Coachella Valley Rescue Mission

Holiday 2020

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

Don't miss...

Celebrating rebirth this Christmas "My kids are safe now."

Bless a child in need

# THANK YOU FOR BRINGING **GREAT JOY** TO HURTING PEOPLE

You changed Cindy's life

## "MY KIDS ARE SAFE NOW AND THEY'RE ALL THAT MATTERS."

indy was overjoyed the day she brought her newborn son home from the hospital. But what should have been a time of rejoicing was, instead, filled with terror. "My husband threatened to throw the baby against the stove," she says, her eyes filling with tears.

newborn. Then he threatened to harm the baby and she knew she had to leave. **"My priority was to protect my kids."** 

They entered our New Life Program, where they found safe shelter, nutritious meals, clothing, diapers, formula and the Cindy's five-year-old son has found healing, as well. He hadn't spoken since birth, but after coming here, he was diagnosed with autism and learned to talk through special education classes. Hearing him say "Mommy" fills Cindy's heart with joy. After

## "I WAS SO RELIEVED MY KIDS WERE SAFE FROM THE ABUSE."

He'd been a gentle, loving man when they first married. Then he stopped taking his medications for schizophrenia and paranoia. "He started hearing voices and did what they told him," she says. "He became mentally abusive."

Cindy was devastated, but she stayed for years, hoping he'd get back on his medications. He had never hurt their older son and she believed he'd be good to their encouragement of our loving staff. "It felt like home," Cindy says.

With her family's needs met, Cindy was able to focus on strengthening her faith and healing from her trauma. "I've grown spiritually through chapel and Bible studies, and if I have a problem, I talk with my case manager," she says. "It took a while, but I've come out of my shell. And, if I get anxious, I pray and it gets better." graduation, she's looking forward to finding work and a home where her boys can continue to flourish.

This year, Cindy and her children will be celebrating Christmas with a renewed spirit and the great joy that comes from a new life. "My kids are safe now and they're all that matters."



#### A Message from DARLA BURKETT

### Celebrating rebirth this Christmas

As we celebrate the Christmas season and the miracle of Jesus' birth in a lowly manger, we must keep in mind the ending... That He gave His life on the cross so you and I could be reborn as children of God.

You know that the guests of Coachella Valley Rescue Mission have had a tough time before they come through our doors. Poverty, addiction, homelessness, hunger, violence... you name it. **But what's** so incredible is not their past stories, but how their lives are completely transformed thanks to you.

You believe that change is possible. More than that, your generous support gives these men, women and children the very services and support they need to be restored and reborn. You give them the most incredible gift there is this Christmas: the chance to find peace, purpose and a new life filled with God's blessings.

As you celebrate this joyous season with loved ones, I hope you'll remember your neighbors who still need healing. After this difficult year, my prayer is that God will move in mighty ways in hearts and communities across the country. May you be filled with peace and love, and continue to share His love with others.

Darla Burbet

Darla Burkett Executive Director

## It Starts With You...\*\*\*\*\* You make transformation possible!

This has been a hard year for everyone, especially for your neighbors in the Coachella Valley who lost jobs or experienced unexpected difficulties during the pandemic. <u>But they have hope</u> <u>thanks to YOU!</u>

Your compassionate support provides:

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



Just \$1.88 provides a meal and care for one person... and could be the first step toward lasting transformation.

#### Please Send Your Gift Today!



## YOUR GIFT TODAY... **II = II II** GOES TWICE AS FAR!

### **DEADLINE TO GIVE: DEC 31**

Great news! **Any gift you make will be matched through the \$25,000 challenge grant** from a generous group of partners to become \$50,000 to provide food, shelter and care! *This is truly a double blessing*.

Your year-end gift will provide **twice the hope** for your neighbors who are struggling to get back on their feet after the pandemic!

- Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.
- Give online anytime at **CVRM.org.**

THANK YOU for blessing others through this year-end challenge!



### Give 2X the *Hope* on GI**≫ING**TUESDAY *Tuesday, December 1*

**Giving Tuesday** is the perfect time to give back... and a generous **\$25,000 Matching Challenge** makes this day even more powerful! During this special day of giving, your dollars will double to provide 2X the basic essentials and life-transforming guidance for your hurting neighbors.

This is the perfect time to join together to help people in your local community – especially those who are still trying to rebuild their lives after the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Why Wait? Celebrate GIVING TUESDAY Now.

Thanks to the recently passed CARES Act, your gift today could qualify for a greater tax deduction. Please check with your tax adviser for more information.

## Bless a child in need through our Annual Toy Drive

There's excitement in the air this time of year. Children send wish lists to Santa, hang stockings to be filled with surprises, and lie awake Christmas Eve, wondering what treasures are hidden in the brightly-wrapped packages under the tree. Then Christmas morning arrives, and joy and laughter fill the air as they open their gifts.

But what if there were no gifts under the tree? No stockings filled with surprises? For many families in need in the Coachella Valley, that's what Christmas morning will look like.

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

That's our plan! Through our **Annual Toy Giveaway,** we'll distribute some **15,000** gifts to more than **5,000** children. There will be candy, and Santa and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance at the Christmas festivities.

But we need you to make the party a success! Here's how you can help:

- Buy a new toy for a boy or girl from infant to pre-teen.
- Join us for the Giveaway as we bless children in need in Jesus' name.

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.** *Thank you for your generosity!* 

What: Annual Toy Giveaway

Where: Coachella Valley Rescue Mission 47-470 Van Buren Street, Indio

When: 8:00 a.m., December 19, 2020

Darla, please use my Christmas gift to bless
my struggling neighbors who have had such a
challenging year:

- O \$20.68 to feed & care for 11 people
- O \$50.76 to feed & care for 27 people
- O \$75.20 to feed & care for 40 people
- O \$88.36 to feed & care for 47 people ∠
- O \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as much as possible

Plus, my Challenge gift to provide double the help: \$\_\_\_

This really

helps!

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Donate now! 🌜 (760) 347-3512 😐 CVRM.org		

Coachella Valley Rescue Mission P.O. Box 10660 Indio, CA 92202-2564

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