



ALBUQUERQUE RESCUE MISSION

abqrescue.org

# On The Battlelines

MARTIÑ: A CHANGED LIFE

DESPITE PRISON, FAILURE AND DESPAIR — GOD USES THE MISSION  
TO SHOW MARTIÑ HIS KINDNESS AND THAT HE IS NOT ALONE.

## NEVER ABANDONED



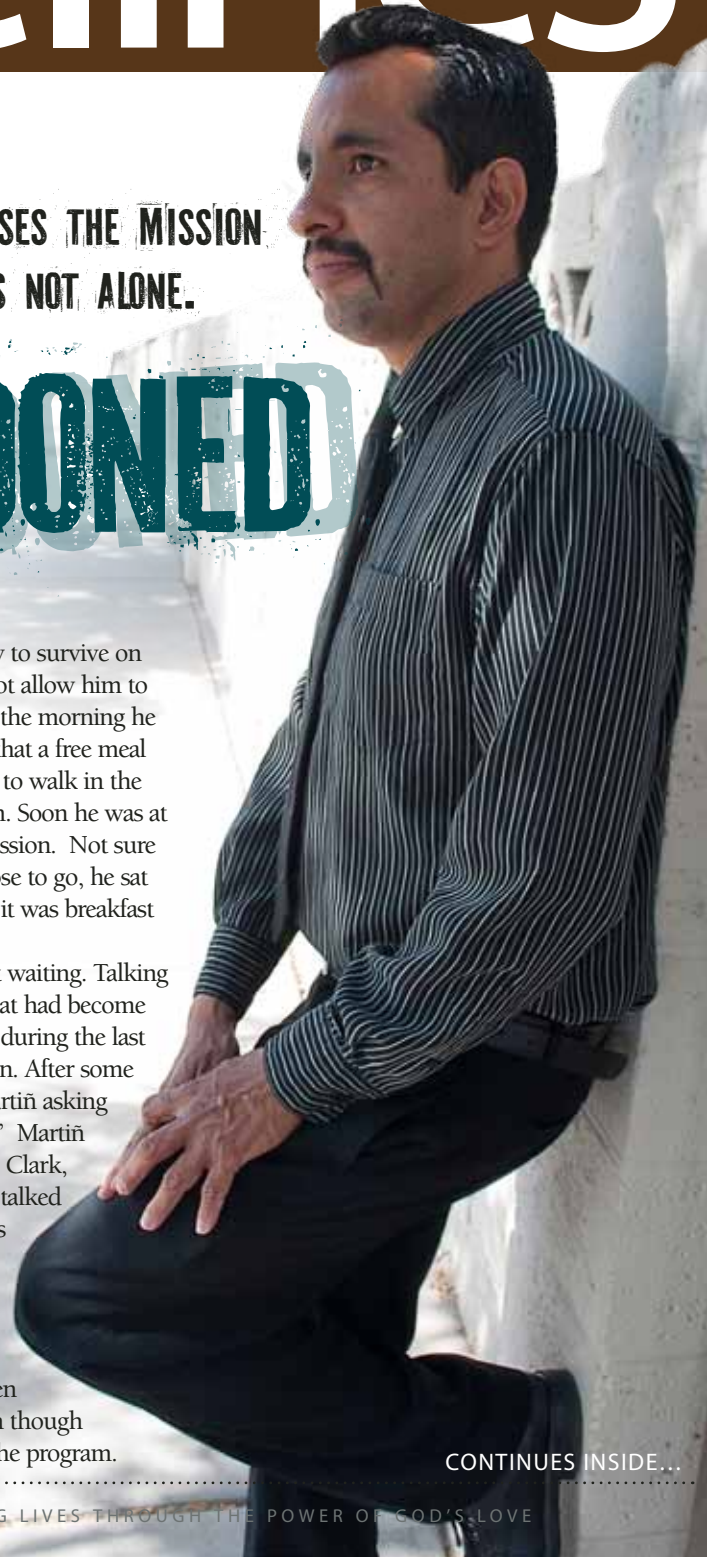
*It's 2 am a van pulls up to the side of a street in downtown Albuquerque. The door opens, and a young man steps out onto the sidewalk, stretches and looks around as*

*the van drives off, leaving the man standing alone in the night...*

Eight years of Martín's life had been spent in prison. After turning 18 and leaving home, Martín chose to associate with individuals who used and sold drugs and to participate in a variety of other illegal activities. After a weeklong methamphetamine binge ended in a police chase and his capture, Martín was sentenced to prison. When he was given opportunities for early parole, Martín would find ways to be sent back to prison. "I felt safe in prison. I knew what to expect there." Eventually, Martín finished his full sentence and was freed,

but he had no plans on how to survive on his own. His pride would not allow him to call his family for help. On the morning he was released, Martín heard that a free meal was available, and he began to walk in the direction pointed out to him. Soon he was at the Albuquerque Rescue Mission. Not sure exactly where he was suppose to go, he sat down at a gate to wait until it was breakfast time.

