

HANDS Across the Valley

S U M M E R 2 0 1 0

A Message from Darla Burkett

“Putting God’s Blessings to Work”

Dear Donor Name,

There’s an old saying that “actions speak louder than words.”

James says as much in his letter to the twelve tribes: “If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,’ and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? Even so faith, if it has no works is dead, being alone.” (James 2:15-17)

As Christians, we have the opportunity to influence others through our words and our deeds as well as our gifts. That is why the Mission welcomes volunteers as well as donors; why we need donations of clothing along with gifts to provide meals.

So please consider giving of your time and your talents as well as your treasure; especially during the summer when both donations and volunteers are often in short supply.

Blessings,



Darla Burkett
Executive Director

A Life Transformed!

When he moved to Palm Springs, David’s life was a great one! He was working in an art gallery being trained by the owner in three dimensional paper sculptures. “Whatever you could see in nature, I could reproduce out of paper.”

“I felt so privileged because the gallery owner trained me, showed me all the tricks of the trade. Then, when he died, he left me the gallery and all the equipment!”

David would have done well, but he started leading “a life of destruction.” “I was heavy into drugs, women and cars, everything ... just living a crazy lifestyle.”

That life led him to prison, and when he got out everything was gone. “I walked out of the gate with the clothes on my back and the shoes on my feet.”

“I had no idea CVRM even existed ... a parole officer recommend it.” Hesitant about what he would find here, but with nowhere else to turn, David came to the Mission. “It was awesome!”

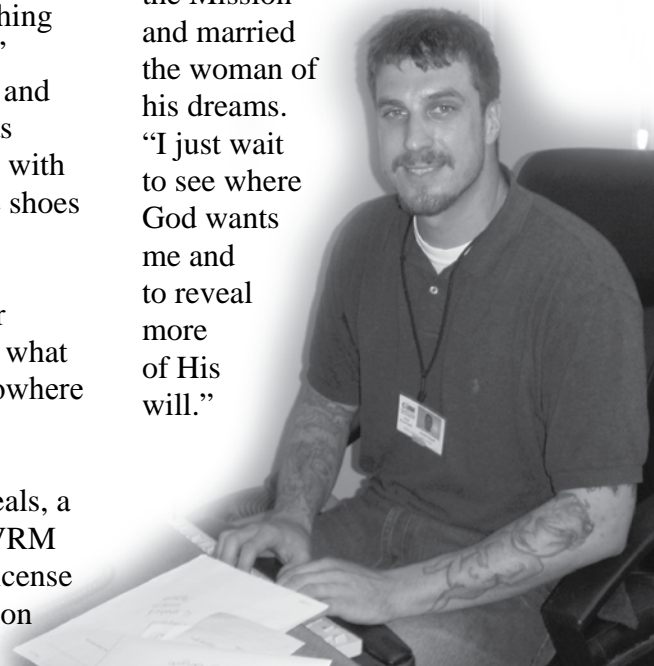
In addition to providing meals, a place to sleep and clothing, CVRM helped David get his driver’s license back. Then he started working on

his education. “I passed my GED and enrolled at College of the Desert.”

David has also started giving back, first by working around the Mission, then volunteering with the Special Olympics. “It was pretty cool to see the looks on the kids’ faces ... they were on top of the world.”

“They’ve helped me in so many ways.”

After graduating from our New Life Program, David was hired at the Mission and married the woman of his dreams. “I just wait to see where God wants me and to reveal more of His will.”



47518 Van Buren • PO Box 10660 • Indio, CA 92202-2564 • 760-347-3512 • www.CVRM.org

YES, I’ll help the Mission celebrate “Christmas in July.”



- \$XX.XX to help feed and care for X people
- \$XX.XX to help feed and care for X people
- \$XX.XX to help feed and care for X people
- \$_____ to help feed and care for as many as possible

I’ll also provide backpacks, school supplies and other vital services for homeless and at-risk children with my gift of:
\$_____

- Bill my credit card
- VISA MC AMEX DISC

CREDIT CARD # _____ CIV/SEC # _____

EXP. DATE _____ PHONE # _____

Donate online at www.CVRM.org, or call 760-347-3512.

Donor Name
Donor Address
Donor City, State Zip



Coachella Valley Rescue Mission
P.O. Box 10660
Indio, CA 92202-2564



Summer Needs

All Canned Goods
Meats
Hamburgers
Hotdogs
Bacon
Sausage
Butter
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Mac & Cheese
Hot Cereal
Cold Cereal
Cheese
Toilet Paper
Tooth Paste
Tooth Brushes
Deodorant
Razors
Shampoo
Soap
Laundry Soap
45 gal Trash bags

Donations can be dropped off at 47-518 Van Buren Street, Indio. Please call Linda Garland at **(760) 347-351, ext. 221** or visit www.CVRM.org for more information.

