

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



Fall 2021

Don't miss...

2 Join Our Campaign

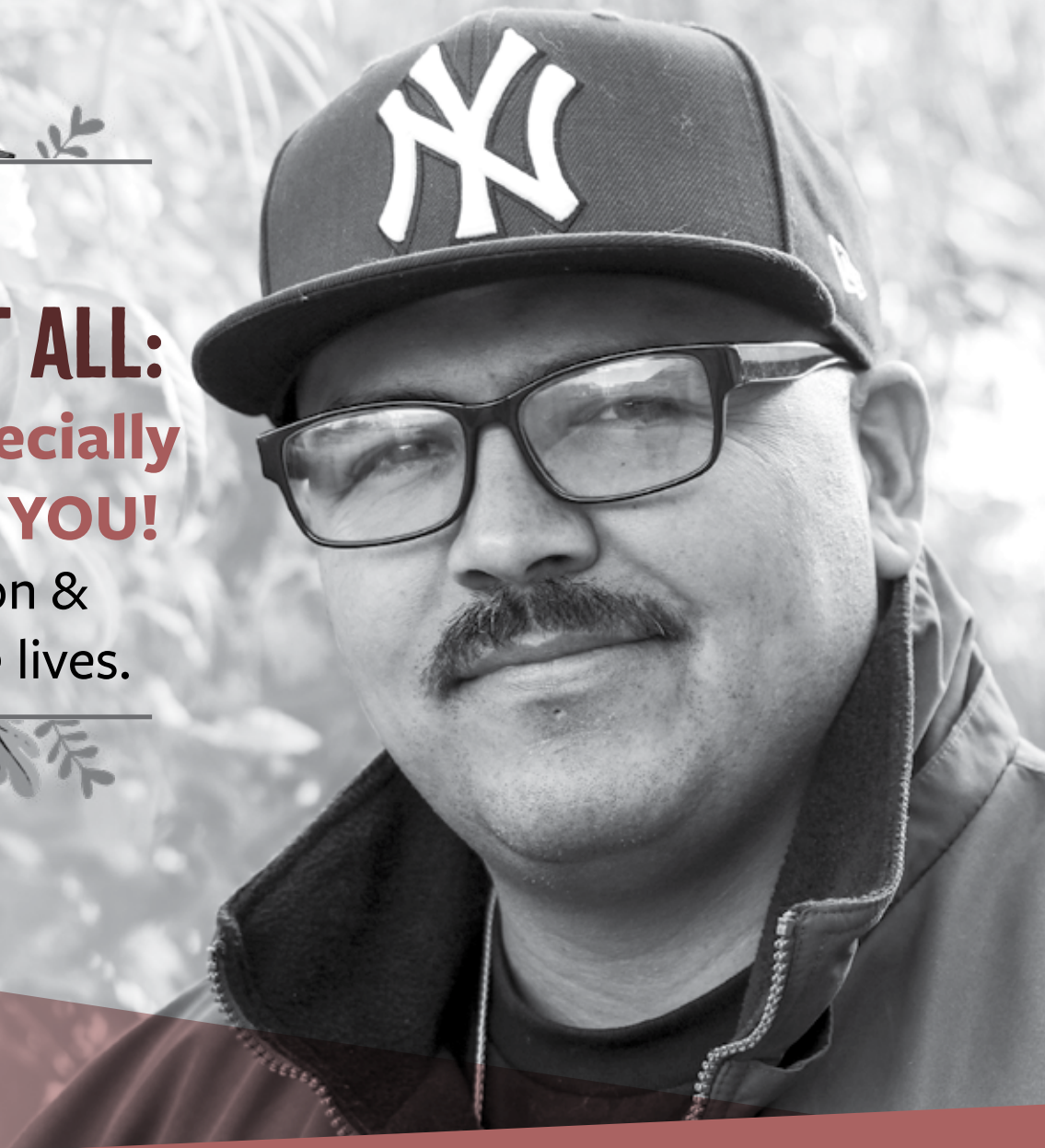

3 "The Mission changed my life."

