

## Recent New Life Discipleship Program Graduates

The New Life Discipleship Program is a free, year long, residential, faith based, Christian discipleship program that consists of education and Bible based life restoration classes. Congratulations Graduates!



Kimberly Siason graduated on 5/15/2024 and now Kimberly is working as a volunteer house manager at our Women and Children's Shelter.



Aaron Jones graduated on 7/24/2024 Aaron is working part time for his uncle while seeking full time employment. During his time in the program, Aaron excelled with his chores and Bible studies.



Clayton Conway graduated on 5/8/2024 Recently, Clayton received the wonderful news that he will be granted full custody of his children and will be relocating to North Carolina in the near future to be with his family.



Evan Hall graduated on 5/22/2024 and now Evan has moved back to Redding. We are proud of the strides he made while with us and wish him continued success as he moves forward.



Jeffrey Huntington graduated on 8/28/2024 and has landed a part time job, hopefully will develop into full time, at Applebee's in Eureka as a dishwasher.



Ron Brooks graduated on 6/12/2024 and now Ron is working part time as our contact desk person at the Men's Shelter. After spending over 17 years incarcerated, he has turned his life around and is now living for Christ.

If you would like more information about the New Life Discipleship Program, you can read about it on line at <https://eurekarescuemission.org/mens-new-life-discipleship-program> or call the shelter at 707-443-4551.

### Eureka Rescue Mission

PO Box 76, Eureka, CA 95502 Phone (707) 445-3787

Check Enclosed  Cash  \$1,000.00  \$500.00  \$250.00  \$100.00  \$50.00  \$25.00

Please charge my credit card:

Visa  MC Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments and/or Prayer Requests:

Four vertical lines for writing comments and/or prayer requests.

REBUILDING BROKEN LIVES ONE LIFE AT A TIME...

# Eureka Rescue Mission

## Changed Lives

*Bringing Hope to Those in Need*



As the holiday season approaches, we are once again preparing to bring warmth, comfort, and hope to those who need it most. This time of year is special for many, but for some, it can be a painful reminder of loss, hardship, and struggle. At the Mission, we work to ensure that everyone—especially those who have fallen on hard times—can still experience the joy and peace that the holidays bring. We will be providing our traditional holiday meals at our facility for all who come through our doors and additionally, we will be distributing holiday food boxes to families who may not have the means to celebrate otherwise. These boxes will include everything necessary for a traditional holiday meal, from turkeys and hams to vegetables, stuffing, and all the trimmings. Last year, hundreds of families were able to enjoy a special holiday meal because of the generosity of our supporters, and this year, we are aiming to reach even more. The need in our community is great, and we are reaching out to individuals, businesses, and organizations to join us in making a difference. Right now, we are in need of extra financial donations to cover the costs of food and resources, as well as donations of traditional holiday meal ingredients such as hams, turkeys, potatoes, canned vegetables, and more. Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a vital role in helping us bring the holiday spirit to those who might otherwise go without. Beyond the physical needs, our ministry is about offering something even more important: a sense of hope. For many who come to the Eureka Rescue Mission, the holidays are a time of isolation. Some have lost their families, homes, or relationships, leaving them feeling alone. But here at the Mission, we have become their family. We strive to create a welcoming, warm environment where everyone is embraced, and we share not just food and shelter but also the soul-saving, life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through your generosity, we can provide not only meals but also the encouragement and love that the holidays represent. We believe that everyone deserves to experience the warmth of a holiday meal and the hope that comes from knowing someone cares. The impact of your support is far-reaching. By donating to the Eureka Rescue Mission, you are helping to ensure that every person who comes through our doors can experience a holiday filled with love, comfort, and joy. Whether it's through financial gifts or food donations, your partnership with us is essential in making this season brighter for those who need it most. Thank you for being part of this ministry. Together, we can provide more than just meals; we can offer hope, love, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those in need. Our goal is to make sure that no one is left behind. Please consider making an extra financial donation to support our efforts in helping those in need. Thank you so very much!



### Board of Directors

President: Lawana Martin    Vice President: Rick McRostie    Secretary/Treasurer: Mike Fuller    Member: Richard Waters    Member: Wendy Belisle    Executive Director: Bryan Hall Sr.

