

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



Fall 2025

Don't miss...

2 Take action against hunger!

3 "The Mission saved my life."

4 Meet our NEW Executive Director!

YOU are 
a blessing!

INSIDE: Justin shares how your support gives him hope.





“The Mission saved my life.”

Growing up as one of the few Jewish kids in a small town, Justin felt like an outsider. He didn't talk much, and he was often excluded from groups. “I struggled sharing my feelings, and I acted out instead,” he says.

At home, he didn't have much of a relationship with his dad who struggled with addiction and a mental health condition. His parents divorced when he was 15 years old, and his mom passed away about a decade later. The pain of these events would follow Justin into adulthood.

“I used substances to hide my hurt,” he says. Sadly, by the time he was in his 30's, he had spiraled into addiction.

After the pandemic hit, Justin struggled financially, got divorced and lost his house... yet he was still spending money on substances.

At first, pride and denial kept him from seeking help, but with nowhere to live, he finally came to the Mission. He entered our New Life Program and discovered his self-worth and identity through Christ.

“Following Christ has changed my perspective on people – that everybody deserves a chance.”

Justin is also learning leadership skills while working at our warehouse and thrift store. He finds joy in helping others use their strengths and watching them grow. It has inspired him to consider ministry. “The Mission has given me an opportunity to see that I have value in leadership and in preaching the Word,” he says.

Your gifts are bearing fruit in the lives of people like Justin. Now, his heart is full of hope this fall... thanks to your kindness!

“The Mission has changed my life. I never thought that CVRM could have that much of an influence on my future and change my perspective on what God is guiding me to do.”



**TOUR
THE MISSION:**
See your
impact!

**See first-hand how you help
make this life-changing
ministry possible!**

Schedule a tour today... you'll get to see our hallways, dining room and most importantly, the impact your support is making in the lives of men, women and children from our community.

Come by yourself, with family and friends, a student group, your church or your organization.

Schedule a tour today with Scott at
(760) 347-3512, ext. 239 or
swolf@cvmr.org.

Hearts and lives are full... thanks to **YOU!**



A Message from AMANDA GALINDO

Though the seasons change, our focus at the Mission is constant: serving our neighbors in need, thanks to friends like you. It's what led me to this role as Coachella Valley Rescue Mission's new Executive Director.

Born and raised in the Coachella Valley, this is where I first began working for nonprofits, including managing a mental health program. Now at the Mission, I'm eager to expand our mental health services to help more people in our area.

I've always had the desire to help people. **It's something you and I share: compassion for our neighbors.**

Your support doesn't just help our clients – it helps our whole community. You have a special opportunity to make a difference during Hunger Action Month – you can provide 30 meals over 30 days for our hungry clients. Meals that can change lives.

Just read how your generous gifts are bearing fruit in Justin's life, whose story is on Page 3. He has a more hope-filled future – thanks to you!

Together, I look forward to helping our clients grow with dignity. Let's show them they deserve a second chance, that God is good and God is here at the Mission.

Amanda Galindo, Executive Director

Shop to give **SECOND CHANCES**

When you donate items or shop at our New Life Resale Boutique, you're blessing others in so many ways!

Our neighbors struggling to make ends meet find well-priced necessities. Our program clients receive on-the-job training. And boutique proceeds support our Mission programs and services that save and transform lives.

Shop or drop off your gently used donations at 1398 6th Street, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or until 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

For more information, contact us at
(760) 347-3512, ext. 301 or visit
CVRM.org/new-life-resale-boutique



SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT: **HUNGER ACTION MONTH**

30,000

Meals Needed by Sept. 30!

September is Hunger Action Month! Join our community in this month-long movement to fight hunger... and TAKE ACTION today to help even more hungry neighbors we'll welcome this fall.



**Sign up to
serve a meal**



**Donate
canned goods**



**Provide
groceries**



**Invite others
to join you**

**For just \$2.22, YOU can
provide a nourishing meal
to end someone's hunger.**

Send your gift today OR online
at **CVRM.org**.

*Scan to take
action now!*





"I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside you."

My name is Amanda Galindo, and I am honored and excited to introduce myself as the new Executive

Director of Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. Stepping into this role feels humbling and deeply fulfilling, and I can already sense the heart and soul that makes CVRM such a powerful beacon of hope in our community.

For over 14 years, I've had the privilege of working in the nonprofit sector, with a focus on outreach, mental health and serving youth and families facing significant challenges. My journey has been driven by a passion for connecting people to resources, restoring hope and fostering environments where healing and growth can truly take root. These experiences have shaped my leadership and my heart for service.

There are many reasons I felt called to CVRM, but three stand out most:

1. A Mission That Speaks to My Heart – CVRM's unwavering commitment to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness and

hunger aligns perfectly with my own purpose-driven approach to leadership. It's a mission that goes beyond charity – it's about restoring dignity, creating pathways and building community.

2. A Legacy of Impact – CVRM's decades-long presence in the Coachella Valley, providing life-changing programs and services, was truly inspiring to me. The impact here is tangible, and I wanted to be part of a legacy that uplifts people and transforms lives every single day.

3. A Community Rooted in Compassion – From the moment I connected with CVRM, I felt the genuine care, connection and unity that drives this team. I knew I wasn't just joining an organization – I was becoming part of a family deeply committed to making a difference together.

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside each of you and look forward to what we will build and grow together. My door is always open – I can't wait to learn from you, support you and walk alongside you as we continue to bring hope to those who need it most.

