A Day in the Life…

By C. Lee Clark, Rescue Mission CEO

What’s a normal day like for you? I recently had the opportunity to speak at one of our supporting churches to share an update and invite the congregation to get involved in new ways. As I thought about how to most effectively share all the good work the Mission does, I framed this as “A Day in the Life of the Rescue Mission.”

While there is no typical day at the Mission, there are lots of activities you can faithfully count on. Like the Housekeeping crews starting the day cleaning the facilities at 5:30am. The Breakfast team also arrives at 5:30am, followed by additional shifts of staff and volunteers to prepare and serve both lunch and dinner. As dinner wraps up and guests head out to Chapel at 6:30pm, volunteers, staff, and program participants deep clean the kitchen and dining rooms to get ready for the next day.

Volunteer Transporters arrive at 8:00am each weekday to take guests to medical appointments, job interviews, and even trips to the Thrift Store for clothing needs. The Day Resource Centers open early for meetings with Case Managers and Social Services partners. And the Fralin Free Clinic welcomes patients for medical, dental, vision, and mental healthcare appointments with volunteer doctors and nurses.

Meanwhile, The Way Forward Recovery Program and Tabitha Job Skills Participants are learning from a full day of work assignments, a wide variety of classes, and one-on-one meetings with their Coaches. On a really good day, Angels with Scissors volunteers are on-site to provide haircuts, offering guests a boost to their self-esteem and confidence. Then there are the many volunteers who sort, tag, and hang clothing for the 2nd Helpings and 460 Thrift Stores and perform a myriad of other needed tasks around the Mission. Even events like Bless My Sole, a foot washing and a myriad of other needed tasks around the Mission. Even events like Bless My Sole, a foot washing and

work Helpers. As things start to settle down for the 275 guests and program participants currently spending the night at the Rescue Mission, it’ll soon be lights out for the evening. But not for staff who are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Wow! This barely scratches the surface of what Mission staff and volunteers accomplish each day. My admiration of their work knows no bounds and my goal each day is to take a bit of time to talk with folks, encourage where I can, and lift these workers, guests, and program participants in prayer. My admiration for our guests and program participants—who are not just surviving but learning to thrive—is deep. These men, women, and children are striving to live a new life in the aftermath of what can be years of trauma and abuse. Yet, in this time and in this place, they are safe and loved. Of course we don’t do this alone. Dozens of partners, hundreds of churches, over 5,000 volunteers and donors like you make this Mission more than possible each day.

Of course we don’t do this alone. Dozens of partners, hundreds of churches, over 5,000 volunteers and donors like you make this Mission more than possible each day. Most importantly, each day is a walk of faith in and dependence on God. If you’re struggling in your spiritual life, come spend time with us. You’ll experience God in ways you never thought possible. You’ll see love in action, differences left at the door, and overwhelming passion lived out as we help hurting people in Jesus’ Name together.

Thanks to God, today new guests will be welcomed for the first time, a mother seeking help for her son in addiction will find help and hope, a family will sign the lease for their new apartment, a man will discover fresh confidence in his new job, and a child staying in Emergency Shelter will celebrate her birthday surrounded by new friends and loved ones. Songs will be sung, encouragement will be shared, stories will be told, and more than a few tears will be shed. Challenges previously thought insurmountable will be faced, and prayers will be both spoken and answered.

For past guests, the 275 guests and program participants currently spending the night at the Rescue Mission, it’ll soon be lights out for the evening. But not for staff who are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For past guests, the 275 guests and program participants currently spending the night at the Rescue Mission, it’ll soon be lights out for the evening. But not for staff who are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. God will be in the midst of it all, and miracles will abound.

That’s a day in the life of this Rescue Mission. How can you help? Pray, give, volunteer. You’ll be glad you did.

Receive this newsletter online call (540) 343-7227 rescuemission.net

2nd helpings
(540) 491-9405 Shop/Gallery
(540) 491-9409 Cafe

Thrift 460
(540) 904-5012

http://stores.ebay.com/roanoke-rescue-mission
Countdown to Camp!

Our kids in Family Shelter are getting excited to kick up their heels at Camp Jubilee! The Day Camp is held during the months of June and July at the Rescue Mission’s Jubilee Acres property in Roanoke County. Volunteers from churches and civic groups sponsor a week at a time, providing opportunities for outdoor recreation, organized games, craft activities, and loads of fun. The Mission provides transportation, lunch, and snacks.

“Working with the youth at Camp Jubilee was a valuable and fun experience for the Virginia Cooperative Extension office,” says Associate Extension Agent Kathleen Reed. “We had a wonderful time facilitating new experiences for the youth, helping them learn how to cook and try new foods, planting flowers, and being with them as they spent time playing and just being kids. We are looking forward to our week at Camp Jubilee this year!”

The day camp also provides some valuable time for the children’s parents to focus on important next steps for their families.

“Many of the parents are working on obtaining employment and finding affordable housing,” says Children’s Minister Natalie Kline. “Others are already employed, but during the summer when school is out the cost of child care creates an added financial burden. Camp Jubilee helps to lessen that burden and ease the strain on families who are already struggling to get on their feet.”