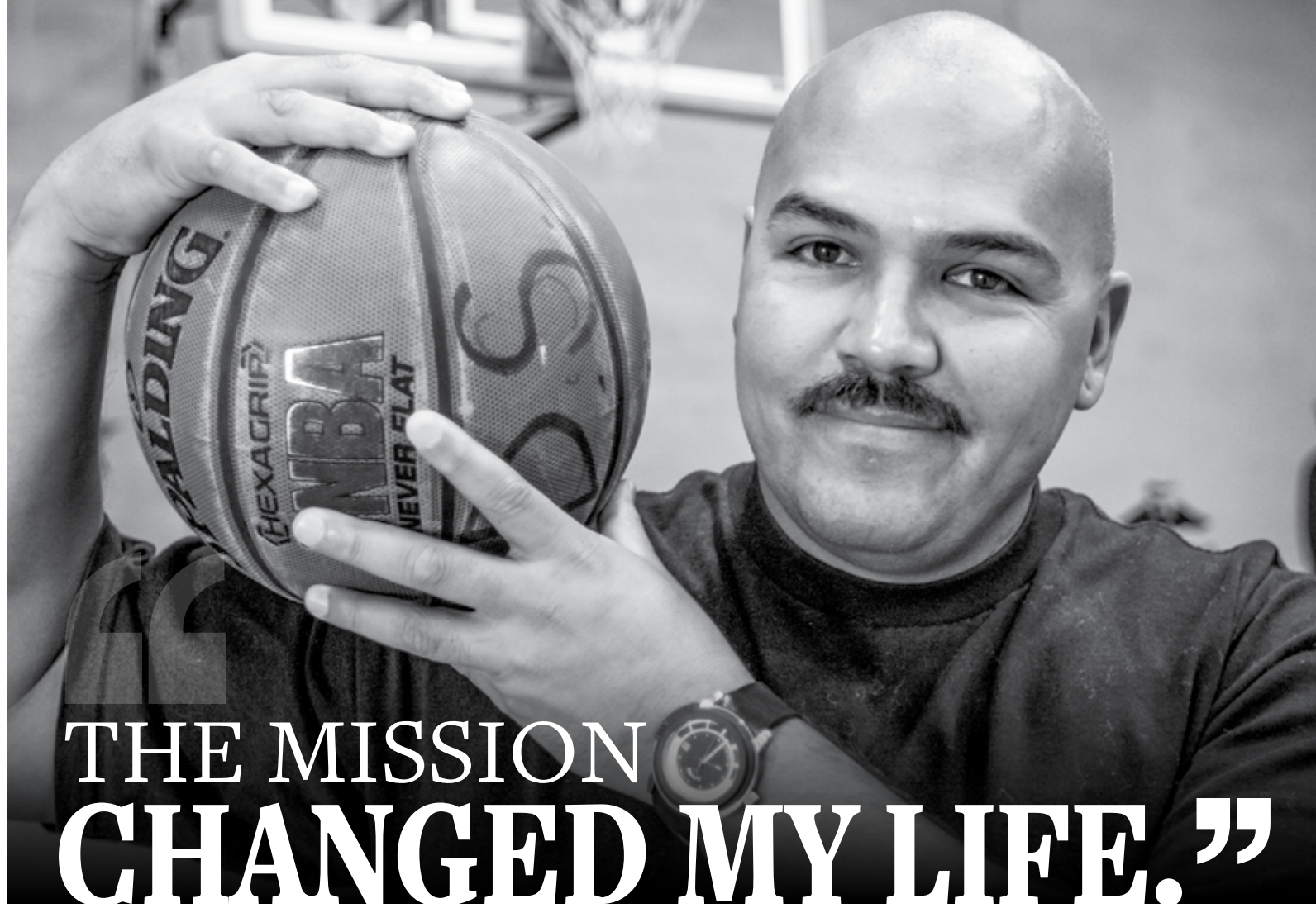
4 Our Thanksgiving Needs



**GRATEFUL
THROUGH IT ALL:**
**Jason is especially
thankful for YOU!**

Your compassion &
support change lives.





THE MISSION CHANGED MY LIFE.”

Jason was born into a broken family, filled with addiction and neglect. “My dad was in prison and my mom and her boyfriend were on heroin,” he says.

When he was 5 years old, Jason was placed in foster care and grew up longing to feel safe and secure. At 18, he began numbing his pain with drugs. “I had abandonment issues,” he says. “When I was addicted, I had a false sense of security.”

For nearly 20 years, Jason struggled with addiction, damaging his relationships with his children, costing him jobs and landing him in prison. It was there he made a commitment to change the way he’d been living, and when he was released, he asked his parole officer where he should go for help. “I was looking for stability, a firm

foundation, a new beginning, and he told me about Coachella Valley Rescue Mission.”

