



A Message from Duke

More Than Merely Surviving . . .

Food is one way my family has always showed love to others. Maybe yours has too.

When someone is facing hardship, sharing a homemade meal is how we show love and gather in support.

I remember in the 70s, when people were coming over from Cambodian refugee camps. My mom invited refugee families over every month for a night of homemade spaghetti and fellowship.

In the same way, our most vulnerable neighbors are welcomed at the Mission. For food and much more.

While here, they are able to connect with crucial resources to rebuild their lives. All thanks to generous supporters like you!

By providing other life-changing services and Christ-centered care on top of meals, you help your hurting neighbor go beyond merely surviving. You'll help them thrive!

That's what caring for the whole person is about. And it's what your gift will do today!

In Christ,


Duke Paulson, Executive Director



Your gift today will help individuals and families like Domonique and her son Will (*featured above*) step into a better life and find healing — body, mind and soul.

Help Your Hurting Neighbor Step Into a Better Life

For our vulnerable neighbors, a hot, meal is about more than having something to eat.

It can be a symbol of hope for someone who hasn't eaten in days. Showing them that they are cared for and loved.

A meal can open the door to other crucial resources someone desperately needs to step into new life and lasting change.

Each \$19.91 you give, provides a day of vital food, crucial shelter and life-changing resources for one person.

Help provide lasting change for someone in dire need. Give now at trm.org

Help provide holistic care to empower and heal the whole person — body, mind and soul.

Without your gift today, our neighbors who are homeless and hurting may not experience that crucial type of healing and transformation.

You can help families and individuals in need overcome the barriers keeping them on the streets and rebuild their lives.

Will you give a gift to help change lives today?

Every dollar you give will make a difference.

HELP. HOPE. HEALING.

Sleeping Under a Semi-Truck to Survive . . .

After his sister died, Richard couldn't afford to stay in the house they'd lived in together.

So at 65 years old, he found himself homeless. Not knowing where to go and having no one left to turn to.

He was forced to live on the streets. Desperate to find some kind of shelter from the bitter cold and freezing rain.

The only safe refuge he found was under a parked semi-truck.

Richard spent the next few nights there knowing that he wouldn't be able to survive out in the harsh elements much longer.

"I was sick and really hungry too. I really thought I was dying," he painfully remembers. "I said to myself, 'I've caught something. I'm dying from it. I've got to get out of here.'"

He did need to get out of there. To get out of the bone-chilling cold and off the dangerous, wet pavement. And find something to eat.

Richard needed help before it was too late . . .