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*"I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps. He has put a new song in my mouth — Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD." Psalm 40:1-3 NKJV*



Julie

Julie Payne was born in Plainfield, New Jersey. Her childhood was far from easy, marked by abuse, constant bullying, and a lack of emotional support. Despite these challenges, Julie held on to dreams of a better future. Her mother was a homemaker, and her father worked as a computer graphics artist, providing some stability in her life, even though her emotional needs were unmet. As a child, Julie dreamed of becoming a marine biologist, fascinated by the ocean and its wildlife. However, after finishing school, she earned her GED and pursued some college education, though she couldn't complete a degree. Julie gained work experience in retail, food service, and printer operations, and she even worked with a local organization on highway cleanups, which gave her a sense of purpose. At 21, Julie's life took a difficult turn when she began experimenting with drugs and alcohol. Pressured by her father to drink on her 21st birthday, her substance use worsened over time. By 2022, her addiction had escalated, and she became homeless in Thousand Oaks, California. She spent her nights behind the bus depot, struggling to survive. Seeking a way out, Julie found a friend in Eureka who helped her financially. After researching the area, she learned about the Women's and Children's Shelter at the Eureka Rescue Mission and decided to go there for safety and a fresh start. Since arriving at the shelter, Julie says her life is "better than ever." She's proud to have achieved sobriety and feels that she's now on solid ground. Over the past year and a half, she has made significant progress in turning her life around. In the fall of 2023, Julie gave her life to Christ and was baptized. She says God has been blessing her ever since, and her faith has brought her peace. Julie credits the Women's Shelter with helping her heal emotionally. The staff's dedication and the nightly chapel services provided her with the love and support she needed to heal old wounds and grow as a person. Julie has recently moved out of the shelter and into her own apartment in Arcata! Julie also wants to express her gratitude to the supporters of the ministry. "If it wasn't for y'all, people like me wouldn't have the opportunity to do better and change their lives," she said. "Thank you from the inner depths of my heart."



Katy

Katy Richardson was born in Fortuna, California, and was raised by her mother along with various aunts and uncles. With her mother frequently in and out of jail, Katy was often shuffled between family members. Her father, who lived in Sacramento, didn't find out about her until she was seven years old. He was thrilled to meet her and embraced the role of a father. He maintained a consistent and healthy relationship with her until his passing when she was twelve. As far as Katy knew, her father always worked in construction, while her mother held various jobs, including housekeeping, retail, and deli work in a local grocery store. From a young age, Katy knew she wanted to work with children. She is currently completing the final three credits needed to earn her high school diploma through the local Adult Education Program. Her work experience includes roles as a cake decorator, cashier, Subway employee, wood splitter in a lumberyard, and caregiver. At the age of 14, Katy began experimenting with marijuana and alcohol, succumbing to peer pressure. This marked the beginning of her struggles with substance abuse, which followed her into adulthood and significantly impacted her life. Katy experienced homelessness after breaking up with her fiancé of 13 years. She moved from place to place until eventually staying with her current boyfriend at the start of the COVID pandemic. He was already facing eviction due to disputes with a neighbor, and instead of contesting it, they chose to leave peacefully. They moved from campsite to campsite, relying on rides to get by, staying in a tent at the Ferndale Fairgrounds, and often camping at the Stafford Campground south of Rio Dell. Over time, the transient lifestyle became tiresome. Her boyfriend found shelter at a friend's house, while Katy sought help from a sober living environment. However, her continued drinking led to her dismissal from the sober living house. Realizing she had nowhere else to go and needed the accountability and structure, Katy reached out to the Women's Shelter for help. Since coming to the Shelter, Katy says her life has significantly improved. She is back on her prescribed medication and has stopped self-medicating with alcohol. She shares that she feels happier and healthier, crediting the rules and structured environment for helping her stay on track and achieve her goals. Katy says she now has hope, love, faith, and sobriety. She feels her life is more manageable and no longer overwhelming. When asked what she would like to say to supporters of the Mission, Katy said, "The staff works really well with individualizing each person's needs and goals and helping them reach them. Thank you for supporting this ministry. Without the support, people like me would still be lost."



Theresa

Theresa was born in Los Angeles, California, and her daughter Aashonte was born in Modesto. Theresa moved to Eureka with a promise of a job at a local casino, but when that fell through, she stayed with her sister until the lease expired. Aashonte, who was 7.5 months pregnant, relocated from Texas to join her. In early March, Aashonte contacted the Women's Shelter for a place to stay and remained in touch with our Women's Director until her arrival. She and her mother moved into the Shelter on March 24, 2024. On May 21, 2024, Aashonte gave birth to her son, Axel. After delivery, she was unable to walk due to complications from the epidural. On May 24, she underwent surgery called a laminectomy to remove a blood clot from her spine. She, along with her mother and son, was then transferred to a rehabilitation facility where she spent three weeks relearning how to walk. Once she made enough progress, Aashonte returned to the shelter, ready to care for herself and her baby. On April 8, 2024, Theresa was baptized and has since been strengthening her relationship with Christ through daily Bible study and devotions. Upon arriving at the Shelter, Theresa and Aashonte accessed as many housing resources as possible to find permanent housing. They were accepted into Uplift Eureka's Rapid Rehousing Program, which aims to help people secure stable, long-term housing. They attended all their scheduled appointments and successfully signed a lease for a three-bedroom apartment in Arcata, on August 14, 2024. Through the program, they also received brand-new beds and bedding for their new home. Since moving out of the Shelter, Theresa and Aashonte have stayed in touch and visited several times. When asked what she would like to say to the Shelter's supporters, Theresa shared, "Thank you. We appreciate everything you have done for me and my family. I don't know where we would be without the Mission. Everything about our stay there was a total blessing."



