

## Where Will They Go?

... night he would have died. That's how dangerous it can be on the streets!

Stan didn't know what to do next. Without his I.D., the job he had come for couldn't hire him. He had no one in the state he could stay with. Until he was told about the Mission.

Thanks to the support of friends like you, after Stan was released from the hospital, we were able to provide him with a warm, clean bed and hot, nourishing meals.

We helped him get replacement ID cards so that he could access his bank accounts, be able to go back to work and apply for housing.

While here, he recognized this was his chance to make some important changes in his life. A part of this was his acceptance that he needed to work on a problem with drinking that had plagued him for years.

"While I was staying in the Mission's shelter, I realized that I definitely needed to take care of my issue and then applied for the New Life Program," Stan explains.

Stan is getting close to graduating from the Recovery Program and is on an even better path than he could have imagined.

**By expanding and renovating, we'll be able to serve more people with the dignity and compassion they need to truly change their lives.**

**"Don't let the past define who you are, let who you have become define the future." – Stan**

He hopes to get a job helping others so that he can give back to our community in meaningful ways. And it all started because we were able to provide him with shelter and meals when he needed it most!

"There's a lot of people down there, way more than this place has space for," Stan says, explaining what it's like at the Men's Shelter. "But where else are they going to go?" The truth is, there is nowhere else for them to go.

"The expansion is necessary because, at some point, you're not going to be able to put people on top of people," Stan explains from personal experience.



Thanks to generous donors, neighbors in need have found a warm, nutritious meal at the Mission for over 110 years!

## Grow With Us! Help Us Serve More People in Desperate Need.

For over 110 years the Mission has been a place where people come together to love God and their neighbors.

We've been doing our very best to serve everyone within the space and resources we've had available.

And now, we believe God is calling us to expand our space and resources to help meet the growing needs of our community.

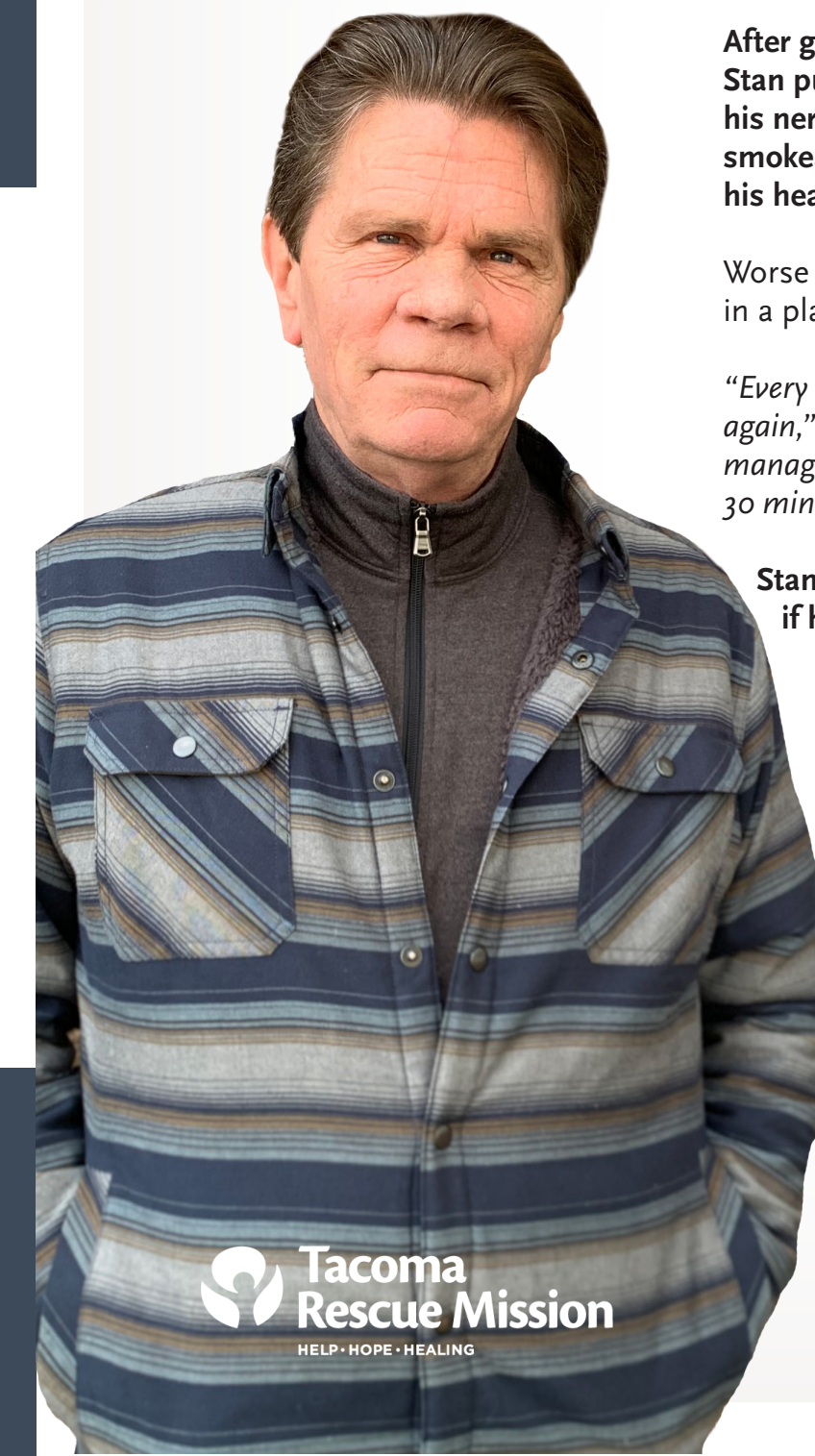
Your gift to help grow the depth and breadth of our Men's Shelter campus will make it possible to show our hurting neighbors more dignity, love and compassion than we can currently.