Continued inside ▶

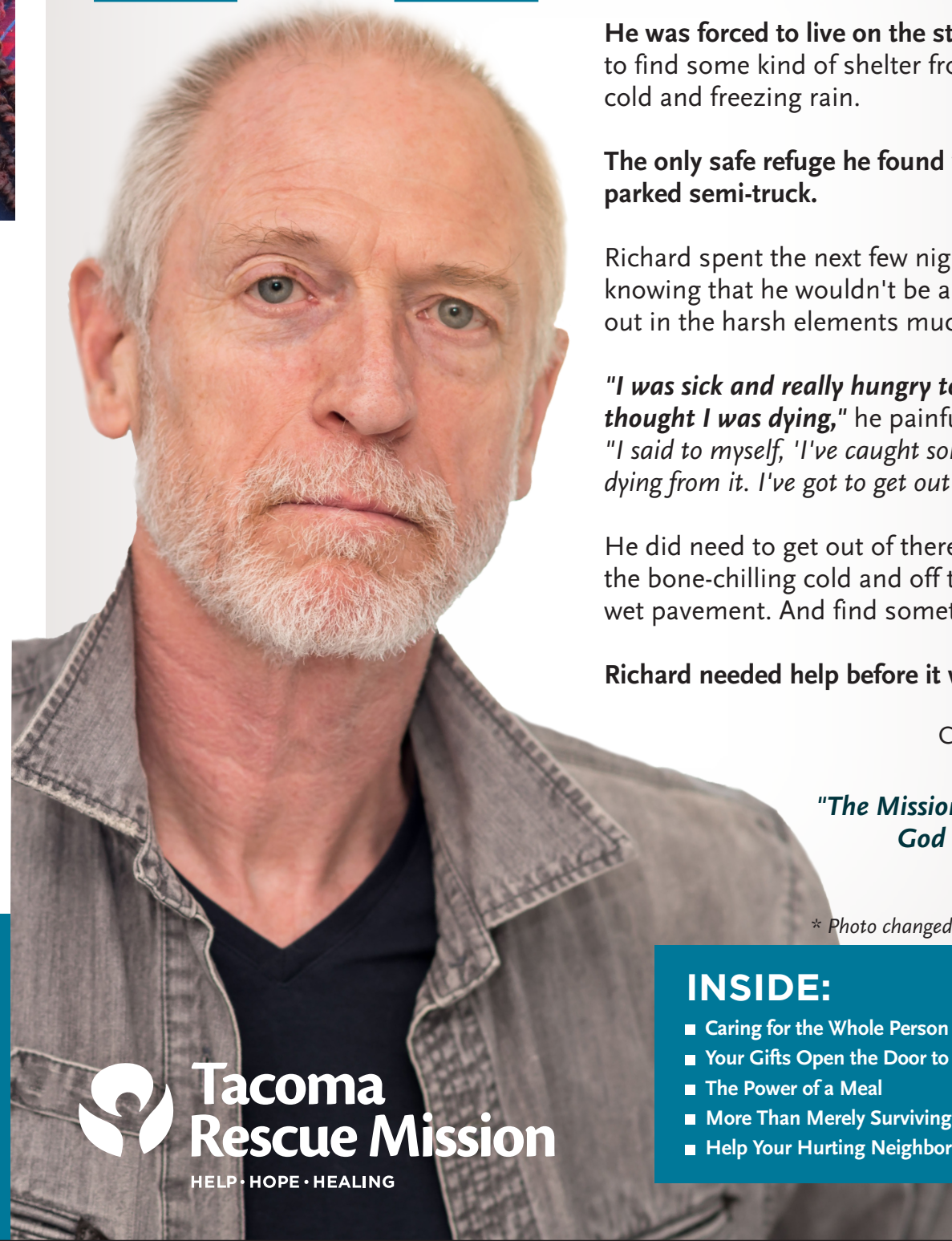
"The Mission saved my life. God is here."

— Richard

** Photo changed to protect guest privacy*

INSIDE:

- Caring for the Whole Person Leads to a Changed Life
- Your Gifts Open the Door to . . .
- The Power of a Meal
- More Than Merely Surviving . . .
- Help Your Hurting Neighbor Step Into a Better Life



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.

P.O. Box 1912 | Tacoma, Washington 98401-1912 | 253.383.4493
trm.org | [Facebook](#) TacomaMission | [Twitter](#) TacomaMission



Continued from cover...

Sleeping Under a Semi-Truck to Survive . . .

Thankfully, Richard found the Tacoma Rescue Mission just in time.

"I had walking pneumonia," he explains. "I came down here to try and get off the streets and get some food in me. I was in bad shape."

If he hadn't come to us when he did, he may not be alive today.

"Without this place being here, I would be dead," he shares. "I had a warm bed and I knew I'd be able to eat every night."

While at the Mission, Richard was connected with other essential services and resources.

"The good people at the Mission helped me get to a doctor," Richard explains. "They also helped me get my ID. You can't do anything without an ID. And they helped me get connected with my social security benefits."

All this — and more — equipped Richard to overcome barriers that kept him on the streets. Encouraged and empowered, he was able to rebuild his life.

Most importantly, his faith in God was strengthened. All because caring partners like you made it possible for him to be helped when he needed it most.

