

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



Holiday 2023

Don't miss...

2 Celebrating the HOPE of Christmas

3 "We have hope for our family again."

4 Golf Tournament - Save The Date!

Thanks to you...

**MONICA AND HECTOR
HAVE HOPE THIS
Christmas!**



Celebrating the HOPE of Christmas

How comforting it is to know that our Lord, Jesus Christ, has shared in our humanity. He knows our struggles and the struggles of our homeless neighbors too!

On the eve of his birth, Jesus and his earthly parents Joseph and Mary experienced being turned away and told there was “no room at the inn.” It reminds me that Christ understands the pain and fear of our guests who also have nowhere else to turn.

Here at Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, we will always do everything in our ability to welcome and support a hurting person who comes to our doors. Even so, many of our guests have faced years of homelessness... poverty... and other challenges that have left them feeling unloved and unwelcome.

During the holidays, caring friends like you help remind them they are not forgotten. Your gifts to provide hot meals, safe shelter and recovery are meaningful expressions to them of the Lord’s kindness and care in their life.

This Christmas, I invite you to extend Christ’s love and grace to our neighbors – like Monica and Hector (whose story is on the next page). Your generosity will surround them with hope this holiday season! Thank you, and may God bless you now and into the New Year.



Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

Share Hope AND A Christmas Meal...

It’s hard to have hope when you’re struggling with hunger or homelessness. **YOU can make this Christmas a time of celebration for our neighbors in need with your gift to help them today!**



\$2.22
for 1 hot meal



\$25.12
for 1 night of
safe shelter

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**



Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

\$25,000 Year-End Matching Challenge DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT TODAY!



Here’s a huge blessing as we end this year: Thanks to a generous group of partners, **when you give between now and December 31, your generosity will go 2x as far** to provide food, shelter and care... and above all *hope* for our struggling neighbors! Please don’t wait – your help is needed now!

DEADLINE TO GIVE: 12/31

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

THANK YOU
for doubling your
impact during
our Matching
Challenge!



“We have **HOPE** for our family again.”

When Monica and Hector met, they shared the pain of being trapped in substance abuse. **“I had lost my apartment,”** says Hector, “and wanted to work as many shifts as possible without needing to sleep.”

For Monica, the loss of her grandmother sent her into a deep depression – “I was in and out of foster care and hanging with the wrong crowd. **I just wanted to numb my pain.**”

When they had two sons, they vowed to stay clean for them. “We were sober for three years,” says Monica, “and then it all went downhill... we relapsed. **We became homeless and our kids were taken because we couldn’t provide safety for them.**”

In their darkest hour, they turned to the Mission, praying for a miracle for their family. **“I was overwhelmed,” Hector remembers. “They welcomed us with open arms.”** Both parents joined the Gateway Program, with a clear-eyed mission to reunite their family and start a new chapter.

“There’s structure and strict rules,” Hector says, “I didn’t like it at first, but I’ve learned how beneficial it is.” Thanks to life skills training and a job in the donations center, Hector was able to get a full-time job outside the Mission – something he used to not have the stamina for.

Monica’s work at the Mission has included sorting in the warehouse and janitorial tasks, and for her the benefit extends beyond work skills training. **“I appreciated talking to other women, especially when I was new here,”** she says. **“I struggle with negative thoughts and expecting the worst, but they encouraged me to not give up.”**



“We had lost everything, and had no support system...”

As they make progress toward reuniting with their children, Monica and Hector know they have allies alongside them. **“The Mission’s been a great help,”** says Hector. “They give us letters of recommendation and progress reports, and **they speak on our behalf.**”

Monica and Hector have hope this Christmas – and they want to thank YOU for supporting their journey toward a new life. “The Mission doesn’t only help single people, it also helps families. Before coming here we were hopeless, but now we know we’ll have our family together again.”

*Your monthly
gift makes a
HUGE impact!*

When you set up ongoing support as a **Giving Club Partner**, you provide a predictable stream of revenue to fund our programs of rescue, recovery and restoration through Christ.

We invite you to join this vital group today!

Your pledge of \$35, \$25 or \$15 per month will help ensure an ongoing foundation of transformation for men and women working to rebuild their lives, restore their families and return to their communities.

To become a monthly giving partner, simply call (760) 347-3512 or visit give.cvrn.org.



IT'S ALMOST HERE! CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT FEB. 12, 2024

We hope you're as excited as we are for our **19th Annual Charity Golf Tournament** at the Beautiful Palm Valley Country Club!

And we can't wait to see you on the fairway, enjoying a beautiful day of golf and fellowship – with all proceeds going directly to Mission services that care for our community members in need.

For more information please contact Guido Portante at: **gportante@aol.com** or **(562) 225-1467**.

See you soon for a fun day filled with golf, dinner and prizes!