



## The Bradford Bunch

CONTINUED FROM COVER...



out of school and disappeared for many hours, and then days, not caring that her mother spent countless nights searching the streets in vain to bring her precious child home.

Desirae remained resolute in her decision to give her life to drugs. No reasoning, tears, anger, punishment, exhortation or guilt could reach her. Drugs are expensive, and when other methods of getting money failed, she began shoplifting, stealing cars and selling illegal drugs to feed her addiction. Years went by—Desirae's parents spent thousands of dollars sending her to drug rehabilitation programs, but none worked. Her parents prayed daily that Desirae would find Christ, and through Him find the strength to kick her drug habit and see clearly what she was doing to herself, her family and her four children.

The turning point for Desirae came when a close friend committed suicide while she was in the same room, and the next day another close friend died from an apparent overdose. Desirae was stunned and confused. She wrestled with all she had done, the pain she had caused and the effects of her behavior on her children. Her mother's good friend Teddy Rivera had recommended the New Life Program for Woman at the Albuquerque Rescue Mission. However, during the interview with the program director, Desirae realized this was a year-long Christian program, and as she was told the details of what was expected of her, Desirae began to physically shake. She relates, "I felt like demons were inside me trying to get out. I couldn't wrap my mind around what I was being told. I panicked thinking this woman (program director) is crazy! I have to get out of here!"

Later that afternoon while riding in a friend's car, Desirae was crying over the mess her life had become. As they pulled out of a parking lot, they slammed into a large truck. Thankfully, neither was injured, and as they waited for help to arrive, Desirae sat down on the curb and thought repeatedly, "I wish I could just start over," a prayer her mother had been praying for many years. Then a police officer walked over to her saying, "Miss Quintana, you have a warrant out for your arrest. You missed court this morning." Throughout the thirteen months she was in jail waiting for her sentencing, Desirae did a lot of thinking. She resisted the temptations available to her in jail. She began reading her Bible, and she had visitors that encouraged her to study and pray. One day Pastor John Hill, Executive Director

"I felt like demons were inside me trying to get out. I couldn't wrap my mind around what I was being told. I panicked thinking this woman is crazy! I have to get out of here!"

of the Albuquerque Rescue Mission, visited her, and he assured her that she could come to ARM's Women's Center of Hope once she was out of jail. However, the judge and the district attorney stated that she could have no more leniencies and sentenced her to four years in prison. As she heard the pronouncement, Desirae sobbed as her mother, older sister and Mrs. Teddy Rivera sadly watched as she was led away handcuffed for immediate transport to prison. Suddenly,





## Volunteers

through the fog of her deep despair, Desirae heard the judge speak, "Miss Quintana, come back here. I need to talk to you for a minute." Back on the official record, the judge went on to say, "I am going to go ahead and send you to this program (WCOH). But if you mess up, and I find you back in here, I will send you to prison for eighteen years." Desirae and her family were electrified with the obvious work of the Lord in changing this judge's mind! Released later that evening, Desirae began the long journey towards recovery and a complete transformation.

After a year in the Women's Center of Hope, Desirae graduated and eventually came to work for the Mission at the Women's Center of Hope. She is now happily married and reunited with her children and family. Each day she is able to show through example that a transformed life is possible through God to the women she once knew on the streets. She looks at their brokenness, and she understands just how broken she once was and tells us today, "The power of God in my life is amazing that He could take someone like me and make me into what I am now. I am overwhelmed with thankfulness." ■



"Our family tree has grown a lot...a little like that show The Brady Bunch... it was like we became the 'insta-family'! It's really so great for all of us... The power of God in my life is amazing."



### Dick and Nancy Gentry. Following Christ's Example

Friday morning breakfasts at the Albuquerque Rescue Mission are brightened by the presence of two very dedicated volunteers, Dick and Nancy Gentry. Both are retired and active in their church and prison ministry but wanted to find something to be involved with as a couple. They also desired to help the homeless and needy. Dick says, "***We are struck by the unabashed love Christ had for the poor and needy. Christ tells us, 'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in...'*** Matthew 25:35 NIV. ***Our desire is to step out of our middle-class comfort zone and come to where we can be of most help to those in need.***"

Although Dick and Nancy were not strangers to Rescue Missions, Nancy relates, "We have always financially supported local Rescue Missions where we lived over the years, and when we moved to Albuquerque we made sure to do the same here, but we had not experienced volunteering at a Rescue Mission until this past year. As volunteers, the Gentrys are able to put faces to the people they help through financial donations, Dick tells us, "***I love being at the front of the food line. I am able to smile and say good morning to our guests. Sometimes I can offer a word of comfort or a pat on his or her back if someone looks particularly down. And I am struck by the guests' gratitude, for nearly every one thanks us for what they receive.***"