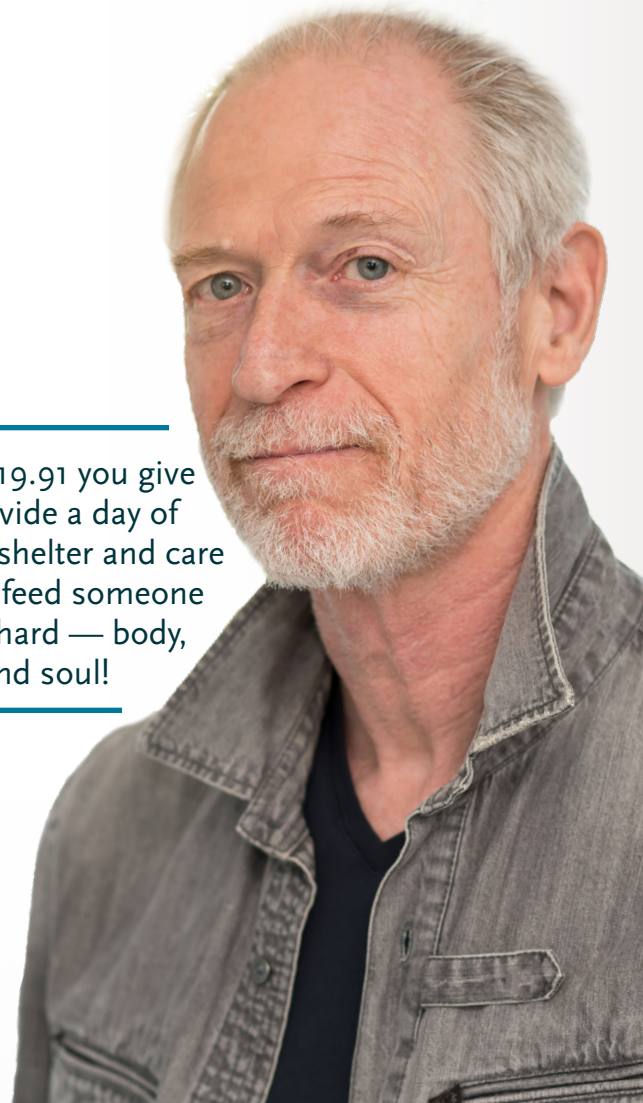
Richard shared his faith with guests, volunteers and staff during his time at the Mission. Using every opportunity he could to share God's love with others. In fact, his nickname at our shelter was "Preacher."

Richard was with us for several months as he healed and got the support and resources he needed to get back on his feet.

Soon after, he was able to move into permanent housing. Richard is grateful to have a place to call home again.

The generosity of compassionate friends like you made it all possible. Richard knows firsthand the difference your gifts can make in someone's life. He lived it!

"This is a fantastic, life-saving place. It saved my life," Richard gratefully shares. "God is here. And as long as God's here, it's worth every penny you can give."



Every \$19.91 you give will provide a day of meals, shelter and care to help feed someone like Richard — body, mind and soul!

