

Changed Lives

From the Desk of the Director

Our Thrift Store Is Now Open On Mondays!

The Eureka Rescue Mission Thrift Store has exciting news for its customers! The store is now open on Mondays, in addition to its regular hours from Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 am to 5:30 pm. If you have gently used items that you would like to donate, the donation door is open from 10 am to 4:45 pm, located in the alleyway at the back of the store. We are thrilled to be open six days a week again and we invite shoppers to come in and browse for incredible deals at highly affordable prices. Whether you're on a budget or just looking for unique finds, the Eureka Rescue Mission Thrift Store has something for everyone.

In addition to offering affordable prices on gently used items, our store also supports a great cause. The proceeds from sales at the store go directly toward providing shelter, food, and other critical services to those in need in the community. By shopping at the thrift store, you can make a positive impact in the lives of individuals who are experiencing homelessness or struggling with addiction. So, not only can you find great deals on quality items, but you can also contribute to a meaningful cause. Come visit the store today!

Women and Children's Shelter Remodel Update

Our Women and Children's Shelter has been undergoing an extensive remodel, with the first phase of construction nearly complete. While only minor interior details remain, the project is still awaiting a new roof and siding, which are weather-dependent. We are still seeking funds for the second and third phases of the project, and any support that can be provided is greatly appreciated. In the photos included with this article you can see how awesome it looks already! Thank you all so very much for your continued support, without you none of this would be possible.

Blessings to you,

Executive Director



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Eureka Rescue Mission P.O. Box 76, Eureka, CA 95502

Phone (707) 445-3787

Payson



We are excited to share some great news with you. Payson Barnard and Marshal Hancock, two exceptional individuals, recently graduated from the New Life Discipleship Program. The program aims to help individuals develop a close relationship with Jesus Christ, gain knowledge through studying the scriptures, and grow in their faith. The graduates are then equipped with tools to lead successful lives. During their time in the program, both Payson and Marshal showed dedication and hard work in their chores and studies. They were always available when there was a need, which made them stand out as remarkable program members.

We are thrilled to announce that Payson landed a full-time position at Don's Rent-All in Eureka. His role includes small engine repair and electrical tool repair, as well as other duties in the shop. Marshal, on the other hand, landed a part-time position at KFC. Since Marshal needed full-time employment, he also applied at Don's Rent-All, and when a position came open, he was hired on! Marshal is currently working in the equipment yard, servicing machinery after it is returned, preparing it for the next rental.

Marshal



Meredith Biasca, the manager of Don's Rent-All, expressed her satisfaction with both Payson and Marshal. According to her, they are excellent employees who always show up on time and work hard. She is thrilled to have them on board and looks forward to seeing what the future holds for them. We would like to congratulate Payson and Marshal on their accomplishments and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. We believe that they have the potential to make a positive impact in their respective workplace and community. We hope that their success will inspire others to follow in their footsteps and pursue their dreams.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing more exciting news with you soon.

Easter

Our annual Easter Meal was a resounding success, thanks to your support and generosity. This year, we had the privilege of serving 165 meals to our homeless guests, and it was truly a blessed time of fellowship and more. As you already know, the Eureka Rescue Mission is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for those in need. We understand that homelessness is not just a physical need, but a social and emotional one as well. That's why our annual Easter Meal was more than just a plate of food; it was an opportunity for our guests and program members to have meaningful conversations. Each year our Easter meal has always been lower in number of guests compared to our Christmas and Thanksgiving meals. With the lower numbers, our guests had plenty of time to relax and engage in heartfelt discussions. We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our supporters for their sacrificial giving to this great ministry. Your contributions make it possible for us to continue serving our community and providing much-needed assistance to those who are struggling. We hope that you share in our joy and sense of fulfillment, knowing that your donations have helped make a positive difference in the lives of our guests. We look forward to continuing our work with your support and partnership and we hope you had an awesome Jesus filled Easter! Thank you again for your generosity and for your commitment to the Eureka Rescue Mission.