Jason entered our New Life Program, where Bible studies, chapel services and Christian mentoring have strengthened his faith and healed his childhood wounds. **“I’d been running from God, but now I’m grounded in the Word,”** he says. “Getting to know Jesus better has brought me comfort. I’ve been able to forgive others and myself.”

Jason’s children are overjoyed to see their father healthy, happy and filled with purpose. A graduate of the program and a licensed drug and alcohol counselor, he’s now managing a sober living facility, with

plans to earn a degree in human services. He’s committed to spending his days helping others who struggle as he once did. “Every life is special and has a purpose,” he says.

As Jason celebrates this Thanksgiving, he feels incredibly

“Christ is at the center of the Mission.”



thankful for your compassion and support – and how it’s given him a fresh start in life.

“I was seeking a better way to live. The Mission provided a safe haven and helped me stay positive and grounded. It changed my life.”

GIVING THANKS FOR ALL GOD'S BLESSINGS

It might surprise you that in another year filled with hardships and uncertainty, the overwhelming messages I hear are ones of gratitude and hope.

Despite the challenges we still face as a community – or perhaps because of them – we remain connected to each other in a spirit of love and generosity. ***Your care and compassion have never been more evident here at Coachella Valley Rescue Mission than right now, as we prepare for the Thanksgiving season.***

You have stepped up to help our hurting neighbors as God has called us to do. Provided nourishing meals. Safe shelter. Life-restoring guidance. More than that, you've prayed for our ministry and guests. Encouraged others to join our mission to transform lives. Your love has made it possible for hearts to be restored and lives rebuilt. Now that's something to celebrate!

As we count our blessings this Thanksgiving, you and other faithful friends are at the top of my list. As you enjoy the holiday season with your loved ones, both near and far away, I pray God will fill your heart with joy, peace and the comfort of knowing that lives have been changed thanks to your kindness.

I am grateful for you... today and every day. God bless!



Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

2021 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

It's been another challenging year for so many of our neighbors...

90,000
Meals Needed by Thanksgiving

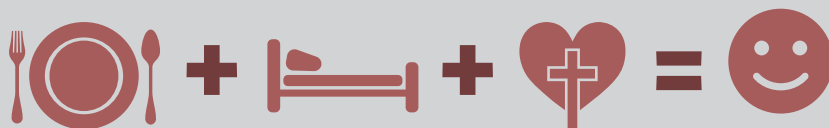
Many of our neighbors are still struggling... trying to get back on their feet... trying not to lose hope. Today, YOU can help them!

For just \$1.88, you can provide a nourishing meal for a hungry neighbor this Thanksgiving season. And that meal opens the door to so much more...

- Safe, welcoming shelter
- Warm clothing, coats & shoes
- Classes & job training to help them get back on their feet after another tough year
- A chance to experience God's love that changes lives



YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE AN IMPACT!



Please – help us be ready to serve thousands of meals to our homeless and hurting neighbors during the busy holiday season!

Rush your 2021 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today.

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

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

**READ JASON'S STORY
TO LEARN MORE!**

Psst... don't miss out!

*Follow us! Like us!
Be in the know!*

Ever read an email or a post that made your day? Then you should **follow us on social media!** It's a great way to be lifted up by seeing how your partnership transforms lives.

Another great way to see your impact is to **sign up for our emails!**

You'll stay up-to-date on our urgent needs, special events and more. Please tell your friends about us too, and encourage them to be part of the celebration this Thanksgiving!

CVRM.org



Welcome back, volunteers!

*We're so grateful for our
Mission volunteers.*

If you are a returning volunteer, or want to serve for the first time, rest assured we are taking care to keep everyone safe!

Put your God-given talents to work at the Mission to help serve and care for the men, women and children who will turn to us for help this fall.

For more information or to sign up to volunteer, visit
[CVRM.org/ways-to-give/volunteer/](https://cvmr.org/ways-to-give/volunteer/) or email Shannon at scurtis@cvmr.org.



Ways You Can Help

Kitchen/Pantry

Group projects

Maintenance

Resale boutique

Special events

OUR THANKSGIVING NEEDS LIST

There's still so much to do to get ready for the Thanksgiving season! Please consider shopping or hosting a food drive for these critically-needed items.

Drop off your donations at **47-470 Van Buren Street in Indio, 7 days a week.**

THANK YOU FOR HELPING!

Turkeys
Pies
Potatoes
Butter/Condiments
Stuffing Mix
Canned Vegetables