

A Message From Mike

What Mountain are You Climbing?

Each of us has a mountain or two that we need to climb. For Matthew, it's been several. That's why I'm so excited that he's decided to join our Climbing Out of Homelessness team.

You see, the real point of the climb isn't summiting Mount Rainier; it's coming together and discovering we're all climbing the same mountain. It's to help bridge the wide gap that exists between homeless addicts and community and business leaders. It's to build community.

Building a strong team – one where everyone's life depends on each other – breaks down barriers and helps us understand that each of us has our own personal challenges that can only be overcome with the help of others.

The climb transforms everyone – rich, poor, CEOs, addicts, and everyone in between.

Building healing relationships, confidence and overcoming the mountains we all find in our lives is what we do best at the Tacoma Rescue Mission. And for us, it's all about doing it through community and team.

Thanks for being a part of that process!

In Him,

Mike

Mike Johnson
Executive Director

YOUR GIFT CAN CHANGE A LIFE FOREVER



Our Funding is Running Low! Help us continue vital services this summer.

The “summer slump” in giving is hitting us especially hard this year. While so many of our friends are enjoying their summer vacations, our homeless population often goes forgotten.

Yet, with over 1,700 homeless neighbors here in Tacoma alone, the needs continue to grow. And we're seeing way more people than expected this summer.

That means food, shelter, recovery, youth programs and even emergency services to beat the heat are all being stretched to the limit.

For as little as \$28.73, you can provide a full day of care in the New Life program for someone like Matthew.

Or, you may choose to give a gift to help with other programs that are running low on funding.

Any gift you make today will help us continue providing vital services in our community!

Pleased give your most generous gift today!

Go online to TRM.org to give right now!

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THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION NEWSLETTER

Connect with The Rescue Mission: [myrescuemission](https://www.facebook.com/myrescuemission) [RescueMissionUS](https://www.facebook.com/RescueMissionUS) [RescueMissionUS](https://twitter.com/RescueMissionUS)

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

The entire staff of the Tacoma Rescue Mission pledges to do everything possible to help the hurting and homeless. It was our commitment when our work began in 1912 and it continues to drive us today.

We pledge to bring help, hope and healing to as many people as possible by providing food, shelter, clothing, education, job training, work opportunities, transitional housing and more.

P.O. Box 1912 | Tacoma, Washington 98401-1912 | (253) 383-4493 | www.trm.org

In 2016 86¢ of every dollar went directly to services and facilities for the homeless.



THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION NEWSLETTER

JULY 2017

Matthew finally beat the odds ... And it wasn't easy!

Last month we shared part one of Matthew's story – how molestation, abuse, violence and alcohol at five years old destroyed his childhood. How there were already drugs in his system when he was born. How he was addicted, alone and living on the streets by the time he was sixteen.

Matthew suffered terribly from depression, panic attacks and PTSD. There were times when he was suicidal. Worst of all, he learned there was no one he could trust. So, as he moved into adulthood, he was ill-equipped to function in

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“The low point in my life came when I sold my daughter's diapers to buy drugs.”

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Matthew Beats the Odds!

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a way that could ever be considered healthy.

Living in tents and abandoned cars, Matthew bounced from one relationship to another, and by the time he was 24 he had two daughters. But all Matthew could think about were the drugs and alcohol. He thought there was no one who could help – and certainly he had no one he could ever trust!

Now at 29, Matthew looks back on those days in horror, as he remembers the time he sold his daughter’s diapers for drug money.

But against all the odds, and despite all the mountains he’s had to climb, today Matthew is a changed man!

With nowhere to go, isolated and desperate, Matthew finally began staying at the Mission, where we encouraged him to join the New Life Program. He’s never looked back!

Matthew realizes God has big plans for his future. He’s beginning to overcome his trust issues and has joined the Climb out of Homelessness team, training to summit Mount Rainier!

He’s already applying to college, and he’s re-established good relationships with his two daughters. He spends his “free time” volunteering at Coffee Oasis – reaching out to at-risk teens.

But best of all, he’s on his way to building a recording career! He’s been professionally recording with a local producer who is helping him with connections. Matthew tells us:

“Music is a way of sharing my life with other people in a way that they can relate to that’ll maybe help them get through their struggle. The same thing with Mount Rainier, to me it’s not climbing the mountain, it’s overcoming myself.”

It didn’t come easy, but today Matthew is full of hope and promise . . . all because partners like you reached out to help!

"Music is a way of sharing my life with other people in a way . . . that'll maybe help them get through their struggle."



Matthew with his daughter, today.

YOU can help restore a life like Matthew's today for only \$28.73!

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!



Climbing to New Heights

Once again this year, people from our recovery program will join Tacoma community and business leaders in scaling Mount Rainier alongside Mike Johnson. On August 14, eight individuals will demonstrate that no hurdle is too difficult to overcome when we work together as a team.

The program helps build both mental and physical toughness, but most importantly it develops healthy, trusting relationships that last a lifetime!

Homeless in the Heat!

We’re not noted for our heat waves here in the Puget Sound, but during July and August, even our usually “mild” summer climate can turn deadly for homeless people. With nowhere to go, exposure, sunburn, heat stroke and dehydration are all hidden dangers to those living on the streets. Each summer our emergency rooms fill with homeless people who have been overcome by the summer weather.

During the summer we provide heat relief by distributing bottled water throughout the county, and by offering additional shelter to those looking to get out of the sun. Our Search & Rescue van scours the region looking for people in need and helps them connect with vital services. And with many shelters open only during winter, we’re one of the few places in the city our struggling neighbors can go.

VERSE OF THE MONTH

“...whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.” - John 4:14



COME TAKE A SWING!

The Annual Air Systems Engineering, Inc. Golf Tournament, benefiting the Tacoma Rescue Mission, is being held on August 18, 2017 at beautiful High Cedars Golf Course in Orting, WA.

Details and registration at www.TRM.org/golf.

Our July Critical Needs:

- Volunteers for dinner service
- Diapers size 4 and 5
- Razors (for men and women)
- Reusable water bottles
- Bibles

Call us at 253.383.4493 to learn how you can help!

Our Current Prayer Requests:

Being homeless is especially tough during the summer. Please join us in prayer as we reach out to more people even as funds are stretched to the limit:

- For the safety of those living in tents and on the streets
- For protection from exposure and dehydration
- Our summer water hand-out program
- More revenue, as summer giving is going down
- Increased food donations to meet the growing need
- For the whole church of Pierce County as we learn how to better meet the needs of our homeless neighbors.

To join our Prayer Team and receive updates email info@TRM.org!

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