

MISSION MONTHLY

NEWSLETTER OF THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION



Living a transformed life

Read how Ricardo stepped into a new life

Grow with us

Learn how we're growing to better care for our neighbors in need



LEARN HOW YOU CAN GROW WITH US

Read about our three-part Comprehensive Growth Campaign inside this newsletter.

Then scan the QR code below to fill out an Information Request Form for an opportunity to learn more about the areas of growth you're interested in AND how you can get involved!



Duke Paulson serves as our Executive Director. Learn more about our leadership at trm.org/leadership.

heart telling me, 'go there.'
Now I'm a graduate of the New Life [Addiction Recovery] Program. 21 months sober. I'm still focused on my recovery. Recovery is for life, you always have to work on it."

So, what's next for you?
"I'm going to stay focused on God, 100%. Pray for my kids and connect with them more. I need to keep getting my head checked like with MRIs.

God gave me the housing opportunity I'm in now at the House of Mercy. I want to grow in spiritual things and how to protect myself, my mentality, and be a better person. It's a good place for that. I want to work with the community because a lot of people need help like I did."

Interview continued...
When I was sleeping that night, the same guy came with a rock and a hammer and hit me on the head. It put me in a three-day coma.

I woke up on the third day and I thought, 'What am I doing?'

I had no contact with my family, my kids, my ex-wife, nobody. I was lonely, depressed. I didn't have motivation to keep going. My brother died from a heart attack but I didn't know for two months because I was on the street and didn't have contact with nobody.

I was broken, no identity, and had problems with drugs and alcohol. I said, 'I need to stop.' So I started looking for help.

I found help for the first time with Mario, the [Mission's] Search and Rescue guy. God put the Rescue Mission on my





LIVING A TRANSFORMED LIFE

Ricardo came to the Mission looking for a new life. He found that and more. Read about his journey in the interview below.

What does “new life” look like for you?

“It looks like God opening my eyes. I surrendered and the Holy Spirit transformed my mentality and my character.

I used to be closed minded. I was angry and always running. God gave me the peace to stay in one place, follow through on what I’m doing, and let it move me forward. [The Mission] gave me the opportunity to do that.

I didn’t come in just for a bed or to stay warm. I came to get a new life and be a good example for my kids, especially, and for all my people and community. I thank everyone at the Mission for trusting and believing in me. This place transforms people, transforms lives.”

God is clearly at the center of your story. Can you share about your faith journey?

“I started reading the Bible when I was in jail. God was talking to me on every page. Psalm 27 broke me down. I cried and cried.

It was a hard journey, but God is good. God changes lives. I don’t recognize myself after the miracles He’s done in my life and the victories He’s given me.

Every morning, I do my devotionals and pray. I love my neighbors. A lot of people right now in the street are broken, I see it every day. But these are good people with nice hearts.

I found a home church at Centro de Vida. I have a community now that gives me good advice, good direction, and is always looking after me.”

You shared you had been experiencing homelessness for six years, what was the turning point for you?

“One day a woman ran up to me saying, “somebody’s trying to kill me.” Her eye looked like she had got hit. I protected her from the guy that hit her...”

GROW WITH US

Providing the most dignified, holistic, and loving care for our neighbors in need demands we continuously look for ways to grow, adapt, and expand. There are 3 significant areas of growth happening now as a part of our Comprehensive Growth Campaign. Read more below, then see how you can learn more or get involved on the back of this newsletter!

1 DOWNTOWN CAMPUS EXPANSION

The Downtown Campus Expansion will triple the combined capacity of our Men’s Shelter and Men’s Addiction Recovery Program, offer more dignified amenities, and create more opportunity for life-changing support and connection. There will be no interruption in services during the Downtown Expansion.

2 GOOD NEIGHBOR VILLAGE

The Good Neighbor Village will provide 285 beautiful, single-unit, forever homes to neighbors experiencing chronic homelessness. Restoring stability, dignity, and purpose within a safe, supportive, and healing community. Learn more at gnvlife.org.

3 SUSTAINABLE TRANSFORMATION

As we grow, we are committed to providing the highest level of training, resourcing, and care for Tacoma Rescue Mission staff to ensure a continued level of dignified and transformative support and care in our on-going emergency services, housing programs, and recovery programs.

