

ALBUQUERQUE RESCUE MISSION

On The abqrescue.org
Battlelines

**SOMETHING
WORTH
FIGHTING
FOR...**



The little boy pressed his nose up against the dusty pickup window and watched his father walk into the local bar. With his dad now out of sight, the boy ducked down to curl up on the floorboard of the pickup to wait hidden from the sight of anyone walking by throughout the long night.



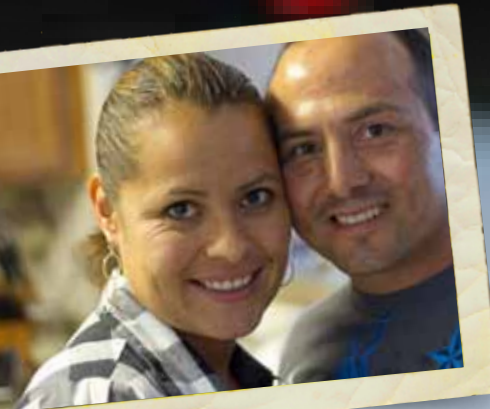
Ray Herrera resented his father's neglect for many years, but Ray's mother was also lost in addiction, depression and a history of abuse.

This dysfunctional family life had a profound effect on Ray as he grew up and longed for approval from his family. He particularly looked up to his uncles, even though all but one were ex-cons. "As a small child I learned to steal to please others. I would walk in a busy grocery store and pick up a six-pack of soda or bag of chips and choose

which line was the busiest to walk right out between their legs and out the front door to those waiting outside happy with me for getting what they wanted out of the store." Ray was only nine years old when he found his mother lying unconscious and bleeding on the floor of the kitchen. He was so afraid he ran and hid in the closet. Ray shakes his head recalling that day. "The fact that I didn't call for help haunted me for many years. I couldn't forgive myself for

"I didn't like being this bad guy. I didn't want my kids resenting me like I did my father."

CONTINUES INSIDE...



...WORTH FIGHTING FOR.

"She was the one pure thing that loved me no matter what I had done."

"The punishment of not being able to come home to my family killed me inside, but I couldn't get clean for them. I had to do it FOR myself WITH God's help."



being afraid. When my mom came home from the hospital and then left me to live with my uncle, I felt my mother couldn't forgive me either."

In junior high school Ray smoked, drank and used pot, but his biggest plan for life was to be someone just as tough as his uncles and their friends. By age sixteen, Ray was in a juvenile detention center for strong-armed robbery, a lesser plea to the original charge of attempted murder. "Going to juvie was not a big deal for me," Ray states. "I found out I had status with the other guys. I felt that place was a gladiator school for the big time."

While out on a supervised leave one weekend, Ray met a young girl. Smiling, Ray relates, "We fell in love instantly, as only kids can do. She wrote me sweet letters, and I felt I had to be near her. She was the one pure thing that loved me no matter what I had done." However, the day Ray's uncle offered to sell him a rock of crack cocaine everything changed. Ray was hooked on crack cocaine, and getting high was now Ray's primary purpose in life. He didn't understand why his wife cried and why other people were hurt. "My addiction was second nature by then," Ray says. "I sold my cars, household stuff. If it had value, I would sell it. I couldn't be trusted with anything, and once anything of value was gone, I took to theft to pay for my habit."

At times, he would try to kick his drug habit for his family. Ray says, "Crawling up on my doorstep after weeks of binging, my family would see me all torn up, going through withdrawals. I didn't like being this bad guy. I didn't want my kids resenting me like I did my father." Ray finally realized he wasn't able to get clean on his own. The Christ based rehabilitation programs he had tried previously taught him about the Bible and Jesus, and he was hopeful when told he could ask for help from God and be "fixed" instantly.

However, when he asked God for help and nothing changed, he lost hope. Ray felt he was too much of a monster for even God to care about him. He had restraining orders against him; he wasn't even safe to be around his family. How could God love someone who had caused so much pain? With tears in his eyes, Ray relates, "The punishment of not being able to come home

to my family killed me inside, but I couldn't get clean for them. I had to do it FOR myself WITH God's help."

The turning point for Ray was the help he received through the Albuquerque Rescue Mission. Desperate to make a permanent change in his life, he listened to the advice of Brian S., a graduate from the New Life Program. Ray relates, "Once I was accepted into the Mission's New Life Program, I started learning about drug relapse and how to prevent it. I learned that relapse begins way before I actually picked up the drug. The chaplains at the Mission taught me to see the signs of my addiction, to slow down and think rather than acting on impulse, and that really made a difference. I had to change my entire way of thinking."

