

A NEW DAWN

CVRM
Coachella Valley
Rescue Mission

SUMMER2017

Don't Miss

2 The Greatest
Challenge

3 "The Mission gave
me a new life."

4 Match it by May 31!

BRIANNA'S CHALLENGE:

finding LOVE and guidance

Brianna grew up without the stability, affection, or support of a family. She longed for someone to believe in her so she could believe in herself.

Your gifts meet the
greatest challenge:
**inspiring new hope
in hurting lives**





***“The Mission gave me
a new life.”***

Brianna was born into chaos.

“My parents struggled with providing a stable household, and chaos became homelessness,” she says.

She went into foster care when she was nine, but kept running away. “I felt lost and lonely. I had no guidance,” she says. “I was looking for the love and affection that comes with being wanted.”

When Brianna aged out of foster care at 24, she and her three children had nowhere to go. **“We were out in the streets, so my kids got taken from me.”**

It was then Brianna came to our New Life Program and met Jesus Christ. “I was in church and I saw people who had nothing, but they were happy and praising God. I wanted what they had, so I began

to pray and I got to know Him,” she says. “Since then, there’s been a 360-degree turnaround in me.”

Brianna’s newfound faith helped her through the anxiety of being separated from her children.

“They’ve helped me become a better mom, a better friend, and a better person.”

“I learned to trust in the Lord and believe that He was going to take care of everything,” she says, smiling. **“And He did.** I got my kids back. They’re happy and healthy and they love it here.”

Meanwhile, through the program’s staff, structure, and discipline, Brianna has found the love and guidance that

she’d been looking for all her life. “They changed my outlook on life,” she says.

Brianna now has a job and a car, and is about to move with her children into their own place. “The Mission gave me a new life,” she says.

“They put their hand out and I took it. **They believed in me and that made me believe in myself.**”

WITH YOUR HELP, Brianna and others like her are finding that God’s hope and healing are for everyone, regardless of their past or circumstances. Thank you for your generous support!

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE

How do you challenge yourself?

Maybe you're a golfer who's always pushing yourself to lower your score. Maybe you've even competed in a tournament like our Annual Charity Golf Tournament!

Or maybe you've been challenged by family, friends or a pastor to open your heart to someone who's very different than you... or to live out God's love in new and powerful ways.

Right now, we're in the middle of a challenge from wonderful friends of the Mission to match their generous \$20,000 gift with an additional \$20,000.

But our greatest challenge is a daily one: inspiring new hope in the lives of people struggling with an addiction or abuse, unemployment or homelessness, hunger or hopelessness.

In this issue's cover story, you'll hear Brianna's testimony about how being part of our New Life Program has transformed her life.

Her story is powerful because of you. You understand the challenges our neighbors in need face, and we're grateful you share the truly life-changing gifts of meals, shelter and care.

We can meet the challenge of caring for our community's hurting because of you and your faithful support. Thank you for giving to bring new hope to countless lives forever.



Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

8TH ANNUAL

BACKPACK DRIVE

Imagine children starting school this fall without the supplies they need. No pens or pencils. No backpack to carry their books.

This is an all-too-real situation for thousands of kids from low-income families across the Coachella Valley.

Now, imagine the look on those children's faces when they receive backpacks filled with everything they need for a successful school year.

Our annual backpack drive has made this a happy reality in years past so we're doing it again! Our goal this year is to fill at least 2,500 backpacks and you can help. Here's how:

- Purchase supplies from the shopping list
- Drop the supplies off at the Mission before August 10

If you're short on time, send a gift in the enclosed envelope and we'll buy and fill a backpack for you. Remember, because of the **Matching Challenge**, if you make your cash donation before May 31, your gift will have **double the impact!**

Backpack Drive: The Shopping List

- Backpacks
- Art Pads
- Pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Pencil Holders
- School Glue
- Blue/Black Pens
- Protractors
- Notebook Paper
- Safety Scissors
- Spiral Notebooks
- Dictionaries
- 3-Ring Notebooks
- K-3 Writing Tablet
- Highlighters
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Subject Dividers
- Calculators
- 12" Rulers
- Colored Pencils
- Felt-Tip Markers
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Hole Punch
- Pocket Portfolios

For a printable copy of the list, please visit CVRM.org/backpack.





MATCH IT BY MAY 31!



Right now, because of a generous Matching Challenge, every gift you give will have **double the impact for those in need.**

Or as we like to say,

1 + 1 = TWO!

\$50 → \$100

\$100 → \$200

\$150 → \$300

That's how \$20,000 becomes \$40,000 when you give today!



By giving, you'll provide hot meals for a hungry child... safe shelter for a homeless woman... counsel for a man battling addiction... care for a family who has suffered abuse... and training to help men and women prepare for employment.



This Matching Challenge ends May 31— so don't wait. Help turn \$20,000 into \$40,000 and double your impact by responding now.

GIVE *where you* LIVE
97-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN



75,000
meals



21,250
nights of shelter

VISIT US ONLINE to learn more about our outreach, read stories of hope & securely donate anytime!

CVRM.org

