

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



Easter 2020

Don't miss...

2 Steve came in for a meal...

3 "Now I see the light."

4 Easter Needs

Meet *Mary*
She can't thank
YOU enough!

Because of you, Mary's heart is filled with new hope this Easter.





“ALL I SAW WAS DARKNESS, BUT NOW I SEE THE **LIGHT**.”

Mary lay on her bed, listening to the chaos in the other room, fearing for the safety of her unborn child. “We were staying with my boyfriend’s dad and it was a drug-abusing home,” she says. “I was the only one who wasn’t using. I was scared so I stayed in my room.”

She’d had her own struggle with addiction over the years. It had left her homeless, but while she was living on the streets, she began attending a Bible study and her life was transformed. “I’d grown up atheist. I didn’t know God and had never opened a Bible before. I was amazed by what it said. It made me look at life differently.”

Mary went to rehab and stayed clean throughout her pregnancy. But she knew that continuing to stay with her boyfriend’s father could threaten her sobriety and her child’s safety. She wanted a different kind of life for them, so three weeks after her daughter was born, they came to the Mission for help.

“I felt **God** pulling me here.”

Through our Gateway Program, Mary and her daughter received food and safe shelter. “It took a lot of weight off my shoulders,” she says.

Meanwhile, chapel services, Christian counseling, mentoring and life-skills classes have strengthened Mary’s faith and given her the tools to successfully navigate life. “**Now I know God is always there for me and won’t give me anything I can’t handle,**” she says. “I’m strong, happy and healthy.”

Mary plans to find work, complete the program and create a loving, Christ-centered home for her daughter. “I want her to know God as she grows up because I didn’t,” Mary says.

You may never meet Mary, but she’s eternally grateful to YOU for your support – today, her heart is filled with new hope for the future. “Before I came here, I felt lost and hopeless. All I saw was darkness, but now I see the light.”



Here's how YOUR gifts care for our homeless neighbors this Easter season!



*just \$1.88
for a meal!*

53,000 meals to serve



13,846 nights of shelter to provide



300 men & women in our residential recovery programs (on average)



2,885 hours of case management & counseling

Thank you for touching so many lives with your compassion & support!

"For He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness & transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son, who purchased our freedom & forgave our sins." Colossians 1:13-14, NLT



A Message from DARLA BURKETT

YOUR GIFTS ARE TRANSFORMING LIVES THIS EASTER SEASON

My friends, Easter will be here soon – and with it, the joy of being able to celebrate and shout, “He is risen indeed!”

I can't think of a truth that's more important to those staying at the Mission right now... men and women who are facing devastating struggles with homelessness, poverty and addiction.

That Jesus overcame death and rose again to offer a hurting world hope resonates with our guests.

In Jesus, they see that they too can overcome! As they begin to trust Him, their past guilt and shame transforms into hope for a brighter future. They walk in freedom, knowing that they're forgiven.

Forgiveness is a doorway to new life. It opens up our guests to

accepting love – not just God's, but love from our staff, their families and even themselves. From there, they blossom into the people they were always meant to be.

This Easter, I pray you'll experience the glorious hope of the cross in your life... and remember that YOU are making it possible for hurting people to find forgiveness and freedom through the cross too. I'm so grateful that each time you reach out to help, more hearts are touched by the love of a risen Savior.

Darla Burkett
Executive Director



STEVE CAME FOR A MEAL...



**... AND IT WAS THE START
OF A NEW LIFE!**

Steve didn't have much hope left when he came to our door. Thanks to you, he was warmly welcomed and provided with the basic necessities that restored his hope:

- A hot meal for \$1.88
- An overnight stay in our shelter (just \$25.12!)
- Clothing, showers & Christ-centered care

Each meal you give makes a big difference!

This Easter, as Steve celebrates the hope in his life, **YOU can give even more people the gift of meals and care** that's often the first step to healing and a new life in Christ!

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

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

Thank you again for your support of our Mission guests! Happy Easter!

YOU can help meet our **EASTER NEEDS!**

Sunday, April 12: Our Easter Meal Service is from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.!

We need your help to prepare all the meals and care we'll provide this Easter season.



Between now and Easter Sunday, we're preparing to serve **53,000+ hot meals...** and provide hundreds of men, women and children with **basic necessities like safe shelter, clean clothing and Christ-centered care.**

Our homeless neighbors are counting on us... and we're counting on YOU!

Get a closer look at how YOUR support is changing lives.

TAKE OUR MISSION TOUR!

- It's easy to sign up!
- It's fun to visit!
- Best of all, you'll see your gifts at work!



To join our next Mission tour, contact Scott Wolf!

☎ (760) 347-3512, ext. 239

✉ swolf@CVRM.org

Hope to see you at the Mission soon!

FOOD ITEMS NEEDED!

Consider hosting a food drive OR dropping off any of these urgently needed food items **by Friday, April 10:**

- ☐ SPIRAL SLICED HAMS
- ☐ INSTANT MASHED POTATOES
- ☐ PASTAS
- ☐ CANNED VEGETABLES
- ☐ CEREALS
- ☐ DESSERTS (homemade or store-bought)
- ☐ COFFEE
- ☐ CREAMER

Drop off donations at the Mission, 47-470 Van Buren St. in Indio, 7 days a week.

Thank you so much!

No time to shop? Donate now!

☎ (760) 347-3512

✉ CVRM.org



Lend a hand this Easter season... VOLUNTEER!

To sign up, visit our website at **CVRM.org** & click on **"Ways to Give."**

