### Upcoming Holiday Needs

Turkeys . Hams . Coffee Instant Potatoes . Canned food Hooded Sweatshirts . Socks Holiday Finances • Prayer

All holiday donations can be dropped off at the Eureka Rescue Mission located at 100 2nd Street

The Graduates of the Men's "New Life Program"

Tyrone Lamar On 7-10-2019 **Tyrone Lamar** graduated the New Life Program. Tyrone came to us as an overnight guest and after awhile of staying with us he inquired about our yearlong program. He wasn't addicted to drugs or alcohol but his life most definitely was at a standstill. Tyrone came to the conclusion that he needed to further his relationship with the Lord and submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in a real and practical way. Tyrone excelled in his studies as well as various chores while in the program, especially cooking meals on the weekends. All of the other program members loved having him as weekend cook. Now that he has graduated, Tyrone applied for employment at Eureka City Schools Central Kitchen, but that job did not come to fruition. Tyrone was determined to find a job and just recently landed part time employ-

ment at Eureka Co-Op which is just across the street from the Mission! We are so proud of him!

**Bob Edwards** Bob Edwards graduated the New Life Program on 7-17-2019. Bob came to us 2 months sober from another program in the area. Prior to that, Bob was a hope to die methamphetamine addict. While in the New Life Program, Bob immersed himself in the

Word of God and grew leaps and bounds. The day before he graduated, he applied for employment at Commercial Laundry Repair, was hired immediately and has been working full time ever since. His job title is Service Technician and is being trained personally by the owner, Bill Herrera. Bob absolutely loves his job and is working toward being a solo service tech within CLR after a couple of years of training. Also, Bob may be trained as a possible marketing agent for CLR in the future.

Tony **McConnell** had been one of our long time guests at the Eureka Rescue Mission and had been in the program several times throughout the years. Each time Tony was in the program, the streets became too enticing and unfortunately he left without graduating. Tony struggled with excessive marijuana use which caused a serious lack of personal motivation. The good news is that Tony finally graduated the program on 8-21-2019! Currently he is staying with us trying to get his health in order. On top of having diabetes, the doctors have determined that he may have had a stroke in his sleep which has greatly affected his motor skills. Please keep Tony in your prayers as he tries to sort out his next steps in this difficult situation. Tony is one of the sweetest men in the whole world.

Tony McConnell

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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# **Eureka Rescue Mission**

# From Homeless to Housed!

How wonderful it is to bring this Praise report to everyone! In our past two editions of our newsletter we have shared Renah Wall's story. We shared that Renah had been at the top of the list to receive housing and was actually informed

that she had a place and was waiting for them to finish preparing it for her to move in but, unfortunately, due to a glitch in paperwork, this apartment was no longer available. It was heartbreaking for her and the kids. However, we are excited to announce that a much larger apartment in a much nicer neighborhood became available and now Renah and her three children are currently tenants of a three-bedroom townhouse in Myrtletown! Renah signed her lease on Friday, September 20th with a joyful heart and tears in her eyes. She and her children were an amazing example of gratitude and gratefulness while staying with us and it has been a blessing to watch this little family grow. We have witnessed Renah achieve and accomplish all the tasks and goals that she set, all the while remaining drug, alcohol, and tobacco free. Renah also intends to continue volunteering at the shelter as well as volunteering in the community. She now has full legal and joint physical custody of her sons! It is such a blessing to see all of her hard work finally pay off and we are beyond blessed to have been a part of this good work that God has done. Renah said, "Without the people in this community that support this Mission, so many lives would remain hopeless and dark. This place saved me through the love of Christ Jesus. So again, thank vou."