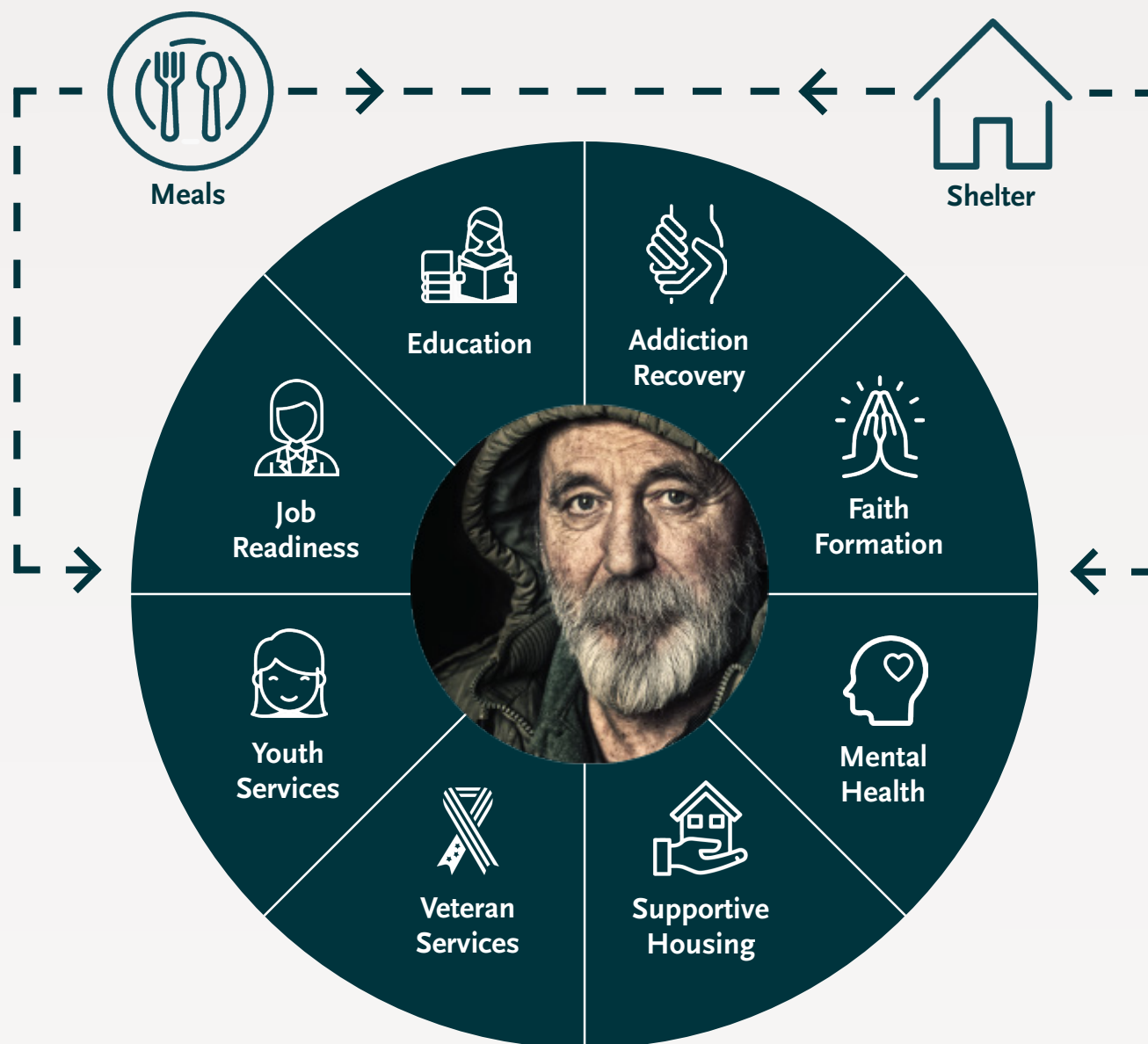
Caring for the Whole Person Leads to a Changed Life

Each person who comes to the Mission is hurting – body, mind and soul. They have unique struggles, trauma and barriers to overcome. That's why it's crucial to feed the whole person.

When you give a gift, you provide more than vital food and a safe place to sleep. You help open the door to other crucial services that can equip someone to rebuild their life

Through Christ-centered relationships, personalized care and life-transforming resources, vulnerable men, women and children in our community are escaping the streets, overcoming obstacles and stepping into a better future. **Your gifts change lives!**

Your Gifts Open the Door to . . .



The Power of a Meal

Meals are the heartbeat of the Mission. Life sustaining. And life changing.

A meal can be a crucial gateway to vital care and resources that help someone escape the streets and step into new life.

Most individuals and families come to the Mission the first time for a meal.

For hurting neighbors like Robert, it could be the first meal they've had in days. They're hungry. Exhausted. Losing hope.

Many men, women and children in the South Sound depend on hot, nutritious food at the Mission. Vital meals that are made possible by partners like you.

The holidays are when we serve the most people. That's why we're kicking off our annual Holiday Meals campaign now.

Help feed your neighbors in need this holiday season. To give life-changing meals, visit trm.org/HolidayMeals.

"When you're starving, you feel so weak. You can barely move, much less walk. That first meal I had at the Mission turned everything around."

— Melissa



Verse of the month:

"... man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord." — Deuteronomy 8:3b (NIV)

The path to a better life often starts with a meal or shelter.

Each \$19.91 you give provides a day of shelter, meals & care for one person.