Martín prayed as he sat waiting. Talking with God was something that had become an important part of his life during the last two years of his incarceration. After some time, a man approached Martín asking him, "What are you doing?" Martín answered, "Praying." Darryl Clark, Men's Dayroom Supervisor, talked with him until breakfast was served and introduced him to the chaplain in charge. Two hours later Martín was accepted into the New Life Program for Men. Eleven months passed quickly even though Martín struggled at first in the program.



CONTINUES INSIDE...



## NEVER ABANDONED

CONTINUED FROM COVER...



“I was an awful person,” Martiñ said. “My language was

the spiritual encouragement he found in chapel and talking with

**“THIS WAS NO ACCIDENT. IN THE PAST, I WOULD HAVE SAID IT WAS JUST A COINCIDENCE. BUT I KNOW FOR SURE NOW...GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS.”**

foul, and my attitude towards others was filled with suspicion and paranoia. I resisted the advice of my chaplain.” In time, Martiñ began to soften his “prison outlook” on life and took responsibility for his actions. Growth in his walk with God came through

others. He found work, graduated, left the Mission, and successfully incorporated work, a home, and a life outside of prison.

Sadly, life doesn't always run smoothly as Martiñ found out three years later. Saying, “I had started to lose the focus the Mission gave me. I started drinking again, gambling, and found friends that were not good for me.” One of those “friends” asked him for a favor, and in doing the favor Martiñ unknowingly committed a crime. Because of his past, he was immediately suspected of being involved much more than he was. By the time the legal system exonerated him of any guilt, his job and home were gone. Martiñ recalls, “I was shook up. This was such a setback. But I knew

that I did not do any wrong, and I know it was my past that worked against me. I had to trust in God to get me through this situation.”

Faced with homelessness again, Martiñ looked to the Mission for help in the Special Arrangements Program. He knew what he had learned at the Mission before was inside him and that he could get back on track with a little help. While talking with Pat Birmingham, Assistant Director, New Life Program, Martiñ was told that one of the qualifications of entering the New Life Special Arrangements Program was to



Martiñ suddenly felt the urge to enter the business and asked to see the manager. An hour later Martiñ had a job, and soon returned to the Mission with his happy news. “God once again answered my prayer,” Martiñ went on to say. “This was no accident. In the past, I would have said it was just a coincidence. But I know for sure now...God answers prayers.”

Martiñ stayed in the Special Arrangements program for three months, saved up money and refocused on building his life and his walk with God. Martiñ tells us, “I thank God that these programs were here for me and all the others. If it had not been for the Albuquerque Rescue Mission, I don't know where I would be now, other than in prison or dead.”

Daily we give thanks here at the Mission. Through the strong support of our donor and volunteers, we can continue what our Lord and Savior called us to do for over 55 years: To give God's message of love, salvation and comfort, and to help the lost, hungry, frightened and homeless men, women and children of Albuquerque. ■

be employed. This program is designed to help those that are in a temporary situation of needing a safe place to stay along with guidance on life skills such as saving money or resolving legal troubles. Reasons for needing the program are varied. Sudden illness, injury, or disablement can cause the loss of work and home and force some people to come to the Mission for short-term help. Many people are employed or with good job prospects, with no addictions, and yet they are homeless.

Martiñ despaired for a moment, “I didn't have a job, and it is so hard to find work now. How am I going to do this?” Martiñ walked out of the Mission and began to pray once again. “Lord, help me find a job.” Repeatedly, he begged for God's help, walking for hours until he found himself in the downtown area. Walking past a restaurant,



*Please remember the Albuquerque Rescue Mission in your will or estate plan.*



ABOUT OUR STAFF: REYES "REY" AMADOR

## 17 Years of Dedicated Service

After 17 loyal years, Reyes retires from the Mission

**T**hank you Reyes "Rey" Amador for your dedication, faithfulness, loyalty and service to the Lord and thereby to the homeless and needy who have entered the doors of ARM for the past 17 years.

As you enter retirement, you leave an ARM. family of dear friends; lives you've dearly touched forever.

Thank you for blessing thousands of people with your smile and your great cooking.