A Bountiful Easter

Thank you to all of our donors who helped make Easter Sunday a bountiful day. We started with a spectacular breakfast of



bacon, sausage, pancakes, eggs, and orange juice. A traditional Easter ham

dinner was served in the afternoon. In total, we served almost 700 meals to those who came to the Mission to find hot food, a friendly face, and a loving environment.

We also distributed over 1,000 Easter baskets filled with candy to



our littlest guests.

Most of us take these

amenities for granted but for our guests they are luxuries which they can not provide. Our generous donors make these things possible. You gave donations of food and finances, helped prepare and serve food, filled and donated hundreds of Easter baskets, and even planned parties for our clients and their children.

We are extremely grateful to all of you who participated in any way!

Capital Campaign Reaches \$5M

We are getting closer to our goal to build a new facility for CVRM across the street from the current facility. The Mission has been raising funds for the new facility for over a year. "At this point, through the grace of God we have exceeded \$5 million dollars!" said Greg Fisher, Development Director. We are getting closer to our goal each day and hope to break ground in the next few months.

Thank you for all your prayers and support to help the needy. Please

prayerfully consider making a capital campaign donation to help us get a shovel in the ground and move ahead with building new beginnings one life at a time.



For more information, visit www.CVRM.org or call Greg Fisher, Development Director, at **(760) 347-3512, ext. 239**.

Back-to-School Time is Here!

Back-to-School time has arrived! There are many kids in the Valley who return to school with



a worn-out backpack, beat-up shoes, hand-me-down clothes

and little hope for a successful school year.

Through the support of our

community members, we have been able to touch young lives through our Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway for the past 3 years.

Last year, with the help of the community, KDI Kares "Shoebox Heroes" and the National Charity League, we provided **3,234** backpacks and school supplies, 700 pairs of shoes, and 90 haircuts!

We expect to distribute **5,000**

backpacks and supplies this year!

Please help a child start the school year successfully, with excitement. Please consider buying some extra school supplies or a backpack and drop them off at CVRM. Contact Kitty Killian at **(760) 347-3512, ext. 232**, or kkillian@cvmr.org for more information. Thank you for your continued support!

Christmas in July?

Everyone loves Christmas! The celebration of our Lord's birth is a time of hope and joy when we also reach out to those who are less fortunate – sharing His blessings with neighbors who are alone, troubled or in need.

Christmas is also a time when those who support this ministry are most generous. In fact, over the holidays, we receive about 65% of our gifts for the entire year! We are

the best stewards we can be, but sometimes, by summer, we start to feel the pinch.



So even though the holidays are still many months away, I'd like to encourage you to share the joy and hope of the season – help us celebrate "Christmas in July" by providing the food, shelter and care many in this community so desperately need.

You can mail your Christmas in July gift in the enclosed envelope, or give online at www.CVRM.org.

Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway



It's so much more than just school supplies!

Last year, a record number of needy children received backpacks full of school supplies as a result of our Backpack Giveaway – 3,234 to be exact.

In addition, our partner, KDI Kares, collected and gave out over 700 pairs of new shoes. And hundreds of kids receive free haircuts thanks to a wonderful group of volunteer stylists.

But the best part of all was **the opportunity to connect with children and their families** and enable them to learn more about Mission programs that can make an immediate and eternal difference in their lives!

This year, we will need to fill more than 5,000 backpacks before August 31.



Here's how you can help:

- Purchase a NEW solid color backpack
- Fill it with supplies from the list on the back
- Drop the backpack off at the Mission before August 31

If you're short of time, send a gift today, and we'll buy and fill a backpack for you.

Use the enclosed gift form, or go online at www.CVRM.org.

Helping kids now can keep them out of trouble later on!



Thanks to you, he will get the tools he needs to succeed in school... and in life!



Lots of kids need our help.
We don't want to turn anyone away!

If you don't have time to buy and fill a backpack, send a gift to the Mission in the enclosed envelope and we'll buy and fill one for you! OR give a gift online at www.CVRM.org.

School Supplies

Shopping List

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2 folders | Index cards |
| Tissues | Box of 8 markers |
| Pencil sharpener | Box of 24 crayons |
| 2 glue sticks | Box of 12 or 24 colored pencils |
| Box of #2 pencils | 12" Ruler |
| Highlighters | Eraser |
| Pencil box | |
| Calculator | |