



A Message from Duke

## A Place of Stability

I truly believe that women experiencing homelessness are some of the most traumatized people the Mission serves.

As I think and hear about what these women have gone through – what my wife and daughters would go through in their shoes – it brings me to tears.

That's why I'm so grateful that friends like you helped to make the Women's Shelter a priority.

In a year that was full of uncertainty for all of us, women like Janice actually found stability. They found comfort. They found safety. They found a place and people they could rely on. They experienced the unconditional love of Jesus.

It may have only been a year since we opened the Women's Shelter, but I've already seen God's love, and the compassion of friends like you, transform the lives of women who are hurting in incredible ways.

Thank you for helping to make true transformation and restoration possible.

In Christ,

Duke Paulson, Executive Director



Every \$19.91 you give will provide food, shelter and a day of care to a woman who's homeless, hungry & hurting.

## Provide Refuge to a Woman in Dire Need!

For women who are hungry, alone and trapped on the streets, fear is felt constantly. With every heartbeat.

**They've gone too long without sleep, without food and without hope of ever escaping homelessness and hurt.**

You make a difference for these women.

**Every \$19.91 you give today will provide a night of safe shelter and a full day of meals and essential, life-changing care.**

Together, we're showing the most vulnerable women in our community that they are loved.

Just \$19.91 provides the services and care to help a woman in need rebuild her life! A woman like Janice.

As her story shows, **your gift will help a woman with nowhere else to turn finally have a place where she can heal, build a foundation, escape homelessness and step into a bright future.**

Will you help change a life today?

*Save and change a life now at [trm.org](http://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.

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

HELP. HOPE. HEALING.



## An Unexpected Answer to a Desperate Prayer . . .

Janice was thrilled when her job transferred her from Spokane to Tacoma. Her new town felt like a perfect fit.

Then, **COVID hit and Janice, at 62 years old, had her life turned upside down.**

*"I got a notice that my job was folding because of COVID. I lost that job. That's when I ended up homeless,"* Janice says sadly. *"It was a real quick spin down, like I could not believe."*

With nowhere to go and little savings, Janice was forced to move into her car, searching for jobs on her phone and praying for help.

**One night, while she was sleeping scrunched up in her car, she pinched a nerve in her back.**

*"I couldn't walk for a couple of days because the pain in my back was so bad,"* she says.

**Janice had no choice but to go to the doctor. He offered her an answer to her prayers . . .**

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*"The Mission gave me a safe place to sleep at night without being in fear." — Ashley*

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*\* Photo changed to protect guest privacy*

## An Unexpected Answer to a Desperate Prayer . . .

**“My doctor told me about the Women’s Shelter at the Tacoma Rescue Mission, so I went there,”** Janice says, her voice full of gratitude.

**“I had faith that the Lord would open doors for me at the Mission and He did. I was able to start getting my life back together.”**

Janice had been taking sponge baths in truck stop bathrooms and living out of her car.

She constantly feared that someone would see her and try to hurt her, break into her car – or worse. But all those fears began to disappear when Janice got to the Mission.

Finally, she had a warm bed to sleep in and hot meals to eat each day. She had a chance to just rest and begin rebuilding her life.

**“I had a peace that passes all understanding,”** Janice emotionally shares.

**“It meant the world to just be safe. And not just for me, but for all the women. It means the world. You don’t have to worry about getting raped, mugged, abused or anything.”**

Having safety, stability and the support of Mission staff allowed Janice to come up with a plan to step into a better future.

**“At the shelter, I was able to refocus,”** Janice shares. **“I had the time to just be with God, and seek direction and guidance with the help of the staff that was there.”**



Because of the compassionate support of friends like you, Janice is no longer experiencing homelessness.

While at the Mission, she had the opportunity to heal and reconnect with her family. Eventually, Janice saved enough to move back to the South, where she’s originally from.

She’s now living with one of her children, looking for work and helping to care for her infant grandson. Janice is loving the chance to be a hands-on grandma.

**“I thank God every day I wake up. I’m very grateful,”** she says, smiling. **“I want to share my deepest, humblest, most sincere gratitude for the people who donate, it’s so worth it. I’m going to be one of them soon. Just, thank you.”**

**You can help rescue another woman who’s in dire need. Will you help change a life today?**

*Each \$19.91 you give provides a night of safe shelter. Plus a day of meals and care for a woman who’s hungry, homeless and hurting.*

### Verse of the month:

**“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” — Psalm 46:1 (NIV)**

## Celebrating One Year of Changed Lives!

Janice is just one example of how, in just a year, the generosity of friends like you has transformed lives!

**Dozens of women who were struggling to survive on the streets have been able to overcome homelessness and step into better futures.** All thanks to the safe shelter, nourishing meals and life-changing resources that compassionate community members like you provided.

**Because of you, two women who were victims of human trafficking were able to find refuge** at the Mission.

**Another woman, who was suffering from severe exhaustion, got the rest she desperately needed.** She hadn’t slept in days. Afraid of what might happen to her if she fell asleep while out on the street.

**These women were able to escape the dangers they faced each day and begin rebuilding their lives.**

**Just imagine how many more lives you’ll change with your gift today!**



## Women’s Empowerment

Thanks to community partners, we’re able to host a monthly Women’s Empowerment event. Helping women in need feel loved, seen and appreciated. During this event, women can relax, enjoy a hot lunch, connect to resources, do laundry, shower, even get manicures and hair cuts!

The event has been on hold because of the pandemic, but as soon as restrictions loosen the events will resume, this time in our new women’s shelter!

**“In homeless outreach, I’ve met a lot of women and seen the living conditions they’re in. Being a woman myself, I recognize the importance of just simple hygiene for these women. Or having something that makes you feel special and loved. That’s what I hope women’s empowerment will continue to do.”** – Latisha, Mission staff



**“I saw the Women’s Shelter as my sanctuary. Just having food and somewhere to stay made me feel like somebody out there cared. It helped me keep going until I could do it on my own.”**  
– Merideth, former shelter guest

## Essentials for Women

It’s common for women to come to the Mission with just the clothes on their back.

That’s why **we’re calling on generous friends like you to help provide essentials for women in dire need.**

**Will you help provide these crucial items?**

- Undergarments (new underwear, bras, sports bras)
- Hairbrushes and Hair Ties
- Deodorant and Bodywash
- Bath Towels (new or like new / washed)
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Pajamas
- Socks
- Women’s Tennis Shoes (new or like new)
- Razors
- Twin-Size Sheets
- Feminine Hygiene Products



**Donations can be dropped off at or shipped to our Donation Center: 2502 6th Ave., Tacoma, WA 98406**

Our Donation Center is open to accept drop-off donations on Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Saturday, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.