Eureka Rescue Mission

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

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REBUILDING BROKEN LIVES ONE LIFE AT A TIME...

Eureka Rescue Mission

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."

Ephesians 5:8

Blanca & Kids



Blanca arrived in Humboldt with her two children, seeking a fresh start and a chance to leave her struggles with addiction behind. Having left everything she knew in Bakersfield, Blanca bravely ventured into the unknown, hoping for a better life for her family. Initially camping in the warmer weather, Blanca soon found the daily routine of packing up camp to take her children to school difficult. She subsequently applied and was accepted into a local Safe Parking Program, allowing her to leave her belongings at their site under the supervision of staff during the day.

When she came to the Women's Shelter seeking a shower, she discovered a range of additional services available to her and her family. Following a conversation with the staff, Blanca decided to accept the offer for intake in the family section of our Women and Children's Shelter. Upon arrival the next day, Blanca and her children found their room prepared and ready for them. The kids were thrilled to be there, and it brought the staff great joy to see their happiness. They brought their belongings and began settling in; grateful for the warm welcome they received. With the kids taking the school bus from the shelter, Blanca began searching for employment and was eventually hired at Humboldt Moving and Storage. She diligently saved her earnings, determined to secure a place for her family to call home. Blanca also found solace in her faith during this difficult period, attending nightly chapel services and weekly Bible studies with her children. She shared that her relationship with Christ became stronger during her time at the shelter, and she felt like she was on the right path again.

Thanks to the support and assistance provided by the shelter, Blanca was eventually able to save enough money to secure an apartment in Eureka for herself and her children. They moved in on March 3, 2023, and Blanca expressed her deep gratitude to you, our supporters, saying, "Thank you for believing in people who sometimes don't believe in themselves. Without your love and support, I would not have been able to escape the darkness I was living in. We appreciate your selflessness and thoughtfulness from the depths of our hearts." Blanca's story is one of courage, determination, and hope. We are proud to have been able to assist her and her family during their time of need and wish them all the best for their future.

Mary



Mary was born in Lebanon and moved to America with her parents, two sisters, and two brothers when she was just four years old. She enjoyed a happy childhood with her loving family, and was especially close with her siblings. After graduating high school at 18, Mary decided to leave home. Initially, Mary stayed at a shelter in Escondido, California and began searching for employment. She eventually found work in the restaurant at a local safari park, and started saving her earnings. When her time at the Escondido shelter came to an end, Mary was forced to quit her job and find a new shelter elsewhere. As an adult, she has lived in various shelters for most of her life. While staying at the Redding Mission, Mary became involved with a man. However, the relationship quickly became toxic due to his personal issues, causing significant stress. Despite enduring a domestic violence situation, the relationship lasted for three years before Mary ultimately ended it. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mary arrived in Eureka with her former partner and found herself homeless. She began using the day services offered by the Women and Children's Shelter and became a familiar face to staff and guests. For three years, staff members encouraged her to seek overnight shelter, and eventually she accepted our offer. Upon her arrival, Mary immediately secured employment at a local fishery and has been working as much as possible despite slow production this year. Mary is making the most of her stay at the Mission and enjoys the nightly Chapel services and the peace of mind that comes with having a place to sleep. She has been diligently saving her income to eventually secure her own housing and has applied to multiple income-based housing developments as well as the Section 8 waiting list. When asked what message she would like to share with our donors, Mary expressed her gratitude for your generosity and support. She believes that people like her would not have a chance at a better life without the help of kind-hearted

Without the help of kindhearted individual's, people like me wouldn't have a chance at a better life.

individuals. Her goal is to become self-sufficient and live in her own home, and she is grateful for the stability and responsibility she has learned during her time at the Eureka Rescue Mission Women and Children's Shelter. Mary also stated that because of the structure at the shelter, she now has a much more productive mindset to move forward in life rather than moving to another shelter.

