

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

# A NEW DAWN



Summer 2018

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Darla Burkett

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anymore."

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Backpack Drive

## A God-Sized Challenge

Tinyee was searching for a  
light at the end of the tunnel.

BECAUSE OF YOU, CHALLENGES BECOME  
CHANGED LIVES THROUGH GOD'S LOVE.



# "I'm not scared anymore."

Tinyee lived every day in fear of her boyfriend, the beatings he gave her, the emotional abuse, and his drug addiction that was robbing their son of a home and a future. "He spent all our money on narcotics, so we never had a stable home," she says. "We moved from place to place and panhandled."

Tinyee was with him for six years, afraid to stay, but unable to muster the courage to leave. **"I was scared and that kept me bound,"** she says. "Fear controlled my mind."

But when their son was almost three – old enough to remember the homelessness and abuse – Tinyee's maternal instinct overcame her fear.

## "I knew I had to get out."

She went to a domestic violence shelter and they referred her to the Mission, where she and her son found refuge and hope. "When I was out there in the world, I read my Bible and I always had faith that God was going to bring us out, deliver us," she says. "He brought me here, and the Gateway Program has changed my life dramatically. **I'm on a positive path, I'm praying and I'm encouraging people in the Lord.**"

Tinyee has completed the program and is about to move with her son into their own place – the first permanent home he's ever known. "When we were moving a lot, I'd tell him each place was our temporary home until we found a permanent one. Now we have!"

After they move, she'll be looking for work, and she plans on going back to school to learn medical billing. "I'm not scared to move forward anymore. **Now I have faith that I can do this.**"

**Because of your generous support, women like Tinyee are facing their challenges and being transformed by God's love here at the Mission.** "He's working on me and through me. It's nobody but God. I'm very thankful."



**VISIT US ONLINE** to read stories of lives you've touched, get involved & securely donate anytime.

[CVRM.org](http://CVRM.org)

Let's be friends!







A MESSAGE FROM DARLA BURKETT

## A TIMELESS CHALLENGE

When we first opened our doors in 1971, the gifts of generous friends made it possible to serve 100 meals each day to the Coachella Valley's homeless and hungry.

Today, your gifts make it possible to serve nearly 950 meals daily, in addition to

providing shelter, clothing, counseling, job training, and more services and programs than our founders ever imagined.

**Yet more local people find themselves in need – and that's the challenge we face each day.** Feeding them. Sheltering them. Caring for their immediate and long-term needs. Sharing God's love with them.

Here's a great way to help them right now: Some wonderful friends of the Mission are challenging you to match their generous \$20,000 gift with an additional \$20,000. That means this entire month, your gift will have double the impact!

I hope when you read Tinyee's story (*on page 3*), you'll see how tremendously her life has been changed by gifts like yours. **Now just imagine doubling that impact to touch the lives of others who are hurting and homeless.**

Coachella Valley Rescue Mission has always existed to help people facing huge challenges in their lives. I thank you for your faithful support and pray you'll continue to provide help and hope for those who come here – today, tomorrow and beyond.

Darla Burkett  
Executive Director



## SHARE YOUR SUNSHINE!

97-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Sunny summer days are here... but many in our community are experiencing dark and troubled times.

**This Memorial Day, our 97-day Summer Campaign to care for our community's homeless and hungry begins.**



## Your Invitation

Schedule a tour of the Mission... see the impact of your gifts!

Contact Scott Wolf

☎ (760) 347-3512, ext. 239

✉ [swolf@cvmr.org](mailto:swolf@cvmr.org)

Please RSVP!

## YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK MAY 2018



**26,700**  
meals served



**7,580**  
nights of shelter



**250**  
men & women in  
our recovery  
programs



**4,500**  
Chapel  
attendances



**2,080**  
hours of education  
& counseling

**THANK YOU**  
FOR CHANGING LIVES  
WITH YOUR GENEROSITY

## YOUR GIFT TODAY...

\$50



## HAS TWICE THE IMPACT!

\$100



\$100

\$200



\$150

\$300

Give your most generous gift to match the \$20,000 challenge grant from a group of generous partners... for a total of \$40,000 to feed and shelter our community's homeless.



Give now using the enclosed reply card + envelope.



Give securely online at **CVRM.org**.

## DEADLINE TO GIVE: MAY 31

## Thank you for helping to meet this tremendous challenge!

## 9th Annual BACKPACK DRIVE

Do you remember the excitement of shopping with your mom each fall to buy school supplies? How good it felt on the first day of school to reach into your brand new backpack for a fresh notebook, pencil and eraser?

Now imagine reaching for that backpack and realizing you don't have one. No paper. No pens. No supplies at all. This is the reality for thousands of children in our Valley each school year.

But you have the opportunity to help change that reality by donating to our annual backpack drive!

This year, our goal is to fill at least 2,500 backpacks with everything children need for a successful school year. But we can't do it without you! Here's how you can help:

- Purchase supplies from the shopping list and drop them off at the Mission before August 10.
- Or, 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
- Pencils
- Pencil Holders
- Blue/Black Pens
- Notebook Paper

- Spiral Notebooks
- 3-Ring Notebooks
- K-3 Writing Tablets
- Highlighters
- Pencil Sharpeners

- Subject Dividers
- Calculators
- 12" Rulers
- Colored Pencils
- Felt-Tip Markers

- Crayons
- Erasers
- Hole Punch
- Pocket Portfolios
- Art Pads

- Glue Sticks
- School Glue
- Protractors
- Safety Scissors
- Dictionaries



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