

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



Fall 2018

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**"I was in a deep,
dark hole.
I felt like
I was nothing."**

Today, Lynna is on a path to a new beginning — and her heart is filled with gratitude for friends like you who are making her journey possible.

You'll be moved by her story, on Page 3.



“The Mission has made me the woman God intended.”

When Lynna’s six-year-old nephew died in a dirt bike accident, her heart was broken, but she didn’t process her own grief. Instead, she turned her full attention to comforting others. “My sister was devastated,” she says. **“I was taking care of everybody else and I forgot to take care of me.”**

She began getting terrible headaches and took a Vicodin from an old prescription bottle in the medicine cabinet. “It helped me deal with my emotional pain,” she says. **“After that, when anything bad would happen in my life, I ran for the drugs to help me hide.”**

For nearly 30 years, Lynna struggled with her addiction, getting clean and relapsing—a “vicious circle” which destroyed her relationships, cost her jobs, and claimed her sense of self-worth.

“Somewhere down the road, I lost myself.”

She’d been caring for her mother for three years when she relapsed the last time. “I confessed to my mom and sister, and they kicked me out,” she says. “This time, not only did I hit rock bottom, but I got buried in the rocks.”

Friends from church had told Lynna good things about our New Life Program and she decided it was for her. Through our Bible studies, chapel and Christian counseling, her relationship with the Lord has flourished. “He’s filled me with His love and teachings,” she says. **“I’ve never had a relationship with Jesus like I have today and I’m getting closer and closer to Him.”**

Through Christ-centered grief and forgiveness classes, Lynna has healed emotionally, as well. “I was in a deep, dark hole. I felt like I was nothing,” she says. “God pulled me right out of that hole.”

Lynna has graduated the program, is reunited with her family in Nevada and is very involved with her church. **“God made a way for me to start all over at 58 and I’m feeling blessed,”** she says. “I want to give back.”

She’s a woman with a heart of gratitude for friends like you who have made her journey possible. Thank you for your continued generosity.





Your kindness fills hearts with Thanksgiving

Those we care for at the Mission face a litany of challenges. Like Lynna, who you'll read about on Page 3, each story of heartbreak and tragedy is personal and unique.

Yet all of our guests share one thing in common: **deep gratitude for friends like you who are providing a pathway to hope and healing.**

From the essentials of food and shelter to our Gateway and New Life programs of recovery and practical training, your generosity lays the financial foundation for our faith-based outreach. Sharing the love of God is at the center of all we do, and we know true and permanent life change is only possible when men and women have invited Him into their hearts.

With you alongside us, **we have the amazing opportunity to accompany homeless and hurting individuals – whom God loves deeply – on their journeys to restoration.**

The Thanksgiving season offers a special opportunity for everyone on our staff – and each man, woman and child in our care – to reflect on the many blessings of your kind compassion. With a heart of gratitude, I pray you'll continue to share your time, talent, gifts and prayers to uplift our neighbors in need.

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

God bless you for being generous.



Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.



Give online, anytime, at
CVRM.org.

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2018 ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

With Grateful Hearts...

As you give thanks for your blessings this Thanksgiving, those in our care will be giving thanks too – for you and for the gifts of comfort, compassion and life-changing opportunity you so generously provide for them.

This Thanksgiving Season Alone...



81,000
Hot Meals



22,500
Safe Beds



1,000+
Food Boxes



**Thousands
of hours**
of Training,
Counseling & Prayer

Please continue your heartfelt support with a gift to our 2018 Thanksgiving Campaign. Because you care, your neighbors in need can overcome their challenges and embrace a new beginning.

TEE OFF to Transform Lives!

The Mission invites individual golfers and teams of four to *play for a purpose* at our **16th Annual Charity Golf Tournament**, Monday, January 21, 2019, at the Classic Club in Palm Desert!

Check-in and festivities begin at 7 a.m. and include a continental breakfast, practice range, 18 holes of golf and a full lunch – plus a raffle, auction and special prizes! Register today to secure your spot, or at 7 a.m. the day of. Entry fee per golfer is \$175; sponsorship packages available. For more information or to register, please call **(760) 347-3512, ext. 239**.

Proceeds from the event will provide care for even more Mission guests seeking our help to transform their lives!



Add Our Shopping List to Yours

81,000!

That's how many meals we'll serve this Thanksgiving season, and we need your help to do it. As you do your holiday shopping, please pick up these items for the Mission as well!

Then deliver your donations to
47-470 Van Buren St., Indio,
any day of the week.

Turkeys
Canned Vegetables
Butter & Margarine
Powdered Drink Mixes
Condiments & Spices



It costs only **\$1.88** to provide
one meal for a hungry
person.