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## Beauty from Ashes



Becky comes from a challenging childhood; her mother was very abusive toward her in more ways than one. She had some balance in her childhood due to her loving father who was very kind and caring, trying his best to make growing up as happy as possible with the circumstances at hand. Becky was born in Riverbank, CA. Her dad

worked for the Forest Service and her mom was surprisingly enough a schoolteacher. It did not make much sense to Becky, even as a child, that her mom treated other children better than she did her own. When Becky was younger, she wanted to work in early childhood education with preschoolers or in some type of child development center. Becky graduated High School with her diploma but did not continue her education after graduation. Becky has had many different types of positions and jobs in the work field. She never did experiment with drugs or alcohol because it didn't seem like a good idea to her. Becky had stable housing in Eureka for 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years but due to unfortunate circumstances, approximately 5 weeks ago, Becky found herself dealing with homelessness for the first time in her life. Open Door Clinic in Eureka suggested the Eureka Rescue Mission as an option. She took the step of faith and showed up for chapel and dinner services and was welcomed with a solid teaching of Biblical truth, a warm meal along with loving arms open wide and a hot shower and warm bed. Becky was finally able to get some much needed rest. She states, "I want to thank all of the staff at the Women's Shelter. Without each one, I don't know where I'd be. When I came to the Shelter, I was at my lowest point. The Mission gave me a roof over my head, a warm place to sleep and a lot of guidance and stability. I have made new friends who can relate to what I am going through without feeling judged. The Men's Shelter has been great to us also. They prepare our meals (fantastic food) and they deliver it to the Women's side. They even wash the dinner dishes for us! Everyone I have been in contact with is very polite and respectful. Without the shelter, many more people who really just need a hand up, would be out on the streets cold and hungry. We cannot forget all the wonderful donors that make it all possible. I would like to thank all the supporters for everything they do. Without them, many would not have a stable, safe place to stay or food in our bellies and staff that loves and listens, as well as helps to meet all of our needs. So again, thank you from the bottom of my heart, to the deepest parts of my soul."



Rhonda Rhonda Johnson was born in Eureka and has lived in Humboldt County her whole

life. Unfortunately her parents divorced when she was 11 years old and her father moved to Oklahoma. He traveled back and forth to see her as often as possible and she spent many summers and holiday vacations traveling with her dad exploring different places. Her dad worked in encyclopedia sales for a good amount of time and then went into the industry of "punching timber" which is eliminating sick or invasive trees. Her mother worked mainly in the food industry. Rhonda grew up dreaming of being a large animal veterinarian however; she ended up pursuing an education in Early Childhood Development and securing her Bachelors Degree in this field as well as earning a Minor Degree in music. Rhonda has 23 years experience as a head start teacher, and was also a site supervisor for a state funded after school program. Her first experience with drugs and alcohol was around the age of 11 years old and she stated that she thought it would numb the pain of the separation of her family but it didn't; the pain was still there. She fell into her first bout of homelessness for 3 months in 2012 and again in 2018. During this time she spent the majority of her time sleeping outside and numerous times couch surfing here and there when it was available to her as an option. Rhonda came to the Eureka Rescue Mission Women's and Children's Shelter when a medical condition and injury became too severe for her to find camping spots. She said, "The Lord has restored faith, hope and love in me since coming through the doors of the Mission. My relationship with Christ is becoming stronger daily and I am able to deal with my medical conditions and needs since I finally have stability." She would like to thank the supporters of the Eureka Rescue Mission by saying, "Thank you so very much. You are true humanitarians here and demonstrate compassion, kindness and devotion that abounds.

Beautifully Broken Many times at the Women's Shelter, we as staff come across some amazing opportunities to shelter and minister to beautiful souls. Some are still broken and hurting, some have already overcome and only need a safe place to heal and rebuild. Many have encountered difficult times and only need a helping hand. No matter what each person has gone through or is going through, it is our duty as God's servants to help His children. We try our best

to meet each individual right where they are, regardless of what circumstances they find themselves in. We demonstrate with our actions that we serve a mighty and wonderful God and that He has bigger plans for our lives than we could ever imagine. He is faithful to take all of those years of pain and suffering and use it for His glory. No matter what the problem is, or who stands in the way, there is no situation or request too big for the Lord and He loves it when His children ask Him for help. He wants to encourage us and desires that we seek Him for everything. Matthew 7:7 says, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." At times, it is difficult to connect with some of the ladies due to the unhealthy barriers of self-protection that they have erected throughout their lives. It is our duty as Christ's servants to shine so bright with the love of Jesus that we are able to break through those barriers and reach their hearts. At times, this requires much effort; however, it has proven to be worth it in the end. We get to see 2 Corinthians 5:17 (If anyone is in Christ they are a new creation, old things are gone and behold all things are made new) in real time. Thank you to everyone that makes it possible for us to help these precious folks. God bless you all. -Kristen Freeman ,Women's Shelter Director

