

A NEW DAWN



CVRM
Coachella Valley
Rescue Mission

EASTER 2016

Don't Miss

2 Let your light
shine!

2 Give a little.
Help a lot.

3 "Give God
a chance."

"It's the direction
God wants me to go!"

If you met Oliver today, you would see a man who's "grateful, excited and happy!" He's married to a lovely woman and is walking with the Lord, thanks to the support of his brothers and sisters here at the Mission.

But that wasn't always the case.

"Give God a chance."

That's what Oliver's mother used to tell him.

**Read on to discover how Oliver
left behind a tragic life of pain...**



A Message From Darla



Let your light shine!

Easter is a special reminder of just how good God is to us.

He gave His son to save us from sin.

He fills our lives with love, hope and the promise of life everlasting.

Through your work and sacrifice, you have made these blessings abundantly available to others here at Coachella Valley Rescue Mission!

You have brought hope into lives burdened by addictions. You have shown love for those who have been abandoned and abused. Your provision of food and shelter has made new lives possible for men, women and children in need.

Thank you for letting your light shine!

Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

Easter at the Mission



Sunday, March 27, more than 2,000 men, women and children will join us here at the Mission to celebrate Jesus' resurrection!

We need your help to get ready for this joyous day.

Easter Shopping List

As you shop for your Easter dinner, please consider picking up one or two extra items and donating them to the Mission.

Please bring donated food to the Mission, 47-470 Van Buren St., Indio.

Spiral sliced hams
Instant mashed potatoes
Butter
Canned vegetables
Powdered milk
Desserts (homemade or store-bought)
Coffee
Coffee creamer



National Day of Prayer Celebration at the Mission



Thursday, May 5, Pastors from the LOV Movement are sponsoring a National Day of Prayer Event on behalf of the Mission.

Arrive early at 6:30 a.m. and enjoy breakfast at the Mission. Then, stay for the program, which begins at 7 a.m. and ends at 8:30.

Give a little. Help a lot.



Easter Dinner just \$1.88

"Give God a chance."



"Mom worked for a law firm and my stepfather was a retired Marine master sergeant. During the Watts riots, she moved us to San Bernardino to **get away from the gangs and the violence.**"

Oliver wanted to follow in his mother's footsteps and study law. But the violence followed him from L.A. When Oliver's step-dad hit his mom, Oliver retaliated.

Defending his mom landed him in jail, and once he'd served his time, Oliver's dad took him back to L.A. where he finished high school and began taking classes at Patten University. "I wanted to finish school because I always knew that education was important if I wanted to succeed in life."

Oliver wanted to succeed, but **things didn't turn out quite the way he'd planned.** "I had PTSD from when I was incarcerated."

The life Oliver had been living had taken its toll on

him, and more than half his life had been spent lost and with no direction.

An addiction to drugs put him into a treatment program here in the desert, and that led him to the Mission. "God has always had His hand on me," Oliver says.

Mission staff welcomed Oliver with open arms. "They showed me love...they said, 'Just give God a chance and stay focused.'"

Today, Oliver is part of our staff, loving and caring for others.

"When I see those who are displaced and who come in from a life of pain, it just makes me strive to help even more. My morning starts off with asking my Father to give me the strength to be a good man, shaping me to be a good husband, a good servant and a good employee for the Mission. **Now, I'm getting my priorities straight!**"



You're invited
**Join us for
a very
special day!**

The first New Life & Gateway graduation of 2016 will be held at the Mission on Thursday, March 24.

Join staff and families as we celebrate the accomplishments of over 50 men and women as they graduate from our Gateway and New Life Programs.

You are welcome to stay for a reception immediately following the ceremony, with lunch provided by Mission Catering.

900+ Easter Baskets!

Last Easter, more than 900 children came to the Mission with their mothers and fathers to join our Easter celebration, and each one received an Easter basket.

This year, we're expecting an even larger crowd and we need your help to make sure each and every child has a basket with their name on it!

A typical basket should contain:

- ☀ Chocolate
- ☀ Other candies such as jelly beans or eggs
- ☀ A small toy or stuffed animal

What a great project for your family, or civic, school or church group.

Easter baskets filled with goodies should be delivered to the Mission before Wednesday, March 23. For more information, please call **(760) 347-3512.**



45th Anniversary Gala

You are cordially invited to join us for a memorable evening of elegance, fine food, and great entertainment as we celebrate Coachella Valley Rescue Mission's four and a half decades of feeding those who are hungry, providing shelter for those who are homeless and offering programs that return men and women to their families and our community.

When: Wednesday, March 9

Where: Indian Wells Resort Hotel

What: A magical evening including a silent auction, dinner, music and entertainment by the incomparable Frank DiSalvo, plus some very special guests

Reserve a table and bring your friends. For reservations, please call **(760) 347-3512 x 239**. See you there!

Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

Celebrating 45 years of caring for Coachella Valley's neediest men, women & children

In 1971, a group of concerned businessmen and churches came together to form the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. Assisted by the Union Rescue Mission of Los Angeles which provided seed money, a property on Van Buren in what was then known as the Carver Tract was purchased.

The original soup kitchen and overnight shelter served the growing homeless and migrant worker population in Coachella Valley. To meet increasing needs, a men's dorm and shower facilities were soon added to the meeting hall, kitchen and dining room.

Next, an explosive growth in the number of homeless women and families spurred the Mission to purchase an adjacent club called the "Hot Spot," which was then remodeled and became the Women and Families Shelter. At the same time, the Mission added a new dining room, kitchen, walk-in cooler and freezer, and the second story administration and program offices.

"Packed like sardines" was the



only apt description of the 1930's buildings – inside of just 9,000 square feet, 31 women and children (with some families doubling up in single rooms), 50 men and up to 25 additional people each night found food, shelter and care.

Mission Executive Director Darla Burkett describes the original buildings as "busting at the seams and falling apart." Then, a vision for the future began to form.

Next: Building New Beginnings

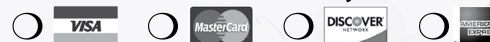


Yes, I'll help provide food, shelter and other life-saving care with my Easter gift:

- ☐ \$20.68 to feed and care for 11 people
- ☐ \$50.76 to feed and care for 27 people
- ☐ \$75.20 to feed and care for 40 people
- ☐ \$ _____ to help as much as possible

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY / STATE / ZIP _____
 E-MAIL _____

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Bill my credit card



CREDIT CARD #

CIV/SEC #

EXP. DATE

PHONE #

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

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

