

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

# A NEW DAWN



Holiday 2019

Don't miss...

2 Your Gifts Fill Hearts  
With **Joy!**

3 "I used to believe  
I was nothing."

4 Annual Toy  
Drive

*Because of you...*

**"MY STORY HAS A  
NEW BEGINNING!"**

Your gifts bring **JOY** to people like Misty at  
Christmas and all through the year!



# “I used to believe I was nothing. But now I know I’m a worthy woman of God.”



Misty grew up trying to please her alcoholic father. “He always told me I was weak and tried to toughen me up with verbal abuse,” she says. “I was scared of him, but I also respected him, so I never disobeyed.”

When she was 19, Misty married a man she didn’t love just to please her father. “I was a good wife, but my husband was physically and verbally abusive. He always told me how stupid I was, that I couldn’t do anything right.”

She stayed with him for the sake of their children, but the years of abuse took a heavy toll on her self-esteem. “My thoughts about myself were so awful,” she says. “I didn’t want to deal with my problems, so I started to numb the pain.”

She kept her drug use hidden from her children, but she couldn’t bear to live a lie. She knew her husband wouldn’t hurt them, so after 13 years of marriage, Misty left the children in his care and went to seek help.

It was then she entered our New Life Program, where Bible studies, chapel services and Christian mentoring strengthened her relationship with the Lord. “I’d always had faith, but since coming here, I’m much closer with God,” she says.

## “Now I have peace inside.”

Through our life-skills classes, Misty has also developed effective coping skills, learned about healthy relationships, and forgiven those who hurt her. “Now I’m confident and happy.”

Misty plans to graduate from the program, get her own place where her children can stay, and go to nursing school. “Now I can be a good mom and role model for them. They deserve that.”

*This Christmas, because of your compassion and God’s love, Misty’s story has a new beginning. Through the gift of Christ’s birth, her future is filled with joy and meaning.* “I used to believe I was nothing. But now I know I’m a worthy woman of God and He loves me.”



A MESSAGE FROM  
DARLA BURKETT



Your Gifts  
Fill Hearts  
With *Joy!*

The “Christmas story” isn’t fiction, fable or fairytale. It’s God’s reassuring Truth!

Christ was born to bring hope to a troubled world and healing to broken souls.

That’s the joy-filled message we’re honored to share with our clients at Christmas, and remain faithful to every day of the year.

Jesus’ birth begins a new story for all of humankind. But for a new story to begin, an old one often must end. Through the Christ-centered care your generosity provides, we help individuals close chapters of loneliness, pain and tragedy in their lives and ask the Lord to be the author of their futures. I invite you to partner with us in the coming weeks to provide gifts of food, shelter and life-restoring guidance, as we celebrate the joyous new beginnings the season brings.

The redemptive story of Christmas continues today, each time friends like you reach out with compassion to those who are homeless, addicted and downtrodden.

Thank you for keeping the story of Christ’s birth alive – and filling hearts with the joy of Christmas – every day of the year.

May God bless you and yours this holiday season and into the New Year.

*Darla Burkett*

Darla Burkett  
Executive Director



**Give a Meal... Change a Life**  
40,000 meals by Christmas!

A plate of hot, wholesome food can change someone’s story from struggle to strength... from heartbreak to hope... from despair to joy. With each meal you give, you offer so much more:

- Safe shelter and clean clothing
- Life skills classes and practical guidance
- The message of God’s life-changing love



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

**Please Send Your Gift Today!**



✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

📄 Give online anytime at **CVRM.org**.



December 3 is  
**#GIVING  
TUESDAY**



Now in its eighth year, **Giving Tuesday** unites compassionate friends and partners in caring for their neighbors and communities. On this special day of generosity and kindness, your gift will bring life essentials and life-changing guidance to those in our care at Coachella Valley Rescue Mission!

**No Need to Wait Until December 3...  
Send Your Gift Today!**

📄 Give online at **CVRM.org**.

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

# Year-End Giving Ensures Ongoing Blessings



Your generous year-end gift to Coachella Valley Rescue Mission helps ensure we can bless our homeless clients with vital assistance and life-changing guidance well into the months ahead. Your gift may be tax-deductible for the current year if made by December 31!

- ✉ Give online at **CVRM.org**.
- 📧 Add your special holiday gift to the reply card and send it today.

## **Bless a child through our** ..... ..... **Annual Toy Drive!**

It's Christmas morning. You watch your children look in their stockings and under the tree to see what Santa brought. You share in their joy and excitement as they open their gifts. It's a magical time.

But for many families in need in the Coachella Valley, Christmas morning will look quite different. There won't be any stockings filled with candy or presents waiting under the tree. Parents will watch their children go without.

**What if we could help give these families a joy-filled Christmas?**

That's just what we're going to do through our **Annual Toy Giveaway** on December 20 at the Mission. It'll be a Christmas party to remember as we distribute some 15,000 gifts to more than 5,000 children in need! There'll be candy, and Santa and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance.

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?

Then come join in the magic 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@CVRM.org](mailto:dtegge@CVRM.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 16.*

*For a list of drop box locations, go to **CVRM.org** and click on "Current Events."*

