

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



Summer 2025

Don't miss...

2 YOU can show a hurting neighbor they're not alone!

3 "They pulled me out of the darkness..."

4 Keep neighbors SAFE this summer



**Your love
helps John
know he is
not alone...**

LOVE  YOUR
NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN





“They pulled me out of the darkness and showed me God’s love.”



As a child, John’s was tormented by his father’s temper and bad decisions. His father exposed John to an unhealthy and unsafe home environment. **“I started drinking and smoking when I was 16. I figured if my father was doing it, it was OK for me, too.”**

After going to trade school to become a plumber in his twenties, John began working for his father, but their relationship was strained and soon John faced serious difficulties. “Dad passed away, and my mom got sick... I was the only one to take care of her.”

When his mother died, John turned to illicit substances to numb the pain. “That was my downfall. I began doing it more and more every day to keep me up and keep me working.”

During the height of COVID, John lost his house and his job, and he began gambling. “I had no money, my world was crashing down. When

my truck got stolen it hit me that I was homeless.”

“I’d been praying to God for years to please do something to me, to help me change my lifestyle,” he remembers. **God answered John’s prayer by leading him to Coachella Valley Rescue Mission.**

John enrolled in the New Life Program, and his eyes and heart were opened to God’s transforming love. “My biggest challenge was admitting that I couldn’t do it on my own. **I had to surrender to God.**”

Working with the maintenance and landscaping crews and in the kitchen has inspired John’s dream for life after the Mission. “I want to start a construction business and give other people the chance to start over, like I was given.”

Thank you for loving neighbors like John “as you’ve loved yourself.” Your kindness has reminded him that he is not alone and that a better life is possible! “They showed me the path and the way. I’m so thankful that they saw my humanity here and gave me a second chance at life.”

“

**I was in a dark place in my life.
I was as low as you can get.**

”



A meal served with LOVE for a neighbor in need... **just \$2.22!**



A Message from DARLA BURKETT

You're sharing **God's love** this summer.

I don't have to tell you that our community is special. You see for yourself local acts of care and compassion. When neighbors feel lonely and forgotten, we step up to show love. It's what makes the Coachella Valley strong.

But people like YOU make the greatest difference... generous friends who go above and beyond to show love to neighbors in need. That's why I know I can count on your support over these crucial summer months – when so many local men, women and children remain hurting, hungry and homeless.

This month we're kickstarting **our 3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign** to help meet the unique needs of our clients this summer season – like shelter from the heat, nourishing meals and clean water. Each month

is an opportunity for you to respond with a generous gift that reflects the words of Matthew 22:39... to *"love your neighbor as yourself."*

Your support will show struggling people in our community like John that they are never alone. Read his story on page 3 of this newsletter – then consider how you can best respond to help more people like him this summer. We'll be so grateful.

Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

"Love your neighbor as yourself..."

- Matthew 22:39



Tour the Mission!

See how your support impacts Coachella Valley Rescue Mission – join us for an inside view! Together, we'll explore the halls of the campus, see the busy goings-on in the kitchen and witness our programs at work... all made possible by the support of neighbors just like YOU!



Visit us on your own or bring a group! Just give us a call at **(760) 347-3512** or email us at info@cvmr.org and we'll schedule a time convenient for you. See you soon!

YOU CAN SHOW A HURTING NEIGHBOR THEY'RE NOT ALONE!



It starts with a meal...



and ends with a life renewed!

Please help them today! Your gift of \$2.22 provides a hot, nourishing meal – and can lead to other life-changing services like shelter, faith-based counsel and recovery.

Give to our Love Your Neighbor summer campaign... and show local people who are homeless and hurting that you care.



Give now!
CVRM.org

LOVE  YOUR
NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Keep neighbors **SAFE** this summer

Many of us can count on cold drinking water, refreshing showers and air conditioning to make it through this summer's hottest weeks.

But our neighbors out on the street have no relief. Without shade or sun protection, even warm days put them at risk of heat stroke and dehydration. Hot weather is even more dangerous for seniors or families with children.

Your gift can make all the difference for someone experiencing homelessness this summer. Just \$50.50 provides a night of safe shelter for a man, woman or child in need – along with other services like these!



**Cool water to drink
& nourishing meals**



**Refreshing showers
& safe shelter**



**Clean clothes & socks
(Socks are our most
requested item!)**



**Sunscreen &
hygiene items**

Because of your support, hurting neighbors have everything they need to recover and rebuild at the Mission – so they can have healthier, more stable lives!



To see how you can help meet our neighbors' most urgent summer needs, visit **[CVRM.org/needslist](https://cvmr.org/needslist)** or scan here!

Your gift
of \$50.50
provides
a night of
shelter!

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THOSE IN NEED!

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." Volunteers are critical to the success here at Coachella Valley Rescue Mission! And we're always in need of caring, compassionate volunteers to lend a hand in all areas:

- Assist with **Meal Services** at our main campus Dining Hall.
- Help sort and tag clothing, and organize the sales floor for our customers at **New LIFE Resale Boutique** here in Coachella.
- Help with the behind-the-scenes work of stuffing envelopes, sorting mail, making copies, filing and more at our **Administrative Offices**.

Donating your time to CVRM as a volunteer demonstrates the unconditional love and acceptance of Jesus to our residents... and it's sure to bless your heart too!

For more information about volunteering – including a full list of volunteer opportunities and steps for applying to be a volunteer – visit **cvmr.org/ways-to-give/volunteer/**