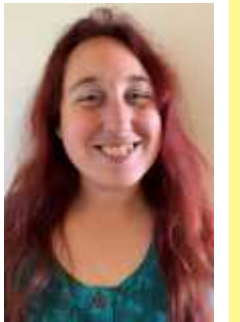
Bonita



Continuing with Bonita Ward's (also known as Boni) previous articles, we are delighted to share a praise report. Boni has recently secured keys to her own room in a communal living home. She signed her lease and received her keys on March 31, 2023. Boni's journey has been long and challenging. As a reminder, Boni arrived at the Mission a little over three years ago, following her husband's death. After having to make the toughest decision in her life and disconnect her husband's life support, she returned home to find their house boarded up with No Entry signs. Boni was devastated and homeless. She arrived at the Rescue Mission's doors and went through the intake process, where she was given hope that things would be okay, and she would be safe. Boni is grateful for the Mission and the Women's New Life Discipleship Program, acknowledging that without them, she doesn't know where she would have ended up. Boni found her faith, became a born-again Christian, gained strength, and became a role model for other guests at the Mission. After graduation, She dove deep into her Bible and spent her downtime gaining more knowledge and drawing closer to Jesus. Boni is thrilled about her new beginning in her new home, even though she admits she will miss the Mission. She has become a "House Mom" and thankfully, her apartment is only a couple of blocks away, so she can continue visiting the Women's Shelter to share the love and hope she received while there. She aims to inspire other women that there is hope, healing, and a new beginning through Christ and the Mission. In a teary-eyed statement to the Mission's supporters, Boni said, "Thank you. Without you, I would not be alive today. I was at my darkest point in my life when the Mission opened its doors, and I found my faith again."

Without you, I wouldn't be alive today.

Julie



Julie was born in Plainfield, New Jersey, and raised in Los Angeles. Her childhood was difficult. At the age of 24, she left home with the help of a friend who helped her realize the abuse she was experiencing. She fled to South Carolina, where she had family to support her as she started her new life. Julie worked hard to support herself, working 10-12 hour shifts at McDonald's to afford her own apartment. However, her plans to enroll in classes at the University of South Carolina were derailed when she was unable to secure enough hours at the store she transferred to. She ultimately lost her apartment and was forced to return to her original store until she relocated back to Los Angeles California in 2012. Upon returning to California, Julie found herself in an abusive relationship for 2.5 years before returning home to mourn her mother's death and seek comfort from her father. However, in 2018, a heated argument with her father led to her eviction and her struggle with homelessness. Julie sought a new start and relocated to Eureka, where she found refuge at our Women and Children's Shelter during a severe storm. She was excited to find a place that was Christ centered to reside and get her life back together and grateful for the help she received to heal and stabilize her life. Julie enrolled in the Pathway to Payday Program through the City of Eureka, attending faithfully and securing a 6-month contract with Elijah House, where she works to clean up the local community with Cal Trans. Julie has been able to save her income and plans to find a new home when she is financially stable. She expresses gratitude for the sense of stability and community she has gained since coming to Humboldt County, something she felt was lacking in Los Angeles. She is thankful for the support she has received and states, "Thank you for giving us all a second chance when our lives were in danger."

Thank you for giving us all a second chance, when our lives were in danger.

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In an effort to minimize the cost of mailing, and the number of solicitations you receive from us, the Eureka Rescue Mission would like to know what materials, if any, you would like to receive from us. Please take a moment and mark the box next to your preference on the "Correspondence Questionnaire" below, and return the questionnaire to us.

Correspondence Questionnaire (preferred options and additional information in parenthesis)

I prefer to receive my receipt annually instead of monthly. *(Mailed out in January)*

I prefer to receive my receipt via email. My email is: _____

I prefer not to receive additional mailings from the Mission. *(Receive newsletters & receipt(s) only)*

I prefer not to receive the Mission quarterly newsletter by mail.

I prefer to receive the Mission quarterly newsletter via email. My email is: _____

I would like more information on the Automatic Donor Program.