



RESCUE CHATTANOOGA

News from Chattanooga Rescue Mission

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www.chattanoogarescuemission.org

1512 S. Holtzclaw Ave., P.O. Box 3624, Chattanooga, TN 37404-0624



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I've been rescued . . . I've been forgiven . . . I've been set free

My name is Joyce. It was all despair for me . . . like I was living inside a dark, deep hole. Crack cocaine was my life. I'd alienated my children and my grandchildren. I was spiritually dead and a physical mess. I knew about Jesus and His love for me. But my addiction to crack took priority in my life. Cocaine was my real love for almost five years.

It's a terrible thing to lose the trust of those you love. Yet, all that time Jesus was tugging at my sleeve saying, *come on, Joyce, you've got to quit this lifestyle. Come back to me.* I heard his voice, but I still kept doing things my way — a way that kept destroying my life.

Jail is no longer my other home

Then God directed my steps to Chattanooga Rescue Mission. That was one of the best days of my life. No longer am I going in and out of jail. I'm clean and I've re-established my relationship with the God of my childhood. I've been rescued from drowning in my sorrow and pain. To be honest, I never thought I'd be sober again. For

the first time in a long time, my kids have their mama back . . . and my grandkids have grandma back in their lives. It's been a long time coming.

I finally feel like I'm worth something again. When I came through these doors, I was a zero on a scale of one to 10. Today I'm a 10 . . . and I'm enjoying every minute of my time at the Mission, where I'm learning how to live life God's way. Thank you for your part in my recovery. Your donations of time and money are making all the difference for me. God bless you!

Joyce



"I'm enjoying every minute of my time at the Mission, where I'm learning how to live life God's way."

Thank you for giving me a place to renew my relationship with Jesus.

An Encouraging Word from Dale Grisso

Dear Friend of Chattanooga Rescue Mission,

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, my heart is filled with words, thoughts and expressions of gratitude for your ongoing support of this ministry of rescue. You've read Joyce's testimony now . . . and you see how your investment in her life is already paying dividends. And she is just one of hundreds you are helping day after day.

If you were to ask our guests what they are most thankful for, they'd tell you they appreciate the good food, safe shelter, clean clothing and the opportunity to talk through issues in their lives that are dragging them down. They'll also tell you . . . *it's great to be able to trust someone again.* On the street there is little or no trust. The dark alleys, crack houses and abandoned buildings in our community are lonely places . . . and those who inhabit those areas are lonely people.

Lives are being transformed and renewed

That's why we don't judge our guests. We welcome every man and woman with open arms . . . with Christian compassion, and with the prayer that they recognize God loves them and has a plan for their lives. Thank you for your vital part in this work of rescue. Joyce said she was living in a dark, deep hole. But today the light of Christ's love is shining brightly in her heart — and on her face. At Chattanooga Rescue Mission, our single objective is to see lives changed, transformed and renewed through the power of a living God. God bless you for reaching out to so many who've lost their way.

Your servant to the needy,

Dale Grisso

Dale Grisso

Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries



"On the street there is little or no trust. The dark alleys, crack houses and abandoned buildings in our community are lonely places . . ."

The Life-Changer's Club



In all of its 37 years, the Chattanooga Rescue Mission has lived "hand to mouth;" that is, all monetary gifts go straight to our operating funds. With the tight economy, there hasn't been a surplus for quite a while. We would love to change that.

A dear friend of the Mission recently approached us about creating a CRM endowment fund. With this fund, supporters can contribute to the Mission in a way that goes beyond their regular support. In many cases, these gifts will cost them nothing. They can simply include CRM in their will, or designate that a portion of their estate be given to the Mission, along with vehicles, real estate or stocks. Another way is to name the Mission as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy. Or one might simply make a generous one-time gift above and beyond their regular gifts.

These extra funds would be put into a special interest-bearing account. That way, the gift, combined with others' gifts, grows into a large reserve. Having cash on hand could enable us to enter a building project or fund new staff positions without incurring debt — or it could provide emergency funds in case of a financial reversal.

Those who contribute to the Mission's long-term stability are indeed a special group of people. They will have the greatest impact on people's lives through the work of CRM, and we would like to honor them as members of our Life-Changer's Club. Please consider joining this elite group. Talk to your financial advisor about the best way to include the Mission in your long-term giving, then please let us know when you decide to do something special for CRM.

You have reached out to so many during the past months . . . and now we come to you again . . . on behalf of those in need of rescue

Oswald Chambers perhaps said it best: *The remarkable thing about fearing God is that when you fear God, you fear nothing else, whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else.* This is an enduring truth because God incarnate is the end of fear . . . and the heart that places a risen Lord at the center of his or her life will be quiet and serene in the midst of the storm.

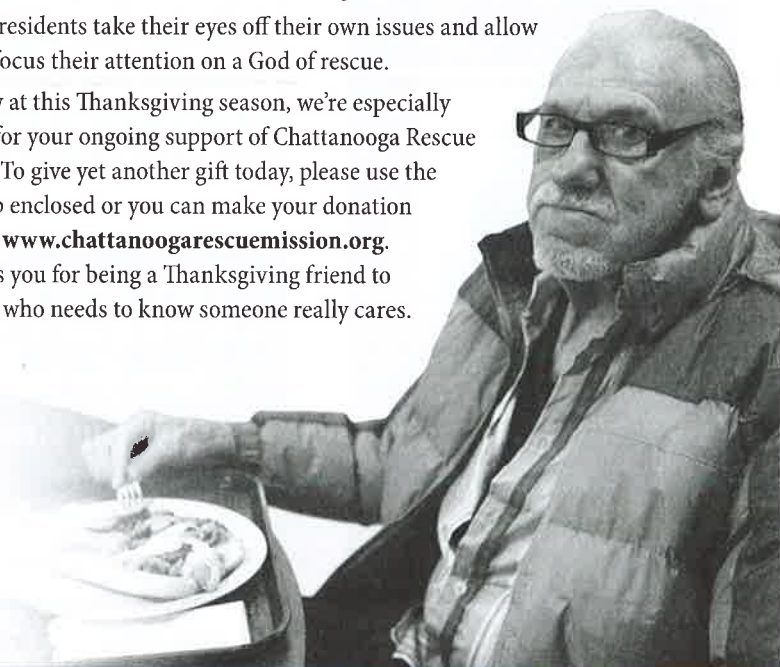
We all have fear. Anxiety. Apprehension. Demons that often perplex us. And it's no different for those who come through the doors of Chattanooga Rescue Mission. For many of our guests there is the fear of living on the street . . . of not knowing where their next meal will come from . . . a fear of the unknown . . . and a fear of never again **being known.**

The Mission relies on the compassion of a friend like you

That's why your compassionate response to those in need is so vital. You bring hope to joyless souls. You comfort those who have lost family and friends. With God as your strength, you

help our residents take their eyes off their own issues and allow them to focus their attention on a God of rescue.

Now at this Thanksgiving season, we're especially grateful for your ongoing support of Chattanooga Rescue Mission. To give yet another gift today, please use the remit slip enclosed or you can make your donation online at www.chattanoogarescuemission.org. God bless you for being a Thanksgiving friend to someone who needs to know someone really cares.



"We know that unless our residents place the power of a living, loving God at the center of their hearts, nothing will change."