Kline has only two weeks still open for groups who would like to volunteer this summer. Contact natalie.kline@rescuemission.net if your church or group would like to help.

Please use the insert provided to help send a child to camp this summer.

Church Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Wednesday, May 15, Noon - 1:30 pm

Founder of Heads Up Crown On Ministries Cynthia Fralin presents “Words Matter.” Come prepared to laugh and reflect on God’s truth through refreshing insights from this sought-after national speaker!

Pastors, worship leaders, church administrators, youth leaders, lay leaders...join us for this celebration of your ministry during the May Auxiliary Luncheon!

Please RSVP to 343-7227 or events@rescuemission.net
“I Never Felt Closer to the Devil”

After two years in jail, Tristan Richardson was released a year ago knowing he had 26 days before, on a judge’s order, he’d have to report to the Rescue Mission for intake into The Way Forward Recovery Program.

“I wasn’t out of jail two hours before I had drugs back in my system,” he says. “If I hadn’t come to the Mission, I figure I’d either be dead by now or incarcerated for at least 10 more years.”

Richardson, 28, describes a turbulent childhood and a lifetime of addiction that started with smoking marijuana and drinking at age 11. “The first time I tried opiates I stole morphine and oxycodone from my friend’s dad. When I got older and couldn’t find pills, I started using heroin. I started selling when I was 16 to support my habit.”

Even after serving time in jail, Richardson says he saw no future besides going back to using and selling drugs until he came to the Mission.

“I had a lot of hate, resentment, hurt, and pain when I came here. But it seemed like every class I went to I would hear a Bible verse and then I’d be at church and hear the same verse. That’s how I finally knew I’m where I’m supposed to be.”

Richardson attends Elevation Church and says his newfound faith has given him a new perspective and a vision for a different life. “I’m not used to being loved and wanted. Between church and the Mission, I’m around good people. It’s nice to be around people who don’t want anything for you except the best. My relationships with family are better, and my faith has gotten deeper, where there was none before.”

Richardson is set to graduate from the program this spring. Through a Goodwill scholarship, he’s starting a certificate program at Virginia Western in Industrial Maintenance. “It will make me a good candidate for manufacturing jobs,” he explains.

Richardson says in the past, he never knew what it was like to be happy.

“I feel happy now,” he smiles. “When I was using, I never felt closer to the devil. That made me feel ashamed and unworthy to ask for God’s help. Now when my feet hit the floor in the morning I say ‘thank you’ and I ask God for the courage to do whatever he’s going to give me to do.”
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<td>Dr. Richard A. Giesen</td>
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<td>Leon Harris</td>
<td>Jonathan Edward Brown</td>
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<td>Genevieve Huffman</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Michael T. Huffman</td>
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<td>Del Humphrey</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph S. Pigford</td>
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<td>Lyona Jamison</td>
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<td>Joseph K. Kirby</td>
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<td>Jill Vincent</td>
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<td>Sidney &amp; Wanda Miller</td>
<td>Herbert Scholz</td>
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<td>(Mom) Annabel Owen</td>
<td>Ms. Julie L. Owen</td>
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<td>Julie Owen</td>
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<td>Ms. Ruth P. Keeling</td>
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<td>Steve Poff</td>
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<td>Tommy Poff</td>
<td>Thomas C. Poff</td>
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<td>Jeff &amp; Joyce Poore</td>
<td>Mr. James E. Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yvonne Schimert</td>
<td>Andrea L. Schimert</td>
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<td>Amie R. Sheaff</td>
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<td>Robert E. Sled</td>
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<td>Ms. Barbara S. Guthrie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terri Therrien</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Norman R. Therrien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harrell Thompson</td>
<td>Ms. Lucille P. Bell</td>
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<td>Anna Mae Vincent</td>
<td>Jill Vincent</td>
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<td>Frances Ward</td>
<td>Jacqueline Taley</td>
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<td>Frances C. Ward</td>
<td>Jacqueline Taley</td>
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<td>Jack &amp; Evelyn Wikker</td>
<td>Marsha M. Weddle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Williams</td>
<td>Mr. Pat Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Lord Jesus Christ</td>
<td>Diana S. Wise</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Mother’s</td>
<td>Ms. Irene W. Eanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Mother</td>
<td>Mrs. Constance L. Chandler</td>
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First Female TRAC Participant Finds Purpose in Giving Back

“I was terrified when I came to the Rescue Mission. I had no idea what to expect coming to a homeless shelter.”

Brittany Buchanan, 27, arrived at the Mission straight from a 30-day rehab, after detoxing from meth and alcohol. “I was desperate to get sober,” she explains. “The rehab referred me to the Rescue Mission’s recovery program. I had to stay in the women’s shelter for a month to wait for the next women’s recovery intake, so I started out in the TRAC program.”

As a TRAC (Trust Recovery and Christ) participant, Buchanan had daily contact with a recovery coach and was given a service assignment to keep her busy during the day. “It helped me stay straight, and I really liked being able to give back.”