Ray attributes over five years of clean and sober living to the drug awareness and relapse prevention programs here at the Mission. He goes on to say, "The tools my chaplains gave me to use correlated with the Word of God and turned my life around. Today I am a dedicated husband and friend to my lovely wife, a proud father to my children, two who now attend college, and an active member of my church. I have a home, a good job; all that any man could ask for. I give all praise to God and the Albuquerque Rescue Mission for my transformed life." ■





VOLUNTEERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE: FRAN ROSE

Faithful Service: A Cut Above

Once a month on Thursday mornings a line of men forms for haircuts from our volunteer barber Fran Rose. This morning as she dampened, clipped and combed, she talked about the Lord's call for her to volunteer at the Mission and what keeps her coming back. About three years ago, Fran heard about the Mission through her church's clothing drive for the Mission. Instead of dropping off items and leaving as she had planned, Fran suddenly found herself telling the clothing drive organizers that she was a retired hairstylist and she was willing to volunteer her time and skills. Fran now finds great joy in giving the men in our New Life Program a fresh start through a haircut.

She relates, "The first time I came down to the Mission, I really didn't know what to expect. But after the first haircut was done, the fellow turned to me and expressed his gratitude by shaking my hand and explaining that he was just about to go on a job interview and had

been worried about what his first impression was going to be. But with the haircut I just gave him, he no longer was worried, and he just knew the interview was going to go well. He had a huge smile on his face and hope in his eyes and this made me feel great! I suddenly knew there was a higher purpose to my work here than I first understood. I knew without a doubt that God led me to help these people the best way I could." Fran went on to say, "I see these men newly in the program so quiet and withdrawn. Then, over the months, they open up and are filled with hopeful expectancy in their futures, new jobs and places to live. I see God and the Holy Spirit working in them. I am so happy God led me to volunteer at the Mission."

Fran exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism. Recently, she went back to work and still made sure that she would be able to make her early morning barbering appointments at the Mission. Thank you, Fran, for your dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer spirit! ■



"I knew without a doubt that God led me to help these people the best way I could."

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

Dorothy Herrick
Voris Hope
My Mother
Delmore Fessenden
Mrs. Robert McClenahan
Col. Robert E. Vickers, Jr.
Wayne Suggs
Samuel P. Sanchez
Ms. Dorothy Ware
Peggy Garcia
Teresa Marcelli

Lt. James N. Buck
Jesus
Anthony
Bessie Martinek
Frederick Green
Larry Stevens
Jasmyne Smiel
Joan Bittenbinder
David Brians
Maurice "Mo" Holmen
Alex A. Gomez

William S. McClure
Amelia Jaguer
Ruby Tangman
Marshall L. Kratz
Florence Barclay
Shelby McDaniel
Johnny Mills
Dick Saylor
Steve Kolman
Michael Horrocks

Honorary Gifts

Steve Benoit
Robert Chavez
David Brians
Sister Sonia/FLA
Wayne McCashland
Easton Roberts
Brian Lee
Duke City Bridge Club
GE Aviation
Marie Moore

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
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Noel Behne, Secretary
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Allen Nichelson, Member
Joseph Macaron, Member
Joseph Wernitz, Member
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Battlelines

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Visit the Mission Online

AbqRescue.org

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

facebook

twitter



Upcoming Fall Events

Check out our website www.abqrescue.org, or join us on Facebook and Twitter for updates on Mission events!



Veterans Day: November 11th: What does Veteran's Day have to do with the homeless? Because a third of our homeless are veterans, both men and women, we encourage you to honor and thank them for their service. If you are interested in contributing to the Veterans in Need (VINE) fund, please go to the donation page on our website, www.abqrescue.org and choose to designate your donation to the Mission's work with the homeless veteran men and women through VINE. ■

Turkey Rally: We desperately need turkeys to feed the hungry! Join us in making this holiday season wonderful for needy families.

Help topple our previous Turkey Rally by donating frozen turkeys during our Turkey Rally! Listen to M88 - 88.3 FM and KNKT - 107.1 FM on these dates, November 17th, 18th and 19th for drop off locations throughout Albuquerque or bring them to our 525 Second St. facility any time Monday thru Saturday from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. ■



Great Thanksgiving Banquet: Reaching out to the city's forgotten population by providing them a delicious turkey dinner, God's message and loving compassion from our staff and volunteers. ■

MasQ 2010 Fall Fashion Masquerade Ball, October 30, 2010: STEF Promotions is holding

a MasQ-2010 Fall Fashion Masquerade Ball in October which will benefit the Mission. Call 850-9859 or go online to www.stefpromotions.blogspot.com for more information and tickets. ■

Thank You!

