

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



CVRM
Coachella Valley
Rescue Mission

HOLIDAY 2016

Don't Miss

2

A Message from
Darla Burkett

2

33,500 meals by
December 25

4

The Perfect Gift?



Eva

was concerned for her and
her daughter's well-being.

**LUCKILY, SHE KNEW
THAT THE MISSION
WOULD TAKE THEM
BOTH IN...**



A Message from Darla

“Let there be joy!”

Caroling angels. Christmas pageants. Celebrations around the world.

Christmas is truly a miraculous time. It's a time to share love. A time to raise hopes. A time to be joyful!

And that's exactly what makes it **a very difficult time** for the men, women and children who make their home with us here at the Mission.

Many are apart from their families, separated from spouses and children. Most would tell you they have very little to celebrate.

It is your gifts that **make Christmas the very best day possible** for them.

Special meals. Decorations. Small gifts. And above all, a celebration of that very first Christmas...a reminder for them – and for all of us – that miracles do happen and prayers are answered!

This then is my Christmas wish for all who join us here at the Mission during the holidays, and for you and those who are near and dear: **Let there be joy!**



Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

CONNECT WITH US!



CVRM.org



That's our goal this holiday season.

Each meal you sponsor today is so much more than a plate of food.

It's a chance for you to help change a life.

To end hunger. To end homelessness.

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Make your gift online at **CVRM.org**.

Or use the enclosed reply card and envelope.

Thank you for sharing your blessings and your bounty!

“CVRM is very grateful to the City of Indio for awarding the Mission **2016 Non-Profit of the Year**. This award follows CVRM being awarded 2015 Non-Profit of the Year from Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce.”



Women & Children's Programs

"A new life together"

One day, after years of abuse and addiction, Eva had a tough choice to make: stay trapped in a dangerous and painful situation, or make drastic changes.

"It wasn't always so bad," explains Eva. "My husband and I had three daughters and a successful marriage at first."

Fifteen years down the road, Eva realized she was caught in a life of drugs and suffering.

"I felt very broken and I wasn't okay in my own skin anymore," she says. Eva moved out with her kids, and found a steady job. Within seven years of being sober, she was able to establish herself as a manager with 35 employees under her.

Then out of nowhere, Eva found herself and her daughter, Sahrah, in a

scary situation with her husband once again. The abuse and addiction had returned.

One day, it became worse than she could imagine. Her husband

"I told my daughter, 'We are not going back to that life anymore.'"

sabotaged her car and attacked her, with even more serious threats. In an instant, she and thirteen-year-old Sahrah fled with just a few clothes to

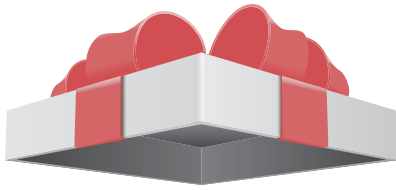
their name.

Eva and Sahrah drove on a prayer to the Mission, where Eva joined our New Life Program and began piecing her and her daughter's lives back together.

Now, Sahrah is attending school and finding support from other girls at the Mission, while Eva continues to learn how to be a present mother and reenter the workforce with confidence, skills and sobriety.

Eva and Sahrah are grateful to the Mission for so much: providing necessities, offering counseling and Godly guidance, and allowing them to stay together during this transformation.

"So much has been given to use freely," Eva says. "We only hope to give back for all these blessings."



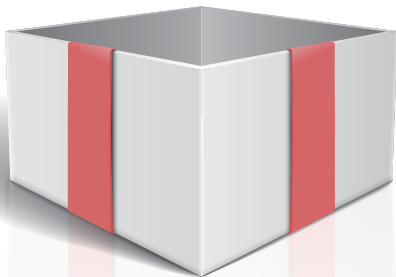
The perfect gift? Look no further!

For homeless people in our community, Christmas is a season of lonely days and cold nights. Your Christmas Gift means food, shelter and the basic services that provide hope for happier days and nights ahead.

It's easy:

1. Choose a gift.
2. Add it to your reply card.

Or visit our Christmas Gift Catalog online at CVRM.org/GiftCatalog.



Meals – \$25

A hot, nourishing meal at the Mission may be their only meal of the day.



Warm clothing – \$35

New clothing – especially undershirts, shorts and socks – is a step on the journey to recovery.



Healing in our recovery program – \$100

True change requires more than food and shelter. Our New Life Program gives people the classes, training and encouragement to transform their lives – and a chance to encounter God's love too.

Safe shelter – \$50

Even in our desert climate, many people suffer through the night without any kind of shelter or even a blanket during the coldest months of the year. Give a man, woman, or child safe shelter, warm blankets and the chance to finally rest.

These Christmas gifts are representative of the needs of people served by Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. Donations may be used to support the area of ministry where the need is greatest.