

### In Loving Memory - 2022

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REBUILDING BROKEN LIVES ONE LIFE AT A TIME...

# Eureka Rescue Mission

### Changes you helped provide in 2022

It is hard to express how much is going on at the Shelters. The statistics below are from our Men's Shelter as well as our Women and Children's Shelter for the year of 2022. We offer many additional services, beyond what is listed below.

We Lodged

**44,930**

people in our Shelters

We Served

**161,257**

meals in our facilities

We Provided

**45,594**

showers to those in need

We Provided

**34,025**

pieces of clothing to those in need

### 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.



# Changed Lives

## From the Desk of the Director

Blessings to you all and Happy New Year!

With so many negative things going on in our world, we need to hear some good news! My hope is that the stories in this newsletter will give you hope and that your hearts may be touched by the Lord's work in the lives of our precious people here at the Mission.

During our holiday meals we served a whopping 480 meals in our cafeteria and gave out over 163 holiday food boxes to families in our community! Every year we have our holiday feeding which is a time of good food, fellowship and conversation.

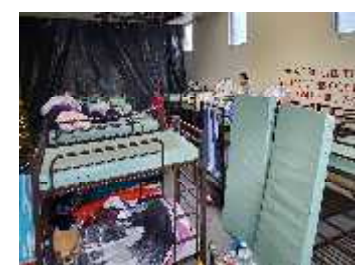
Once again we partnered with the United Bikers of Northern California for the annual Toy Run and received our box truck completely full of toys for children in the community. Wednesday Dec 21, 2022 was our toy distribution day and all parents who signed up for toys came to select gifts for their children, but after that we had a problem, we had a bunch of toys left over. So, we got on social media and announced that we had gifts for anyone who needed them and to come to the shelter asap. It wasn't long after that announcement that all of the toys were gone! Such a blessing!

Our Women and Children's Shelter phase 1 remodel is nearly finished. Our hope is to have this phase completed somewhere around the end of Feb 2023. In the photos you can see the new hallway as well as a newly tiled ADA compliant restroom/shower combination. Since this photo has been taken, the concrete floors have been polished and doors have been installed. We are still fundraising for the remaining phases, 2 & 3.

Also, a big THANK YOU to Coast Central Credit Union and Humboldt Area Foundation for grant funding to purchase 51 metal bunk beds and 102 bed bug proof mattresses. We assembled 22 bunks which filled our men's dormitory and set up 9 bunks downstairs in our Women and Children's Shelter. This has increased our capacity by about 12 at our Women's Shelter which was a blessing due to the inclement weather that we have been having. We have the remaining 20 bunks stored away for when we complete our renovation at the Women and Children's Shelter.

Thank you all so much for your support of this ministry of changing lives one life at a time. God is good and He takes care of all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus! Thank you again.

Executive Director



### 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.

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

Phone (707) 445-3787

*"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."  
Jeremiah 29:11*

### Debiah



Debiah was born as a Child of Deaf Adults (CODA). Both her mother and father were deaf, so growing up was quite different and very quiet for her. Her first language was American Sign Language and miraculously she knew 23 words in sign by 8 months old. Her parents' disability put her on the road of learning very rapidly, at 4 ½ years of age she was already interpreting for her dad at his place of business. Debiah spent years going to college, using drugs and alcohol, and for 38 years she went through life as a functional addict. During these years, her drug and alcohol use would be off and on, which eventually led her to reach out to professionals for therapy which helped a little but she continued relapsing back into addiction. In 1985, Debiah got sober and after one year of sobriety she relapsed, but got back up and has now been clean from drugs and alcohol for 21 years! A little over 2 years ago, Debiah relocated to Humboldt County but after only being here for 2 days, she was robbed

of everything she had except her clothes. Soon after that, she was hit by a car in Arcata. Thankfully, she was not injured because her walker took most of the impact. Debiah came to the Women and Children's Shelter feeling broken and defeated having no clue where her monthly SSI payment was being sent. Social Security told her it was going into her Direct Express account but when she looked it wasn't there. She and staff stayed on top of locating her finances and after 8 long months, Debiah was finally back in control of her money and life again. She is on track with her monthly income and has since signed a lease in an income-based housing development. She was able to furnish her new home with the money she saved while at the shelter and is now thriving! Debiah said, "I could not be more thankful for the Mission being there for me when I had no one, nothing, and nowhere to go. I am so very thankful and pleased with the outcome of my situation. Thank you all so much!"

Majara was homeless for 9 years; 6 of them being in Humboldt. She has been delivered from the grip of alcoholism for 8 years but she was also having mental health issues. Over time she realized that her untreated mental health was the biggest factor in her homelessness. Majara ended up in the Eureka area because her mom lives in Arcata, but her relationship with her mother and children was extremely tense. Majara has 2 daughters, a son, and a grandson. Majara said she was tired of not having healthy relationships and reached out to the Women's Shelter. When she arrived she was afraid because everything was new and unknown. That fear didn't last long and she realized that the shelter is like a huge family and she was now a part of our family. Majara got settled in and focused on her relationship with Jesus and counseling which has given her mental stability. Since staying with us she has been able to get all of her medical needs tended to as well. Her relationship with her family has started to heal and now she feels supported and encouraged by her family. After months of intensive therapy with mental health clinicians, Majara felt ready to step back into the world of work again after almost a year of unemployment. She put in many applications and finally landed a position as a cook at an assisted living facility. Majara was so excited and grateful! She walked 2 miles every morning at 4 am to get to work until she saved up enough money to buy a minivan. She was moving forward in life for the first time in a long time and continued saving her money, all the while looking for permanent housing. An opportunity for a studio apartment came open and Majara signed her lease shortly before Christmas! Majara said, "My faith has been made stronger and my relationship with Jesus is closer than ever. I have been a believer since childhood and have always loved the Lord but things in life just took a toll on me. The nightly Chapel services at the shelter reminded me of just how great God is. I want to say thank you to the supporters of this Mission. Without the Mission, I would still be the wreck that I once was."