On a recent morning on her service assignment in the Donation Center, Buchanan acknowledged that giving back was not something she had ever considered before. “I went to community college but I never wanted to work, I wanted to make fast money,” she says. “One day I gave my roommate a ride to a card game and the dealer asked me if I’d like to work. I ended up running gambling rings for 10 years. I quit school, quit my jobs, and said ‘this is it.’”

Eventually, Buchanan’s new lifestyle caught up with her. “Drinking was encouraged, drugs were everywhere, and I was able to do it all. Plus, my landlord was my drug dealer. All the money I made went to drugs. I gave up everything I had for the drugs.”

Finally, in a moment of despair Buchanan went to a hospital for help. “I was completely lost. I no longer had the support of my parents, I didn’t even know what day or even what month or year it was anymore, and I just wanted to end my life. I was living on just a prayer, and God sending me to a place called the Rescue Mission has been a blessing. ‘I was lost and now I’m found’ applies to me.”

Buchanan, who attends Journey Church, says her sobriety and her faith now mean everything to her. “I feel like I have a purpose in life. I care about not just myself but other people, and I know I have a good heart. I would love to one day have a career working at the Rescue Mission. It matches my core values and it’s a place where I know I can continue to give back and make a difference.”

Volunteer with Us!
CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Volunteer Transporters
- Tuesday, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

2nd helpings Café
- Help in the kitchen and dining area,
  Monday - Saturday, 11:00 - 2:00 pm

Retail Volunteers (460 Thrift Store)
- Help sort, process, merchandise & bag donations,
  Monday - Saturday, 9:00 - 12:00 noon or 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Distribution and Recycling Center (DRC)
- Process and tag donated items,
  Mon. - Wed. & Sat., 9:00 - 12:00 noon or 1:00 - 5:00 pm;
  Thursday, 9:30 - 12:00 noon or 1:00 - 5:00 pm;
  Friday, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
  (must be age 14 or older)

Manna Ministries
- Boxed groceries distribution, Saturday only, 7:30 - 10:30 am

Kitchen Volunteers
- Breakfast from 5:00 am - 8:00 am daily
- Lunch from 11:30 am - 2 pm
- Prep times 8:30 am - 11:30 am or 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm
- Dinner from 4:15 pm - 7:15 pm

Day Resource Center Monitors
- Men’s Shelter, Monday - Friday from 8:30 am - 11:30 am; 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm
- Women’s Shelter, Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Shelter Service Monitors
- Monitor shelter desk; assist staff with guest needs;
  provide direction and support to guests,
  Noon to 3 pm; 3 pm to 6 pm; or 6 to 9 pm

Family Group Leader
- 1 Hour per Week and a 3-4 Hours outing once a month

Children’s Ministry
- Lead children’s chapel program for K-5th graders, or
- Help with child care for infants through pre-k.
- From 6-7:30 PM weekday evenings
- Contact Natalie Kline 777-7661 x8703 or email
  natalie.kline@rescummision.net

Recovery Learning Center
- 1-2 hours per week - volunteers needed to teach foreign
  language, art (sketching) and the basics of MS Office.

To Volunteer Please Contact our Volunteer Manager at
540-777-7651 or volunteer.info@rescummision.net

Not sure how you can help or want to learn more about our
services? Join us for a tour of the Rescue Mission any Monday
at noon starting in the reception lobby at 402 4th Street SE.
Wish List

- **Shelter Ministry**: Toddler Pull Ups (sizes 2T/3T, 3T/4T), Diapers (sizes 4, 5, and 6), Baby Wipes, Travel Size Shampoo & Conditioners, Travel Size Lotions
- **Children’s Ministry**: Youth Sized Water Shoes (for kids attending camp), Reusable Plastic Water Bottles
- **Food Ministry**: Pancake Mix (Water Only), Milk, Salad Dressing, Seasoning, Metal Forks/Knives/Spoons, Biscuits
- **Manna Mission Ministry**: Cases of Water, Canned Meat, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Cereal, Coffee

Meals and More

These numbers represent lives changed through God’s blessings and your generosity!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>March 2019</th>
<th>YTD 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meals Served</td>
<td>15,879</td>
<td>47,735</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelter Nights</td>
<td>8,918</td>
<td>26,754</td>
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<td>Clothing Items Provided</td>
<td>3,411</td>
<td>8,758</td>
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<td>Professions of Faith</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>134</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Hours</td>
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<td>20,679</td>
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<td>Class Hours of Instruction</td>
<td>2,274</td>
<td>6,381</td>
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<td>Clinic Patient Visits</td>
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<td>Value of Healthcare Provided</td>
<td>$234,708</td>
<td>$648,296</td>
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<td>Case Management Encounters</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>897</td>
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<td>Recycled Items (pounds)</td>
<td>53,179</td>
<td>166,757</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manna Households Served</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>1,163</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour Participants</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>292</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Donations (pounds)</td>
<td>72,947</td>
<td>239,396</td>
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The Rescue Mission is an equal opportunity provider.