Charles

Charles Christian's story is a powerful testament to faith and transformation. Born in Sacramento, California, Charles's early years were marked by hardship as he navigated life in foster care. Despite these struggles, he dreamed of becoming a basketball player, a vision that gave him hope and motivation during difficult times. Yet, the challenges he faced seemed overwhelming at times, and his dream slowly faded as life took its toll. Charles pursued his education with determination, earning his GED and completing some college coursework. His work experience was mixed, ranging from fast food and roofing to a winery and a call center. However, around the age of 13, Charles had begun using drugs as a way to escape the lifelong pain of his circumstances. What began as a temporary escape soon evolved into a battle with addiction, which ultimately led to his inability to maintain gainful employment, ultimately resulting in becoming homeless in 2024. For three and a half months, Charles faced the hardships of couch surfing, desperate for stability and a path to healing. It was during this challenging period that he met Pastor Lance Anderson at a store in Ukiah. Pastor Lance saw something special in Charles—a potential that could be nurtured and restored. Moved by Charles's struggle, Pastor Lance recommended the Eureka Rescue Mission's New Life Discipleship Program. He reached out to our Executive Director, advocating for Charles's entry into the program, believing it could change the course of his life. On August 8, 2024, Charles began his journey with the New Life Program at the Eureka Rescue Mission. It was here that he found not just a roof over his head but also a renewed sense of purpose and faith. Surrounded by supportive people, 4 days per week of Bible classes, and a Christ-centered environment, Charles's life has begun to change. His commitment to sobriety deepened, as did his relationship with Jesus Christ. Reflecting on his journey, he shares, "It's so much better now. I am sober and growing in my relationship with Jesus. My mind is clearer, my faith is stronger, and I am surrounded by great people, with good food and a safe place to call home." Charles's experience stands as a testament to the power of faith in Jesus Christ, and unwavering support in overcoming life's most difficult challenges. When asked what he would like to say to those who support the Eureka Rescue Mission, Charles's message is one of heartfelt gratitude: "Tell them a great big THANK YOU!" Charles's story of redemption highlights the transformative power of Jesus through the Holy Spirit and the profound impact He has on those seeking salvation, hope, healing, and a fresh start.

*"My mind is clearer, my faith is stronger, and I am surrounded by great people"*

Riley Hall was born in Fortuna, California, and grew up in a loving home where his parents' strong Christian faith shaped his upbringing. His father serves as the Senior Pastor of Fortuna Calvary Chapel, leading to Riley experiencing a unique childhood, filled with opportunities to travel to different countries on outreach mission trips. These experiences broadened his worldview and instilled in him a desire to help others. As a child, Riley was drawn to creativity, often imagining himself pursuing art, writing, or even a career in films. He also enjoyed playing video games, which provided him a sense of fun and relaxation. After finishing high school, he took some college classes but found himself without clear goals or direction for his future. This uncertainty led Riley to a variety of customer service jobs, including cashiering, pizza delivery, and most recently, working as a server. At the age of 18, Riley began using alcohol and marijuana, initially turning to them as a way to cope with boredom and anxiety. "I didn't have any real goals after high school, so a mix of boredom and anxiety led me to experimenting with alcohol and marijuana," Riley reflects. For a while, these substances seemed to alleviate his anxiety and helped him socialize more easily, but what started as occasional use quickly spiraled into a serious, life-threatening addiction. "My alcoholism was so bad that I ended up in the hospital numerous times and became a terrible burden on my family, I almost died," he recalls. Eventually, the situation became so dire that his family had no choice but to file for eviction, leaving Riley in a state of desperation. On July 13, 2024, Riley found a turning point when he entered the New Life Program at the Eureka Rescue Mission. His family reached out to the Executive Director, who assured them that there was a bed available for Riley, providing a glimmer of hope in a very dark time. Now, just a short time into the program, Riley can already see a marked difference in his life. "I've been able to work on my faith and my relationship with Jesus," he shares. The other program members have been a source of encouragement and support, helping him when life starts to feel overwhelming. Riley now has a sense of hope and purpose, knowing that as long as he stays sober and follows the Lord's guidance, his life can remain on the right path. In his current role at the program, Riley works in the laundry and clothing room. This duty has given him the opportunity to interact directly with homeless guests, learning their names and building friendships. Serving others has brought him out of his former feelings of boredom, allowing him to experience the joy of giving back in the way Christ has called us to do. When asked what he would like to say to the Mission's donors, Riley's gratitude is clear. "Thank you for the support and donations. The Mission is a blessing and has been a great help with my mindset regarding life." Though his journey is still unfolding, Riley's story is one of hope, transformation, and the power of faith. With the support of the New Life Program and his renewed relationship with Jesus, he is on the path to success, serving others and reclaiming the life he once thought was lost.



Riley

*"I have hope and my life has direction and purpose as long as I stay sober and follow the Lord's instruction."*