### Majara



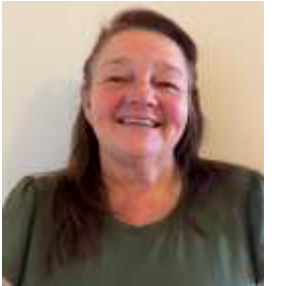
### Derek



Derek is 57 years old and from Orange County, California. He has been in the New Life Program for 9 months and is doing exceptionally well! Before joining the program Derek had a modest apartment with his wife, but his life took a downward turn when his wife left him. His whole world fell apart, he became homeless, was living out of his van and on top of that, Derek suffered a stroke. Derek's illicit drug use, which started with alcohol and eventually led to cocaine and meth, contributed to his rapid decline. He joined the New Life Program because he knew he wouldn't have long to live if he continued in the lifestyle that he was living. While residing with us at the Mission,

Derek has been able to take care of his medical issues and is finally on the long road to recovery. Since being at our program Derek has strengthened his relationship with Christ and knows that the Lord has him right where He wants him to be. Derek said, "I highly recommend anyone who is struggling with anything in their life to consider coming to this program, Jesus is truly here."

### Leigh



Leigh was born and raised in Orlando, Florida and said her mom was wonderful, however her dad was abusive during her childhood. Leigh became a single mom at 17 years old; this would be Leigh's only child and she raised her daughter with the help of her mom. Her mother played a huge part in making it possible for Leigh to work and financially support her family. Leigh worked multiple jobs and said she would not have made it without her mom. Still living in Florida, Leigh would make several trips a year to Eureka to visit her daughter who moved here as a Coast Guard wife. These trips went on for nearly 11 years before Leigh relocated to Eureka to be closer to her daughter and granddaughter. When she relocated she lived with her daughter's family for a year. After that, she came to our Women and Children's Shelter. For the first time in her life, Leigh was homeless but said she was thankful for the safe place of shelter and the immediate love demonstrated toward her upon her arrival. Leigh was able to begin thriving in her relationship with Christ when she came to the shelter because of the nightly chapel services and structured setting of the environment. She stated that she had, "Put God on the back burner." Leigh gained employment through In Home Support Services and started saving her money and within just a few months things started falling into place through answered prayers. Leigh bought a vehicle and was offered to rent a room in her daughter's apartment. Leigh is still gainfully employed and comes by to visit us here at the shelter as often as possible. She said, "The Mission was the hand up that I needed. I am thankful for this ministry, the staff, and to the folks that believe in what they do, thank you to all who keep this ministry going."

Marleny and David Marleny came to the Mission with her son David fleeing a very abusive marriage. When she arrived she said that she immediately felt the Lord's presence! Marleny is a faithful servant and has a strong relationship with Christ. In her marriage, she was not allowed to practice or share her faith in her own home and her husband would mock Jesus, say horrible things about her beliefs, and mentally and spiritually beat her down. After years of abuse, she finally gathered the strength to leave. She contacted Humboldt Domestic Violence Services for help in getting out of the situation safely. Humboldt Domestic Violence Services contacted the Women and Children's Shelter and shortly after, Marleny and David arrived to start their new beginning. Marleny was so thankful and it showed. Marleny started by filing for emergency custody of David through the courts and after almost a year of court appearances, Marleny was appointed full legal and full physical custody of him. While staying at the Mission, Marleny strengthened her faith and relationship with Jesus, attended church and Bible study weekly, and enjoyed the nightly Chapel services at the Shelter. She was able to obtain her California Drivers License, bought a car, and signed a lease in a beautiful 2-bedroom apartment locally. Marleny poured her heart out before she moved. In tears, she stated, "Without the Mission, I would still be stuck in an abusive marriage and little David would still be suffering and afraid all of the time. I can now openly teach my little David about Jesus and will be able to guide and show him the true meaning of life, through Christ. Thank you all so much."

### Jeffrey



Jeffrey is from Eureka and has struggled with alcohol addiction, depression, and anger for many years. His addiction had led to the destruction of all his relationships which in turn resulted in him being homeless for a long time. Despite trying other programs, he had been unable to overcome his addiction and unfortunately learned to be content in continuing to live on the streets while maintaining his alcoholism. However, as the Lord allowed Jeff to become extremely miserable, Jeff realized that he needed a change in his life and decided to join the New Life Discipleship Program. Jeff was not a believer in Jesus when he came to our program but knew that he needed something different in his life and saw this as his last opportunity to make things right. From the moment he arrived at the program, he was struck by the sense of community and fellowship among the other men. As Jeff participated in classes, read the Bible, and listened to the teachings, he felt a change happening within him. He began to feel a tugging at his heart as a result of the scriptures being taught. One day during our SOAP (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer) class, he made the decision to truly ask God for forgiveness of his sins and received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Not long after, Jeff noticed that his anger and depression began to dissipate and decided to take the next step and got baptized in October of 2022. Jeff said, "I am so grateful for this program and the impact it has had on my life. I am now a born again Christian and I want others who are struggling with addiction to consider joining the program. I know for a fact that the New Life Program is a place where Jesus saves lives and souls, and if I can do it, so can anyone else."