GE Intelligent Platforms

The employees at GE Intelligent Platforms- ABQ spent most of the summer raising money and food donations in zany contests and fun events! From macaroni and cheese box stacking contests and selling homemade foods to holding raffles for vacations and art. These men and women showed how creative and determined they could be to help further the work of the Mission. Through their much appreciated effort, they donated with GE matching gifts program \$10,880.51 and 475 pounds of food. ■



Wells Fargo We would like to thank Wells Fargo for their financial support. Without help from private donors, churches and businesses, our work feeding and caring for the homeless of Albuquerque would not be possible. Thank you! ■

WELLS FARGO

First Community Bank

We extend our heartfelt thanks to First Community Bank. With your financial support of our Tea of Hope, we are able to continue our vital work with homeless women. Thank you! ■



Saving Lives This Winter: *Emergency Winter Shelter and Rescue Van*



Feel that chill in the air? Imagine what it will be like in another month, and then imagine that you are trying to live through the cold days and nights without adequate shelter, clothing, shoes or warm food. Starting in November, the Albuquerque Rescue Mission Van will once again forge through the cold winter nights to find and transport homeless men, women and children to shelter. This will be the 17th year that the Rescue Van has met this crucial need. The Rescue Van leaves the Mission at 7 p.m. every night searching the city in places where people might go to avoid the cold winds and plunging temperatures. If you see someone who is apparently homeless and needing shelter between the hours of 7 p.m. and midnight, call 242-COPS. Leave a message with the approximate location and description of the person(s), and we will send the Rescue Van out to see if we can help. Working together we can again save the lives of hundreds of homeless people this winter.

The Emergency Winter Shelter will also open in November, and the Mission will for the 17th year provide the compassionate ministry of safe shelter for 300+ men and women throughout the winter. Those who desire to take shelter gather at the Mission each afternoon, and after dinner the buses will transport everyone to the Westside Facility for the night. Yearly, we provide more than 34,750 emergency overnight stays, and the Mission's Rescue Van transports nearly 1,500 men, women and children to local shelters as well. This year's program will operate just as it has in the past 16 years as the Albuquerque Rescue Mission provides staff, expertise, equipment, supplies, security and operation of the facility for homeless men and women. This is in addition to the thousands of overnight stays the Mission provides in its Second Street Facility and the Women's Center of Hope each year. Please contact us for more information on our Mission's Emergency Winter Program at 346-4673. Please pray for the homeless people and the Emergency Winter Shelter and Rescue Van teams throughout the winter. ■



From the Board of Directors: *Ray Rivera*



Ray Rivera has served on our Board of Directors for the past three years. While he takes a genuine interest in all of the Mission's work, he focuses much of his expertise as a teacher and mentor on the life restoration work in the Women's Day Room and Women's Center of Hope. Ray holds weekly classes focusing on the women's needs for emotional wellness and healing through Jesus Christ rather than harmful relationships or addictions. He serves on other board committees in addition to teaching classes.

Q: What challenge do you find in working on the Board of Directors of ARM?

A: My work with the public for many years combined with my work on other boards definitely gives me a solid foundation for board work. I thank God for my

experience of over 30 years in evangelism ministries bringing a maturity in spirit and a firm belief in the need for transformation THROUGH the power of God's love.

Q: What surprised you most when you began working with the Women's Day Room and Women's Center of Hope?

A: I was surprised by how many there were and the causes of their homelessness. I found I needed to utilize my listening skills greatly. Ministering to the emotional needs of these women requires flexibility as each one has a unique story.

Q: We know that you are a Board Member, but what does that mean to you?

A: We are here to guide in decisions that affect the well-being of the Mission now and for the future. No decision is a small one, and I take my work here seriously.

Q: What would you like others that are not involved as you are to know about ARM?

A: The plight of the homeless. If people knew and *understood* the plight of the homeless they would know what the Mission is all about. They would see the different issues that the Mission is trying to address and understand it isn't a simple answer to help the homeless.

Q: What would you like to see in the future for the Mission?

A: I would like to see more male and female residences- the funds available for housing, transitional housing. It makes a huge difference for the homeless to be able to plan for a future. Housing is a huge need.

Q: When your friends and family find out you're a board member for ARM, what do they ask you?

A: Usually they want to know what the Mission is doing. The work of the Board, budgets and numbers are not very interesting to most. They want to hear about the individual work and involvement it takes to help homeless people; they want to hear how each life is touched by the work of the Mission.

Q: What would you say are your best skills?

