



A Message from Duke

We're Stronger Together

Have you thought about your new year resolutions yet? I've started my list and partners like you are at the very top.

You make the life-changing ministry at the Mission possible.

That's why our continued resolution at the Mission is to serve alongside friends like you to change even more lives this year!

Together, I know we can make a difference for hurting families and individuals who've been hit hardest by the on-going crisis.

I'm so grateful for your dedication and compassion. Especially as we see more and more people come to the Mission in need.

You play a crucial role. Making it possible for the Mission to respond to community needs AND adapt to ongoing pandemic challenges. All while staying centered in Christ.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

In Christ,


Duke Paulson
Executive Director



Each \$19.91 you give will provide a day of shelter, meals and crucial care for one of our neighbors in dire need.

Start the New Year by Helping to Change a Life!

The effects of COVID continue to devastate the lives of our vulnerable neighbors.

Job losses. Medical bills piling up. Evictions threatening to put families out on the street.

More people are coming to the Mission desperate for food, refuge and resources. Will you offer urgently needed help?

Each \$19.91 you give today will provide a full day of shelter, meals and crucial care to someone in dire need.

Together we can rise to this challenge of serving our neighbors who are hungry, homeless and hurting. Together we can transform lives.

It all begins with your compassionate gift.

Each \$19.91 day of care you give will provide critical food, vital shelter and life-changing services for one person in dire need.

Begin the new year by making a new beginning possible for someone in need. Please give today. Every gift matters!

Give a gift to help change lives in the new year at trm.org

HELP. HOPE. HEALING.
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION

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. 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 other programs.

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HELP. HOPE. HEALING.

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION | DEC 2020

From Hardship to Hope . . .

Ashley faced some of the hardest challenges in her life this past year.

"I was in a very bad relationship. Me and my daughter were being abused, physically and mentally," she shares. "I had to leave. I needed to protect my baby girl."

It was a matter of life and death. **Ashley fled with her young daughter to an apartment that she had already found for them.**

Ashley felt like she could finally breathe. Most importantly, her daughter was safe.

In order to keep up with the rent and provide for her daughter, Ashley worked two jobs. **She finally was starting to get back on her feet.**

Then COVID hit and Ashley lost both of her jobs. **She could no longer afford rent.**

Suddenly, in the midst of a pandemic, Ashley and her little girl were facing homelessness . . .

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***"The last thing you want is to be in a homeless shelter with your kid, but the Mission ended up being the best place for us."** — Ashley*



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** Photo changed to protect guest privacy*

From Hardship to Hope . . .

. . . Ashley desperately needed help and a refuge for her and her precious daughter.

That's when she found out about the Tacoma Rescue Mission's family shelter.

Thanks to generous friends like you, Ashley and her little girl had a safe place to stay. At the Mission **they received daily meals, essentials they needed and other vital support. So they could rebuild their life again.**

But the challenges didn't end there. The effects of COVID-19 continued to hinder Ashley from moving forward.

"COVID made it very stressful to get anything done," Ashley shares, remembering her frustration. "It seemed like every time I got ahead, I would get further behind."

Ashley was determined. With the help of her case manager, she learned new skills, found work and built a support system — something she never had before.

After only two months at the Mission, Ashley and her daughter were able to move out!

Ashley is back to working two jobs. She is getting a degree in criminal justice and starting a business. Plus, she's engaged to a man she loves and trusts.

"2020 was rough. Me and my daughter went through a lot," Ashley shares. "Being at the Mission meant so much. It gave us stability."

Ashley knows that she and her little girl would not be where they are today without the generosity of friends like you.

"I appreciate you. I wouldn't be where I am without your contributions," she gratefully shares. "You make a huge difference for people who are really trying to build a better life."

Ashley is stepping into a bright future in 2021. And plans to give back as soon as she's able.

"All the help I got, I want to pay it forward. It means the world to people who need it."

Today you can give someone else the vital care, tools and resources they need, so they too, can rebuild their life like Ashley did.

Each \$19.91 you give today will provide a day of shelter, meals and care to help one person in dire need.



Verse of the month:

"There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God."
— 1 Samuel 2:2 (NIV)

Looking Back With Gratitude

All of our lives changed in 2020 when the pandemic hit.

Thanks to you, the Mission was able to **RESPOND** to the growing needs of our hurting neighbors. Your support helped vital services continue uninterrupted when they were needed the most.

Your generosity helped **ADAPT** how food, shelter and other critical resources were provided. Meals became "to-go". Our dining hall turned into an additional sleeping area. These changes and more kept guests, volunteers and staff safe.

Amid the challenges, your compassionate gifts provided life-changing care to our neighbors in dire need. Empowering and equipping them with tools they needed to step into a better future. All while we continued to **CENTER** our ministry work in Christ and His teachings.

Looking Forward With Hope

No one knows the opportunities and challenges 2021 holds for our community. But we do know that we will face the future together with you, our valued partners. And with a God through whom all things are possible.

Your continued generosity will help **ADAPT** to new & on-going challenges & needs. For example, kids staying at the Mission need vital support so they don't fall behind due to COVID-19 school changes.



Your caring gifts will help **RESPOND** to the increasing needs in our community by providing food, shelter and other vital resources to individuals and families in dire need.

Together, we will continue to **CENTER** this life-changing ministry in Christ's teachings. Serving as God's hands and feet to hurting men, women and children in our community.



Please Pray

It's evident how big of an impact the prayers of friends like you had this year.

Your prayers were critical in keeping the Mission a safe and healthy environment through the pandemic.

As we start 2021, we humbly ask for your continued prayers for . . .



HEALTH Please pray for the continued health of our guests, staff, volunteers and everyone who comes to the Mission.



WISDOM Please pray for wisdom for our vulnerable guests as they seek ways, with our staff, to overcome challenges, find healing and escape homelessness.



HOPE Please pray that every hurting neighbor who comes for a meal experiences God's hope & love. And for that meal to be the first step toward a better future.



PROVISION Please pray for God's provision as more people come to the Mission in need. That together with friends like you, we're able to help more of our hurting neighbors.

Let us know how we can pray for you!

Email prayer@trm.org with your prayer requests.