Thank you, Dick and Nancy! Your faithful service as early morning breakfast volunteers is greatly appreciated by the staff, program members and guests of the Albuquerque Rescue Mission. ■



## Women's Luncheon Thanks

Dear Very Kind and Generous Volunteers and Donors:

We would like to express our wholehearted thanks to the numerous volunteers and donors who donated time, food, the Plumbers' Union Banquet Hall, energy, money, silent auction items, jewelry making talents, musical talents, PR talents, accounting talents, chaffing dishes, prayers, humble service and love to the recent luncheon held February 19, 2011. Thank you for allowing the LORD to use you as the amazing body of Christ. This fundraiser for the Mercy, Hope and Restoration Retreat/Program was very successful and we are now very close to reaching our budget goal for the upcoming Women's Retreat for the ARM women. Our hearts are with gratitude and joy at the abundant support poured out for this very worthy cause. May God richly bless you for the Christ-like kindness and generosity with which you blessed all of us.

Very sincerely,

– Christie, Kaye, Lori, Ray and Sue

Steering Committee for the Mercy Hope and Restoration Retreat/Program ■



overflowing

## Sweet 16 With a Generous Heart

We were delighted to learn that one of our young supporters for her Sweet 16 Birthday Party requested no gifts, and instead she asked her guests to bring an item to donate to the Mission. She and her guests celebrated her birthday by serving dinner to our homeless guests! What a giving heart! **Thanks, Kaitlyn!** ■



## Donations Do's & Don'ts

## Easter 2011 Washing of Feet: A Community of Compassion

Last year our footwashing event was an awe-inspiring and emotional experience for the volunteers, staff and guests. We will be offering footwashing and other services to our homeless guests at the Mission on **Saturday, April 23, 2011 from 11:30am- 3:00pm.** With more

services this year, we have many areas for volunteers to assist in preparing before and on the day of the event. If you are interested in volunteering or donating needed supplies listed on our website, please contact Jannetta LaMort, Communications Coordinator, via email [jlamort@albqrescue.org](mailto:jlamort@albqrescue.org) or by phone, 346-4673 ext. 237. You will find periodic updates on our website [www.abqrescue.org](http://www.abqrescue.org) and our Facebook page. If you wish to contribute financially to this event, go to [www.abqrescue.org/donate](http://www.abqrescue.org/donate). ■



## Easter Dinner April 23

Directly after the footwashing event on April 23rd, the Mission will be serving our Annual Easter Dinner from 4pm to 6pm. Our kitchen staff and volunteers are preparing a dinner of glazed ham steak, scalloped

potatoes, green beans, dinner rolls, fruit punch and a dessert. We do need help providing a dessert for our guests that day, and if you are able to help in any way, please contact Erin Gibson, Food Services Supervisor, at 346-4673 ext. 230. ■

## Celebration of Womanhood

Femininity. What does it mean? Every day in the Women's Day Room we emphasize that no woman is out of God's reach; He will not turn anyone away that comes to Him. II Corinthians 5:17 declares that "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come. All this is from God who through Christ reconciled us to himself." And the greatest encouragement a woman can know is that she is cared for by a loving and compassionate God, despite her past. This is what our Celebration of Womanhood on May 13, 2011 emphasizes, and we need your help to make it happen. If you can help in any of the following areas, please contact Marie Robinson-Marmash, Women's Day Room Supervisor, at 346-4673 ext 255. Special needs for the event are: musicians, vocalists, fresh flowers, hot buffet luncheon items, salads and desserts. ■



- Do** call ahead of time if dropping large or unusual items off at the Donation Processing Center.
- Do** test all electrical and battery-operated equipment to make sure it is still working prior to donation.
- Do** include all manuals, if available.
- Do** include all pieces and/or parts.
- Do** check pockets and purses for any personal papers, money or jewelry.
- Do** wash or dry-clean any clothing prior to donation as we cannot accept soiled clothing.
- Do** bring an itemized list of your donation, as this will facilitate writing up your receipt.
- Don't** donate broken or soiled items.
- Don't** donate items recalled, banned or which otherwise do not meet current safety standards.

Items we cannot accept due to state and federal health regulations:

- Used underwear
- Used mattresses
- Out of date food items
- Prescription drugs
- Used medical supplies

(Check with the DPC if you have crutches, walkers, wheelchairs etc.)

