

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



CVRM
Coachella Valley
Rescue Mission

Holiday 2018

Don't Miss

2 How Your Gifts
Bring Joy

3 "I'm on the
right path."

4 Annual
Toy Drive!

“
From
Struggle
to
Strength
”

Your gifts bring *joy* to hurting
people like Melanie at Christmas
and all year round.

*On Page 3: Read how your partnership and
prayers changed the life of this homeless
and heartbroken woman!*



“The Mission gave me the *tools* to *change*.”



Melanie had been a social drinker for many years, but when her eight-year marriage fell apart, she began abusing alcohol to numb the pain of her broken heart... and wound up losing much more. ***“I damaged the relationships that were most important to me... those with my daughters,”*** she says. ***“And I lost my faith in God.”***

Eventually, Melanie was fired from her job and evicted from her home. “A friend recommended I come to the Mission for a place to stay and help with my addiction,” she says.

“

Coming here opened my eyes to what my life had become.

”

Melanie entered our Gateway Program and, through AA meetings and life skills classes, she developed healthy ways to process her pain. ***“I learned how to get through life without depending on alcohol,”*** she says.

As a result, her relationship with her daughters has now been restored. They talk regularly and the girls have even come to the Mission for dinner. “Our relationship is growing stronger all the time,” Melanie says.

Her relationship with the Lord has grown stronger, as well. “My faith is slowly starting to rebuild,” she says. ***“I now know God has a purpose for me.”***

Through the program, Melanie also received vocational skills training in our kitchen. “We prepared and served breakfast, lunch and dinner and I assisted our manager with catering. She helped me develop a lot of skills I didn’t have before,” she says.

Melanie’s new skills helped her land a job in restaurant management and save enough money to move into her own place. This Christmas, as she celebrates Christ’s birth with her daughters in her new home, she’ll also celebrate the joyous new life she found inside our doors... because of your compassion. ***“The Mission gave me the tools to get back on my feet and the opportunity to change. Now, I’m on the right path.”***



Your gifts
bring *joy*
to
hurting people.

Your generous contributions are not only blessings in themselves, but they're multiplied exponentially by the countless gifts they allow the Mission to share with those who are hungry, hurting and homeless.

The food, shelter and clothing we provide are gifts that fulfill the most basic human needs. Guidance, education and job training are gifts too – and when accepted with commitment and dedication, they can lead to lives filled with promise and purpose.

Yet the greatest gift we offer inside our doors is the message of God's love and grace, which can transform lives for eternity!

This issue of *A New Dawn* is all about sharing gifts – a subject that's especially appropriate during the holiday season as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth. Yet God's work, the Mission's outreach and our partnership with friends like you is focused on giving all year long!

Of course, none of our ministries would be possible without the gifts you first give to us. And I'm so very grateful for your selfless giving, which brings joy to our hurting guests at Christmas and every day of the year. God bless you this holiday season and always.

Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

P.S. Once again we'll be holding our Christmas gift-wrapping party and our annual Toy Giveaway, and we need volunteers and donations of toys. If you can help, please contact Desire' Tegge at **(760) 347-3512, ext. 221.**

end**HUNGER...** offer**H****PE**

35,000 MEALS BY
CHRISTMAS

A single nutritious meal is often the first step toward a new beginning for those who are hungry, homeless and struggling with life's challenges. Most importantly, *it's an opportunity to share God's love – the greatest gift you can give!*

It costs only \$1.88 to provide one meal for a hungry person, at the holidays and all year round!

✉ GIVE NOW using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

💻 GIVE ONLINE anytime at **CVRM.org**

Discover
what's happening
at the
holidays!

CVRM.org



DECEMBER

31

THE *Blessings* OF YEAR-END GIVING

Many Mission partners choose to make an extra financial gift by December 31 to maximize their tax deduction for the current calendar year, while helping the Mission assist those in need well into the year ahead. Your generosity will touch countless lives!

💻 Give online at **CVRM.org.**

✉ Add your special holiday gift to the reply card and send it today!

Brighten a Child's Christmas *Through Our Annual Toy Drive!*

Imagine you're a parent unable to provide a gift for your child this Christmas. Now imagine what it would mean if your child were invited to a Christmas party complete with gifts, candy and Santa and Mrs. Claus in attendance.

That's just what we have planned!

Through our **Annual Toy Giveaway**, we'll distribute some 15,000 gifts to more than 5,000 children in need in the Coachella Valley. But we need your help to make the event a success. Will you donate a new unwrapped toy for a boy or girl from infant to pre-teen?

Join us Wednesday, December 19 at 7 a.m. at the Mission, and share in the joy as we bless children in need in the name of Jesus.

For more information, to volunteer or to organize a toy drop box at your church, business or club, contact Desire' Tegge at
☎ (760) 347-3512, ext. 221 or
✉ dtegge@cvmr.org.

Donations may be dropped off at the Mission, 47-470 Van Buren Street, Indio, or in one of our drop box locations before December 18. For a list of drop box locations, go to **CVRM.org** and click on "Events."



Select the perfect gift with **#GIVINGTUESDAY™**

Make your **#GivingTuesday** gift now by shopping our Christmas Gift Catalog. It's full of ways to bring the joy of help and hope to people like Melanie (See Page 3).



\$25
provides
nourishing
meals



\$50
provides
safe shelter



\$100
provides
education
and training

🖨 Shop online at **CVRM.org/GiftCatalog**.

✉ Or, add your special holiday gift to the enclosed reply card.

These Christmas gifts are representative of the needs of those we serve. Donations may be used to support the area of our ministry with the greatest need.