Our hearts have become knit together in the service of Christ. May your Lord Jesus continue to bless and strengthen you. ■

"Your work ethic is exemplary.  
Your love for people is Jesus-Like.  
Your heart is golden.  
Your words are encouraging.  
Your presence is a joy to be around.  
Your culinary expertise is exceptional."  
— JOHN MONTE, ARM FOOD SERVICES MANAGER



VOLUNTEERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE: AUDREY CARTER

## Outstretched Helping Hands

Audrey's let's make it happen attitude

**A**udrey Carter has a great impact on all she puts her hand to do. She's a positive role model to others who look for a way to serve their Lord and Savior in volunteerism. Generous with her time and always ready with a warm smile, her volunteer work has been noted by many of the staff at the Mission. "Special event fundraisers take many hours of work and without our volunteers, it really would not be possible in a timely or affordable manner. Audrey has shown a particular talent in bringing in others to help, digging into whatever we need to be done and doing it well. I know when I call Audrey for any project, large or small, she will always greet me with enthusiasm and an immediate 'let's make this happen' attitude that I appreciate so very much," observes Jannetta LaMort, Communications Coordinator. When asked why she puts so much of herself into her

volunteer service here at the Mission, Audrey stated, "First of all, this is the right thing to do. I want to live my life the way God commanded us to live: Love one another, help those in need, feed the hungry and lift those up that have fallen down. There is no greater joy or peace for me than stretching out my hands to help!" Eldridge Scott, Volunteer Coordinator,

"Audrey Carter has a compassionate heart to help anyone in need. She exhibits a love for Jesus, which overflows to all in her presence."

tells us, "Audrey Carter has a compassionate heart to help anyone in need. She exhibits a love for Jesus which overflows to all in her presence. Audrey is indeed a blessing to ARM, and her willingness to serve is inspiring." Thank you, Audrey! ■



■ **GET INVOLVED - VOLUNTEER!**  
Contact Eldridge @ 346-4673 ext 235 or visit  
[www.abqrescue.org/getinvolved](http://www.abqrescue.org/getinvolved)



## Jubilee Festival a Great Success

**W**e would like to thank the sponsors, advertisers and attendees of the 2009 Jubilee Festival held on Friday, June 5th at the Balloon Fiesta Park. We received over 100 pounds of canned goods and \$600 in donations. Our work is expanded only through the generous support of our community. **THANK YOU!** ■



\* Photo Courtesy, Calvary ABQ

## Isotopes Food Drive Was a Hit

**T**he Isotopes Baseball Club supported the Mission with a food drive in July. We received 225 pounds of food. Thank you for attending the games and supporting the Mission and the Isotopes Food Drive with your donations. Every can, box and bottle make a difference in the lives of those we serve here at the Mission. ■



## Thanks to the Bridge of Hope Silent Auction and Banquet Donors

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! YOU, our donating partners and volunteers, made our celebration of 55 years of service to the community on Saturday, June 27th a complete success! Without your wonderful donations and MANY volunteered hours of work, this event would not have been possible.

### OUR SPONSORS

Berger Briggs Real Estate  
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Answering Solutions For Funeral Service  
Montgomery Church of Christ  
Grace of Giving Foundation  
French Funerals & Cremations

### SILENT AUCTION SUPPORTERS

ABQ Isotopes Baseball Club, LLC  
Andrew's Pueblo Pottery & Art Gallery  
Applebee's  
Arthur Murray Dance Studio  
Artichoke Cafe'  
Beads 101  
Blockbuster Video Superstore  
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Caliber's Shooters SportsCenter  
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Desert Rose Sales  
Edna Collins  
Faith Comes By Hearing  
Gertrude Zachary Jewelry  
Golfernoggins  
Hair Shapes  
Handwriting Without Tears  
Hilton Santa Fe Golf Resort & Spa at Buffalo  
Thunder

Hinkle Family Fun Center  
Hotel Albuquerque in Old Town  
James Steiner, Woodcarver  
Jewelry and Art by Lynne Julia Perkins  
KB Glassworks  
Kell's Creations  
KJ Franchise, Inc.  
K. Tondre Lang  
Lilly Barrack Jewelry  
Marilyn Hunter-Torburn  
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Michelle Vidal Therapeutic Massage  
Nate Ware  
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Ojo Caliente Mineral Springs Resort & Spa  
Partylane Florist  
Peggy Jones  
Robert and Jean Peet  
Pepsi Bottling Group  
Sandia Peak Tram Co.  
Sen Nursery  
Sign-A-Rama  
Sonrisa Blooms  
Southwest Gift Baskets/Coffee House  
Tres Boutique  
Tucano's Brazilian Grill  
UNM Lobo Club  
Urey Lemmon

## The Tree of Self

- J.V.L. '07

In the harsh landscape of my mind, lived the stubborn tree of Self. Lodged in the cracked clay, standing strong, without support.