The Albuquerque Rescue Mission Donation Processing Center is open 8:30 – 4:30 Mon- Sat. If you have any questions regarding the items you want to donate please call in advance to the Donation Processing Center at 346-4673, ext 242. ■



## Growing Hope...*Plant an Extra Row to Help Others*

This season, consider planting an extra row for ARM... and give that row the same love and care as the rest of your garden. It can help more than you know!



It may be hard to imagine, but the face of hunger in Albuquerque isn't just homeless people in our downtown area. It is the face of an elderly neighbor choosing between food and medication, a working parent who earns too much to qualify for food stamps, so she goes without in order to feed her children, or the middle class family dealing with job loss and relying on the local food pantry for donations.

*"Food insecure" defined by the USDA means "having very low food security based on a single episode during the year."* Everyone can do something to help alleviate hunger in our community. Donating as little as one pound of fresh produce a few tomatoes or a couple of squash can supplement up to four meals for a person in need. If you would like more information how your donations help feed the homeless and needy through the Albuquerque Rescue Mission, please call 346-HOPE (4673) or visit our website [www.abqrescue.org](http://www.abqrescue.org). ■

## Spring and Summer Mission Needs

We have been blessed with a donation of whole coffee beans, and we need an industrial coffee grinder to make best use of these beans. If you can help with this item please contact the kitchen at 346-4673 ext. 230.

### Clothing/Hygiene:

- Men and women's underwear (all sizes)
- Men and women's white socks
- Men's jeans (size 32-40 and various lengths)

- Women's jeans (sizes 10 & 16)
- Men's and women's shorts (L-XXL)
- Men's and women's T-shirts (L-XXL)
- Men's work boots & sneakers (9-13)
- Women's sneakers (7-11)
- Women's sports bras (all sizes)
- Rain ponchos
- Backpacks/duffle bags
- Shaving cream
- Deodorant
- Powder insect repellent

- Shampoo/conditioner (trial size)
- New towels & washcloths

### Kitchen/Housewares:

- Meat (any variety- frozen or fresh)
- Bread (any variety)
- Drink mixes (lemonade or iced tea)
- Styrofoam or plastic items (8 oz. cups, salad bowls, dessert plates, plates with dividers)
- Napkins

## Our Mission

Our purpose is to show the restoring love of Jesus to hopeless and homeless men, women and children resulting in spiritual and emotional healing and life-long discipleship to Jesus. To fulfill our mission, we provide:

- Food
- Shelter
- Education
- Mentoring
- Biblical Counsel
- Clothing

## Prayer Needs

"BEFORE THEY CALL I WILL ANSWER; WHILE THEY ARE STILL SPEAKING I WILL HEAR."

ISAIAH 65:24 (NIV)

Please join us in a special prayer offering for Japan and members of our ARM community.

- God of healing and mercy, we come before you with our hearts filled with grief as we see the devastation in Japan. We pray that those who are grieving, who are injured and who have lost their homes and livelihoods would feel your presence. We pray for wisdom and safety for those who are responding to the people in need and for those who continue to deal with the many challenges left by the earthquake and tsunami. God, you are our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble. For this, we give you thanks and ask that you hear our prayers for the people of Japan.
- For the men and women in the final stage of our New Life Program,

pray the Lord will provide opportunities and would lead them according to His perfect plan as they search for employment and housing.

- That God would continue to provide financially for the Mission's needs.
- That God will lay His healing hands upon those who are struggling with their health and fill them with strength and comfort: Mr. Diaz, Judith, Maribel's daughter, Diane's Grandsons, Annette, Cherise, Nancy and Tina.
- That God grants comfort and peace to Arturo and his family in mourning for their loved one. ■



## Double Your Impact Through May!

Making a gift during our 2011, May Matching Gift Month, is a win-win for all. Your donation is tax-deductible, and the effective value of your contribution doubled. Your gift will be used to help the hungry and homeless men, women and children of Albuquerque! If you have any questions or wish to make a special matching gift donation, please call our Donor Services Coordinator, 346-4673 ext. 233, or go to our website [www.abqrescue.org/donate](http://www.abqrescue.org/donate) to make your secure online matching gift donation during May. ■

## Spiritual Retreat for Women

We need help in providing a spiritual retreat for the women in our New Life Program. If you feel called to help financially in any way, we would be so grateful for your help. Your checks should be made out to the Albuquerque Rescue Mission with "Women's Center Retreat" written on the memo line, or you can make your gift online at [www.abqrescue.org/donate](http://www.abqrescue.org/donate). The retreat is April 29, 30 and May 1. We thank you for your support of these women. ■