And we'll be able to share Jesus with more people and change more lives.

By helping to grow our capacity to offer shelter, meals and transformative care, you will provide more opportunities to change lives than ever before!

**Please respond as soon as possible. Renovations have already started!**

HELP. HOPE. HEALING.



## Where Will They Go?

Stan never expected to be homeless. But while on a train, moving to Washington for work, everything he owned was taken from him.

"All my possessions were stolen - my wallet, my social security card, laptop and ID," he says.

Then, when he arrived, things went from bad to worse.

After getting off the train in 25-degree weather, Stan pulled out his cigarettes to try and calm his nerves. He walked away from the crowd to smoke, then slipped on some icy stairs and hit his head so hard that he blacked out.

Worse still, he landed in a patch of thick bushes in a place no one could see him.

"Every time I tried to stand up, I would pass out again," he explains. "After two days laying there, I managed to crawl out to the curb and after about 30 minutes, finally waved down a police person."

Stan went to the hospital where they told him if he had been out there one more . . .

**"I never needed to think about being in this situation. It makes you feel like less of a person. . . you can't prove who you are. Your self-esteem is low. I think the best way to say it is you feel like a ghost." – Stan**

### INSIDE:

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- Together We Can Change MORE Lives!
- Grow With Us

#### 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.



## Expansion and Renovation Plan

We've been hard at work with architects to create as much space as efficiently and quickly as possible. After months of conversation, we've landed on a basic plan that we are thrilled about.

It will allow us to increase the number of individuals we serve so that we can help more people than ever before!

### Expanded New Life Recovery Program Facilities

By refreshing and expanding our Men's New Life Program Facilities, more men will be able to experience long-lasting transformation and healing from addiction.

### The New Men's Shelter

With this plan, we'll be able to triple our capacity to meet the growing need for safe, emergency shelter. We'll also expand and renovate the men's bathroom. Right now, there are only 6 toilets. (Sometimes we have had 200 men!) Our new bathroom plan has 20 showers, 12 toilets, 10 urinals and 14 sinks.

### New Bed Systems

As part of the Men's Shelter expansion and renovation we'll be implementing a new bed system that has stairs instead of a ladder, more space, private storage and an outlet so guests can charge their electronic devices. These new beds will be safer to access and allow for more privacy for our guests.

### Dining Room Renovation

Connected to our Men's Shelter is our public dining room and kitchen, which we call the Good Neighbor Cafe. It serves over 800 meals a day and 300,000 meals a year to men, women and children in desperate need. With this expansion, we'll be able to feed more people safely and efficiently.



Expanded New Life Program Dorm



Increased Shelter & Dining Hall Space



Returning the Lighthouse to Welcome Guests



A Message from Duke . . .

## It's Bigger Than Us

Most of the time, expansion is focused internally. People want to expand their homes and their business because they want to have a greater presence. They want to be more known and make a bigger name for themselves.

At the Tacoma Rescue Mission, the reason we want to grow has nothing to do with us. It has to do with Jesus, our hurting neighbors and our community.

We want to expand not just so that we can be bigger, but so that more people can be reached and helped in deeper ways.

We want more lives to be saved.

We want to serve more people with more dignity and more love.

We want more people to experience lasting transformation.

We want more people to meet Jesus. We want to make His name -- not ours -- great.

And if that's something you want to be a part of, I hope you'll send a gift today.

In Christ,

Duke Paulson

***"The number and needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in our community is continuing to grow. If we don't expand now, more lives will be at stake, more people will be on the streets and even more people like Gary, Michelle and Jason won't get the help they so desperately need to change their lives."***

**- Duke Paulson, Executive Director**

**Together We Can Change MORE Lives!**

*"My journey in the Men's New Life Program has allowed me to see and fully understand what it means to be a man of God. I was accepted into a brotherhood of men, which would become my new family. All of my brothers come from different backgrounds, but we're all aiming for the same goal, which is to live a godly life and to live a life full of sobriety." – Gary*



*"Going through homelessness with my kids was the worst feeling ever. When you're in survival mode, you don't pay attention to how long you've gone without eating. Being at the Mission allowed me to identify who I really am as a mother, as God's child, and it gave me hope for a better future for my kids." – Michelle*

*"There are so many more people out there than you see on the streets . . . When you're helping, when you give to the shelter and give to the Mission, clothes and donations and food, you're helping people survive." – Jason*



**Your gift of any amount will help provide more opportunities to change more lives than ever before!**