A: To look to the Lord to see what He wants me to do, to ask Him for wisdom and the skills to listen and to say "Your will, not mine, Lord." You can't easily measure success with the homeless community in any traditional manner. You look for your opportunity to plant a seed, water it and leave it to God to help it grow. I believe that if I do my part, the Lord will do His part. ■

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer Needs

"BEFORE THEY CALL I WILL ANSWER; WHILE THEY ARE STILL SPEAKING I WILL HEAR." ISAIAH 65:24 (NIV)
Listed below are requests that we would like you to join us in praying for:

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- That God would rise up an Army of Volunteers to serve at the Great Thanksgiving Banquet and all the rest of our activities and events this holiday season, Jesus Christ would be exalted and recognized as the only One who can bring the needed change to the hearts of the hungry and homeless and many would respond to the Gospel and say, "Yes" to follow Christ.
- For our leadership and staff—that the Lord would give us wisdom, compassion and sound judgment in dealing with difficult situations.
- That the New Life Program Members will accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and grow in knowledge and truth, and for the many Mission program members with health problems to be healed and the strongholds of addictions to be broken.
- Pray for our financial needs. The Lord has been so faithful in providing for this ministry, yet we need the community's continued support to keep serving those who cry out for help.
- For healing and comfort for those ill or recovering: Michael N., Asep D., Jimmy B., Jarael S., Rod G.

Mission Statement

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



HOW YOU CAN HELP - FALL 2010

■ Christmas Gifts Needed

Each year we like to celebrate the joys of giving and strengthen our guests' sense of community and fellowship through events such as the annual Women's Day Room Christmas Gathering and the New Life Program's Christmas Gathering. If you have the ability to contribute or provide some of the following items from the wish list below, it would be a great blessing to our ministry and our guests. ■



Women's Day Room Gift Ideas

- Comb and Brush Sets
- Scented Hand Lotion
- Perfumes
- Body Sprays
- Lip Balms
- Nice Tote Bags
- Christmas Bags for Wrapping
- Earrings – Pierced or Clip-on
- Individual Wet Wipes
- Notebooks and Journals
- Children's Storybooks

Contact: Marie Robinson-
Marmash, Women's Day Room
Supervisor 346-4673 ext. 255.

New Life Program for Men & Women Gift Ideas

- Devotionals, Study Bibles
- New Underclothing
- Socks, and Legwear
- T-shirts
- Gloves & Hats (All sizes)
- Sweatshirts, Flannel Shirts
- Slippers, Pajamas
- Lotions, Bath Products
- Watches, Alarm Clocks
- Phone Cards
- Razors, Aftershave, Cologne
- Postage Stamps
- Hand Held Electronic Games
- CD Players

- Batteries
- Fast Food Gift Certificates
- Necklaces & Earrings
- Gift Cards (Wal-Mart, K-Mart, etc.)
- Travel Mugs- Hot and Cold
- Sewing Kits
- Back Packs

Contact: Rene Palacios,
Programs Director
346-4673 ext. 232

Holiday Volunteering

If you or your family, friends, co-workers or church families are interested in serving at the Mission during the holiday season, especially during our Thanksgiving or Christmas weeks, please put your request in early as we quickly fill our volunteer openings.

Go online to www.abqrescue.org/getinvolved to fill out a volunteer application if you have never been to the Mission before. Call Eldridge Scott, Volunteer Coordinator, at 505-346-4673 ext. 235 to set up an appointment to discuss volunteer duties, times and dates. ■

Donation Drive Ideas

Suggested items include, gloves, thermal underwear, thick socks, sleeping bags, blankets (twin-sized are best), men's coats and canned or dried food. ■

■ Evangelism Teams: Volunteer!

We are looking for churches, organizations and schools to contribute to our Courtyard Evangelism through music, skits, plays and any other sharing you might have to gift our homeless guests. If you would like to find out more about becoming a part of our Courtyard Evangelism, please contact Chaplain Jim Skinner at 346-4673 ext. 244. ■

■ Gifts From the Heart

Christmas will soon be here! Each year our donor family has offered a message of hope at Christmas time by giving gifts to hundreds of needy children. We have already started collecting presents for children from toddlers to younger teens.

We especially need items for the teens. Call Eldridge Scott 346-4673 ext. 235 for additional information about this exciting event and how you can help make a child's life brighter. ■

Some popular gift ideas for under \$20.00 include:

- Sports equipment
- Childrens games
- Childrens G rated movies
- Handheld electronic games
- Educational toys
- Dolls
- New clothes- boys or girls (still in packages)
- Gift-wrapping supplies

Get Involved: Give

For more ways you can help the Albuquerque Rescue Mission and our community's homeless visit:
www.abqrescue.org/donate