

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



Summer 2020

Don't miss...

2 Give Where
You Live

2 Our Summer
Six

3 "Now I feel needed
and wanted."

**Jesse's life
is changed
forever**
*AND HE WANTS
TO THANK YOU!*

Your support touches
lives with new hope.



“I WAS LOST, BUT NOW I FEEL NEEDED AND WANTED.”

When Jesse was a little boy, all he wanted was to feel loved and accepted, but his mother saw his birth as the ruin of her military career. “She blamed me for her having to stay home and her life going downward, so she beat me,” he says.

His mother’s rejection led Jesse to seek acceptance in his father’s outlaw biker club. “I started riding with my dad when I was eight, and the first time I tried substances, I was 12.”

For the next 15 years, Jesse lived the life of an outlaw biker, filled with substance use and violence. Then one day, he realized he was ashamed of the way he was living. **“I ran away from that life. I remembered my grandmother reading me the Bible growing up, so I came back to God.”**

Jesse got clean and was in a long-term relationship. But when he and his girlfriend had a son, she began mentally abusing Jesse, just like his mother had. “I felt worthless,” he says.

He fell into severe depression, but he didn’t relapse. Instead, he turned to our New Life Program, where Bible studies, life-skills classes and counseling helped him grow spiritually and get to the root of his emotional issues. **“I’ve completely surrendered to God and now I’m mentally and spiritually stable.”**

Jesse graduated from the program, has his own place and is in the process of getting partial custody of his son. He’s now a case manager in our Emergency Shelter, helping other men who are where he once was. “I’m giving back to make up for the wrong I’ve done in my life. It feels good.”

Because you gave from your heart to help Jesse, his life has been changed by your goodness and God’s love forever! “Before I came to the Mission, I was lost, but now I feel needed and wanted. I’m happy.”

—“
THE MISSION
STOOD BEHIND ME
AND LIFTED ME
UP.
”—



A Message from DARLA BURKETT

Give Where You Live... to Meet Our Summer Challenge

These past few months have been unsettling for everyone – and most especially for our neighbors in need. Hunger... homelessness... poverty. These hardships can seem even more daunting in the current environment. In times like these, caring for hundreds of hurting individuals presents a challenge that's greater than ever.

Summer is always hard, but this year we're being stretched to the limit. The meals we serve during June, July and August cost \$169,200 alone. On top of that are expenses for crisis-related assistance such as cleansing showers, personal hygiene items, access to medical care, and sanitizing products. And there's no decline in the need for faith-based recovery and practical guidance that empowers our guests to change their lives.

We need your help to meet our summer challenge!

During this critical time, I pray you'll continue to remember our homeless and struggling neighbors. They need your encouragement, prayers and compassion now more than ever.

Please *give where you live* to ensure we can care for every individual who turns to Coachella Valley Rescue Mission for hope and a new beginning, now and in the months ahead. Your partnership brings comfort to so many, especially in times like these.



Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

Through the 3 MONTHS of Summer your gift today helps provide...



90,000
meals



thousands
of clothing
items



27,000
beds



life-transforming
decisions for
Christ



countless hours of
counseling & case
management

Give Where You Live!
*Our 92-Day Summer
Campaign is underway now.*

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

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

*This time of year, gifts
typically drop off, so
we need your help now
more than ever!*

GIVE  LIVE
92-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

PLEASE HELP WITH OUR **SUMMER**



Our "Summer Six" are essential items in high demand for our Mission guests all season long. Please deliver your donations to 47-470 Van Buren St. in Indio, 7 days a week. Those in our care will be deeply grateful for whatever you can share this summer!



1. Bottled water
2. Hand sanitizer
3. Toothpaste
4. Toilet paper
5. Paper towels
6. High-efficiency laundry soap



FILL A BACKPACK BLESS A CHILD



Imagine a little girl sitting at her desk on the first day of school, embarrassed and fearful because she has no pencil or paper or ruler... none of the supplies she'll need to complete her class assignments and do her homework.

This could be the reality for thousands of children in the Coachella Valley this year, but with your help, we can change that reality.

Join us for our **11th Annual Backpack Drive**, and help us reach our goal of filling at least 3,000 backpacks with everything a child needs for a successful school year.

Here's how you can help:

1. Purchase supplies from our Shopping List and drop them off at the Mission before 8 a.m. on August 6, **OR**
2. Send a donation in the enclosed envelope and we'll fill a backpack for you.

Be the reason a child smiles on her first day of school this year. Not only will she have the supplies she needs to succeed in her studies, but she'll know it's because someone she's never met cared about her future. Be that someone!

Backpack Drive: The Shopping List

Backpacks	K-3 Writing Tablets	Colored Pencils	Art Pads
Pencils	Highlighters	Felt-Tip Markers	Glue Sticks
Pencil Holders	Pencil Sharpeners	Crayons	School Glue
Blue/Black Pens	Subject Dividers	Erasers	Protractors
Notebook Paper	Calculators	Hole Punches	Safety Scissors
Spiral Notebooks	12" Rulers	Pocket Portfolios	Dictionaries
3-Ring Notebooks			

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