## Thanks to the Creative Writing Workshop Volunteers

A hearty THANK YOU goes out to all the volunteers who made the Mission's first creative writing workshop such a great success! ■



## Holiday Cheer

If you, your church family, co-workers, or organization would like to provide festive decorated cupcakes or cookies for our guests to enjoy on upcoming holidays such as Easter, Mother's or Father's Day, or Memorial Day, please contact Doug Chandler at 346-4673, or email him at [dchandler@albqrescue.org](mailto:dchandler@albqrescue.org).

We would like to have a special treat for our guests for all major holidays throughout the year.

## Gifts Honor Loved Ones

One of the many ways that our ministry partners reflect the care that their loved ones displayed during their lives is by making a Memorial Gift to the ministries of the Albuquerque Rescue Mission. We appreciate these gifts and wish to publicly acknowledge them and the loved ones on whose behalf they were given.



### Memorial Gifts

- Christine Felix
- Mary "Rita" Anany
- Kenneth Shriner
- Donnie Chistensen
- Tony S. Velarde
- Jeanne Ruth Warder
- Evelyn June Skipwith
- Gene Poulson

- Dan Hollaway
- H.L. Anderson
- MaryAnn & Jim Rogers
- Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Chavez
- Cameron Patrick Meade
- Clyde
- Patrick Brosnan
- Sharon Eisberg
- Dorothy Salazar

- Diane Salazar
- Eddie Diana
- Michael
- Bob
- William B. Walsh
- Lucille Holloway
- Karen R. Olson
- Alan Paine Rudebaugh
- Pam Buchheit

### Honorary Gifts

- Rick Oselio
- Bill & Veronic Parker
- Russell Yurcic
- Marie Terry
- Benito & Juanelo

## Board of Directors:

The Albuquerque Rescue Mission Board of Directors is a group of dedicated Christian leaders who tirelessly and prayerfully bring the long-range vision of how best to meet the growing needs and changing face of the homeless in our city. Their volunteer service and hearts for the poor have facilitated the current growth of the ministry of the Mission as well as positioned it for the future.

- Ted Trujillo, Board President
- Danny Cox, Vice President
- Noel Behne, Secretary
- Jeff Leslie, Treasurer
- Angelo Winfield, Member
- David O'Dell, Member
- Allen Nicholson, Member
- Joseph Macaron, Member
- Joseph Wernitz, Member
- Paul Collins, Member
- Ray Rivera, Member
- Warren Smalley, Member
- Jolene Benoit, Member
- Lori Bennett, Member
- Pastor John W. Hill, Member

## Battlelines

PUBLISHED BY ALBUQUERQUE RESCUE MISSION,  
PO Box 331, Albuquerque, NM 87103,  
505-346-HOPE (4673)

Editor: Jannetta LaMort Design: OneCreative Photography: OneCreative  
Distributed bi-monthly to supporters committed to the goal of sustaining and restoring homeless and near-homeless men, women and children of Albuquerque and New Mexico.

## Visit the Mission Online

[AbqRescue.org](http://AbqRescue.org)

Visit us online for Facebook and Twitter updates from the mission.

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ALBUQUERQUE RESCUE MISSION

abqrescue.org

# On The Battlelines



## The Bradford Bunch

**A**s a child, Desirae struggled in school with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, more commonly known as ADHD. She had a difficult time paying attention, and everything seemed to take longer for her to learn than for the other children. She especially envied her older sister's ability to succeed in school, work and life. Even though she had loving parents, a great family, a good home and no real worries or issues other than her ADHD, Desirae felt lost and out of place until her parents decided to help raise her young cousin. Desirae found an immediate acceptance and a friendship with her cousin, and in return, she introduced Desirae to methamphetamine.

The effect of the drug immediately enamored Desirae. Using the drug felt so wonderful, she felt in control of her ADHD for the first time. Things that seemed confusing before now were clear. She found her fears and insecurities easier to control, and she was convinced drugs were the best thing – ever. However, the change in Desirae was startling to everyone else. Overnight, their precious child turned sullen and defiant. Desirae, at only 12 years old, found out that lying to her parents was easy for her and so was stealing the money she needed for drugs. Her parents, alarmed at the change, tried to intervene with a variety of counselors and drug programs. However, Desirae dropped

CONTINUES INSIDE...