Braced against the dry winds of humankind, mastering what the wild winds hurled my way. Lack of sustenance from the world, MY hardy roots could withstand.

I needed no one. Till the clay beneath my roots began to crumble, and I stretched desperately to find purchase.

Searching. To no avail, my anchor was gone. I swore, agonized, and struggled to find some crumbs of sustaining clay.

Dying day. My leaves began to drop away; my limbs cracked and became riddled with decay. Deep in my woody heart, fear took hold.

I could not make the impossible- possible. The last rattling leaf of pride loosened its grip, and only then, there was silence.

The Voice. In that silent moment, there came one word to me. "Ask".

Realization. I bowed my proud limbs that day whispering softly into the harsh sky. "Please help me" It was only then beneath my dangling roots, I saw His life-giving hand supporting me.

How foolish I had been, the clay around my roots had no meaning- no ability to keep me alive. I had covered His generous, loving hand with rocks and hard soil- rattling my leaves noisily day and night, unable to hear His voice.

Acceptance. It was Him all along! He was here! I need not despair!

Joyfully wrapping my bruised roots around His strong fingers, gathering real strength to live life, which comes only from my Creator, my Lord and Saviour.

## Thank You ARM Car Show Sponsors And Volunteers!

**T**he Albuquerque Rescue Mission's Classic Car Show and Family Fun Day was filled with music, food, fun, fabulous cars and motorcycles. Congratulations to Janie and John, the winners of the 1961 Thunderbird. Thank you to the Christian Motorcycle Association, Innerseed Ministry and Destiny Center Church in Rio Rancho. Your music really kept the afternoon rocking! To all of our volunteers: WOW, you did such a great job! From start to finish, the day went smoothly because of your hard work. You are such a blessing to the Mission. Thank you. ■

### Thank You Supporters:

Quarters BBQ  
Rudy's BBQ  
Golfernoggins  
Exclamation Printing  
All Washed Up Car Wash  
First Baptist Church  
M88 Radio

### Thank You Sponsors:

Yearout Mechanical  
The Ribbon Place  
Sandia BMW  
Gerald Martin  
All Neat and Clean



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JOHN HILL

# The Greater Works

In the fourteenth chapter of John, Phillip, one of Jesus' followers, asked, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us" (NIV).

**I** gather that the question was asked because there was a real desire to know what God looked like. Jesus answered, "Don't you know me Phillip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." Jesus went on to say further, "Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own; rather it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work." Now several things become quite clear to me from this scripture: 1) Jesus is the visible image of the Father; 2) The works that He did were of the Father. Jesus was known for the works that were done through him. The many miracles of healing among the people, the feeding of the thousands, and the teaching of God's Word and the discipline of the masses.

With this scripture in mind, I began to reflect on the daily activity (works) here at the Albuquerque Rescue Mission. There was a lady healed of a back injury last week in our food service ministry as she received a food box -- she walked away a whole person with

food! There are also more than 247,103 nutritious meals served annually; even when at times it appears that there is not enough. As I continued to reflect, I thought about the masses that the

I realized that it was Jesus dwelling in people and the works were of the Father.

gospel is shared with at each meal, and the thousands that come to us seeking a safe shelter from the cold, heat and danger. I remembered the clothing store that provides clothing without cost to anyone. How could I forget our food boxes which provide family members with enough food for 3-meals per day for 7 days? Then it came to my mind the individuals who are participants in our men's and women's New Life Ministry where food, shelter, biblical counseling, mentoring, life

skills training, drug rehabilitation, instruction, and assistance is provided free of charge.

I began to understand and appreciate what Jesus was saying as I saw people moving, loving, sharing, smiling and caring by providing assistance for those in need and had come to our doors.

I realized that it was Jesus dwelling in people and the works were of the Father. Jesus teaches us that "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." I close by reminding you that your time, prayer, talent, and treasures are so needed especially at this time. Join us in becoming a part of the "greater works" as the visible image of God our Father is manifested.

Blessings, Pastor John W. Hill

*Pastor John W. Hill*

PRAYER CORNER

## Prayer Needs

**I**saiah 65:24 says, "Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear." (NIV) Listed below are requests that we would like you to join us in praying.