**Cayton Nicholas** 

The Mission saved my life in so many ways. When I arrived I was welcomed with open arms the second I walked in the door. I came off the streets where I was homeless, addicted to meth and heroin and only one step from going to prison for 9 years. Now probation is happy with me. I'm rebuilding broken relationships with my family and friends and I actually have a plan for my future. My favorite thing about this program is that I can be myself here and I don't feel like I have to try to be someone else to fit in. I am so thankful I'm here at the Eureka Rescue Mission New Life Program.

#### **Christopher Andrews**

Before coming to the Mission I was addicted to marijuana, alcohol and methamphetamines. I am 45 years old and on 8/3/2018 I became homeless, but on the 13th of August I joined the New Life Program. Due to this place and the Gospel of Jesus Christ being shared and demonstrated, I surrendered my life to Jesus on August 29, 2018 and became a born again Christian! I am absolutely awe-struck by His provision, love, and mercy and grace that He

has blessed me with. I sense that God is calling me to ministry and as a result of this calling, I am committing to another vear here in the program to better prepare for what God has planned for me. I absolutely love all the classes especially the Systematic Theology class taught by Pastor David Seaford. Thank you to all of the donors of this awesome ministry for your help keeping this ministry afloat. This place is truly blessed with your loving hearts which is an investment into our broken lives that are being rebuilt. Thank you so much and I pray that God blesses you with a long and happy life.

#### **David Boling**

My name is David Boling and I am from Bakersfield, I am 49 years old and Jesus has set me free from a 12 year heroin and alcohol addiction. I am a student at the Eureka Rescue Mission New Life Program and look forward to graduating the program and being a man of God to my children. God has given me a love for all of the guests

that come into the Mission each night. I am humbled that God is using me and allowing me to be a part of Him establishing His kingdom in the hearts of our overnight guests. He is saving lives one life at a time including mine. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

#### Ken Todd

Alcohol absolutely ruined my life sending me into a 34 day blackout. I spent a year in prison for assault with a deadly weapon and after being released I thought that I had found God. I was close but not close enough. Since coming to the New Life Program I have truly had my heart and soul opened to Jesus! Thanks to this program I now realize how bad of a drunk I was and finally my memory is coming back. Thanks to all of the wonderful pas-

tors that come in to teach us the bible, 3 different pastors a day four days per week. We also learn Systematic Theology which is really exciting. I also enjoy the work that we do for the overnight guests which is a blessing for us and them. I also enjoy the outside work that we do to serve our community to help it look much better. This makes me feel like I am a part of society again. May God bless the Eureka Rescue Mission and all of its gracious donors. Thank You!

#### Michael Scott

My name is Michael Scott and I cannot express my gratitude enough for this Mission ministry. God has led me here and His presence permeates this place, you can actually "feel" His Spirit. I came here a broken man and hopelessness had completely filled me. I lost my family, home, job, car and everything that had meaning in my life. I had a growing dependence on alcohol just to get through each day. I had no idea how to get out from the hole that

I had dug for myself. This place is a sanctuary and has become my lifeline to re-enter society as a restored man, full of hope with the Lord leading the way. Thank you God and thank all of you for supporting the Eureka Rescue Mission.

#### Ron Conner

I am thankful for being in the New Life Discipleship Program. I am a recovering suicidal alcoholic with a wife and child of 15 years that I was separated from about 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years ago due to alcohol. I saw my wife just three weeks ago

and she noticed that I was clean and sober and she asked if I could come and share my birthday with her. I am so thankful for this place for the real change in me. Thanks to the hard work of the leadership, teachers of classes and our Director Bryan Hall Sr. I now have Jesus and no desire whatsoever to drink or die.

This newsletter is produced and published entirely by staff and volunteers.

### **Program Member Testimonials**