, she has been thankful to have a base to begin to build on. "From the beginning, I was and still am amazed with this

place." Brenda is also thankful for all her needs that have been met from a warm bed and a hot

meal to clean clothes and hygiene items. "My mind was so scattered due to everything that I was going through. I truly needed help and direction on what to do next to put my life back together. This is where the staff came in."

Through case management and structure, the women's shelter staff have helped Brenda with housing applications, building her self-esteem, and helping her stay clean and sober. "I want to thank each and every one who is associated with this shelter. It does change lives. Not only did they help me, they also helped my fiancé get on the same track."

Brenda knows that none of this would be possible without God's intervention. "It's God. It's not me." Brenda also knows her plans for her future and her dream of becoming a Veterinarian Assistant are in His hands.



DIRECTOR'S DESK

Anytime I have to go away for a period of time whether for vacation or Mission related work, there is always a common theme. It doesn't matter how nice the place or accommodations are for where I stay, there is always a satisfaction and peace of being home. There are a lot of nice places in this world, but very few places you can call home.

Many of our guests have never experienced a "home." They have had many places to lay their head, but very few moments of peace. They have spent a life in instability. It might be because they grew up in poverty, it might be because of mental illness in the family, it might be due to choices of wrong friends and substances in the search of personal acceptance and belonging.

Our passion as a staff and Board of Directors is to create an environment at Rescue Ministries so that each person can experience true peace and eventually attain a "home". Psalm 23 is a great passage to relay our hope for our guests.

*Psalm 23:1-3 - [1] The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
[2] He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. [3] He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

First, you must come to a place to know and accept the Great Shepherd. Jesus is there to guide and protect, but we must allow Him to be our shepherd. Our staff and chapel volunteers do a wonderful job of trying to introduce our guests to a personal relationship with Christ. Do you want to know real peace? Then you must allow the Great Shepherd to restore your soul and to lead and guide your life to the still waters.

On our quest to achieve "home", we then guide our guests to patterns of living that lead toward "still waters". Some of those patterns are through classes of practical life disciplines of budgeting, and employment attainment fused with Godly principles. It culminates with the chance to work with our Impact Designs staff to find a residence and with our designer's help to create a place of home. It takes several months of work to get to this final goal, but the end goal is usually accompanied with tears of joy as real peace and a home are secured.

When you donate, pray or volunteer with Rescue Ministries, you are a part of creating "home."

Dan Streeter, CEO



CURRENT MISSION NEEDS



Shelter:

- Men's White T-Shirts - All Sizes
- Men's Shorts-All Sizes Men's Shorts-Men's Size M & L
- Sensitive Body Wash
- Women's Leggings - Plus Sizes
- Women's Sports Bras - Plus Sizes



- Full & Twin Mattress & Box Spring Sets
- Cooking Pot Sets
- New Bed Pillows
- 13 Gallon Kitchen Trash Cans
- Brooms & Swiffers

Food:

- Sloppy Joe Mix
- Juice (100% Vitamin C)
- Ranch & Italian Dressings
- Chicken Broth
- Baking Mix



Building of Kitchen Floor

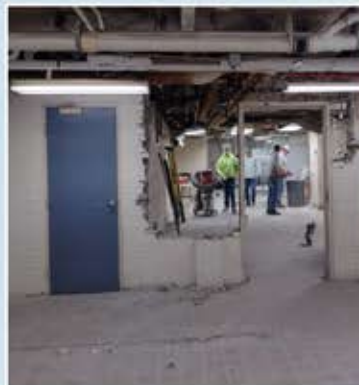


ACROSS THE BAY

Across the Bay is where we share with you highlights about our Saginaw Shelter, City Rescue Mission.

The City Rescue Mission is located at 1021 Burt St in Saginaw, in a building constructed in 1928 with a 24,000 sq ft addition completed in 2000. The current 1,200 sq ft kitchen was last modified in 2000. Since 2000, City Rescue Mission has served over 1,000,000 meals to homeless men, women and children receiving emergency shelter services. The current layout makes meal preparations inefficient and much of the equipment is outdated. Plans for the remodel will enlarge the City Rescue Mission kitchen to 1,600 sq ft and make meal preparation easier and more efficient. A larger food pantry is being created as part of the kitchen remodel.

In addition to the kitchen remodel, a new men's day room is being constructed. The new day room will allow for much needed social distancing for men staying in the emergency shelter. Plus, a larger laundry room is being added to accommodate men from the emergency shelter and for mission laundry.



Demo of Lower Level



New Kitchen Cement



Mission Statement:

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Heritage of Hope
ANNIVERSARY GALA
Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Featuring Darryl Bartlett, CEO
Gateway Mission in Holland, Michigan

» 6:00pm – 6:30pm
Punch Bowl

» 6:30pm – 9:00pm
Dinner & Program



LABADIE LOFTS

Labadie Lofts is being developed in the building located at 400 Madison St. in Bay City, which is already owned by Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan. After reaching the age of 18, 20% of the children who were in foster care will become instantly homeless. Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan wants to help change the lives of youth aging out of foster care. Labadie Lofts will provide a safety net and a launching pad for youth in transition.

The new permanent housing program is for young people 18-22 years who have aged out of Foster Care. This supportive program will allow youth to live independently in their own affordable apartment while participating in life skills classes and working and/or attending college or trade school. The goal of Labadie Lofts is to provide housing that encourages a successful launch to life. Each tenant will be expected to set personal goals and will be regularly challenged to live in compliance with their stated life.

Labadie Lofts Outside



Labadie Lofts Before

Printing Production:



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