- *Judith's husband, Kathryn Chester, Dorothy McConkey, and Mrs. Elvis Ortiz's husband: May God's strength and healing power lift their hearts and heal their bodies.*
- *Ms. Marian Dreyer: We ask that God bless her with His guidance and support in her time of need.*
- *Michael Naranjo: We pray that God's healing love will lift him up and give him great strength.*
- *O gracious and loving God, You work everywhere reconciling, loving, and healing Your people and Your creation. In Your Son and through the power of Your Holy Spirit, You invite each of us to join You in Your work. We ask You to form us more and more in Your image and likeness, through our prayer and worship of You and through the study of Your scripture, that our eyes will be fully opened to Your Mission in the world, and that we fulfill Your Mission to the best of our abilities as staff of the Albuquerque Rescue Mission.*

### Mission Statement

**O**ur 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
- Clothing
- Shelter
- Education
- Mentoring
- Biblical Counsel

### Visit the Mission Online

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

Learn more about us, discover how lives are restored and even see past issues of the Battlelines, all at our web site.

### On the Battlelines

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HOW YOU CAN HELP - SUMMER 2009

## Check [abqrescue.org](http://abqrescue.org) For Events Coming In The Fall!



Great Thanksgiving Banquet



Turkey Rally



Tackle Hunger with UNM Lobos

## New Life Program - Lives Restored!

Our New Life Programs for men and women continuously bear fruit! This past spring our graduates secured employment, found their own place to live, attended local churches, went to school, and so much more. It takes a diligent resolve in each man and woman to overcome his or her adversities. We want to give praise to the newly graduated and encourage those close to graduating on their path to a new and restored life in Christ. We ask that you, our donor family, join us in praying for the continued unfolding of God's plan for their lives.

## We Made Our \$50,000.00 Goal! '09 Matching Gift Challenge

Thank you to all who donated in the month of May and volunteered on May 31st during our '09 Matching Gift Challenge. God works through His people! Your support and encouragement in fund raising is essential in order to continue and advance the work of the Mission with the homeless of Albuquerque. We recognize that all our resources are from God. You make a difference - You are our gift from God. Thank you.



## Auction Items For Sale! [www.abqrescue.org/donate](http://www.abqrescue.org/donate)

Although our "Bridge of Hope" event has passed, some of our fundraising participants donated items for sale and we are now featuring them on our website for very reasonable prices. 100% of the proceeds for the sale of these items will benefit the Albuquerque Rescue Mission.

On our website you will find a description of each item, its worth and current price. You can then purchase securely online.

## Blankets Needed for the Cold Winter Ahead.

It may be August now, but cold weather will be here soon. The Mission is in need of blankets for the thousands of homeless men, women and children that come to us for help.

When our emergency winter shelter program opens in November, we supply overnight shelter seven nights a week for 300+ people until March in addition to our usual services.

If your church, school or organization would like to hold a blanket drive, please give us a call at 505-346-4673 ext 235 to speak to our Volunteer Coordinator, and we will be happy to give you more information on how you can help.

All donations should be clean and in good condition. Examples of acceptable donations include blankets (single size are best), throws, comforters, sleeping bags, bed linens (in any size, but single is best) and bath towels.

### OTHER NEEDED ITEMS

- Coats and sweaters - men, women and children (all sizes)
- Dry, canned and frozen food- economy sized (good for the meals) or single cans or boxes (used for food boxes).

## 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

My friend a faithful laborer  
amongst the homeless men  
Emily  
Becky, Dean and Lydia Baca  
Ann Slack  
Charles E. Fultz  
Harry Steffy  
Jennifer Salazar  
Martin & Gerard  
Manuel Campbell, Jr.  
Robert L. Luni, Sr.  
Willie & Julie Struck  
Rudy Castillo  
Josh and Toby  
J. Donald Brooks  
Johnny Von Witt

Rodolfo Marquez, Sr.  
Dorothy Van Bibber  
Holly Ann Anlian  
Joseph and Eileen Gilman  
Zulma Sepulveda  
Juanita Pacheco  
E. Rivera  
Mr. Harrison  
Jackie Gallegos  
MRL  
Cyril and Grace  
Mr. and Mrs. Pecastairz  
Jim Pecastairz  
Stephen Michael Joyce  
Samuel Frantz  
George Morey  
Bruce Eastman

Richard Schuller  
Erlindo Cordova  
Jean & Richard  
Sheree Ann Burger-Ganley  
Samuel Fratz

### Honorary Gifts

For what the Mission does for the homeless  
Carlos M. Sprunger  
St. Jude de Thaddeus  
Mr. Larry Leas  
Eugene Walters  
Sharon and Martha  
Mary Ellen Kindley  
All those who help others



### GET INVOLVED: GIVE

For more ways you can help the mission visit [www.abqrescue.org/donate](http://www.abqrescue.org/donate)