

Eureka Rescue Mission

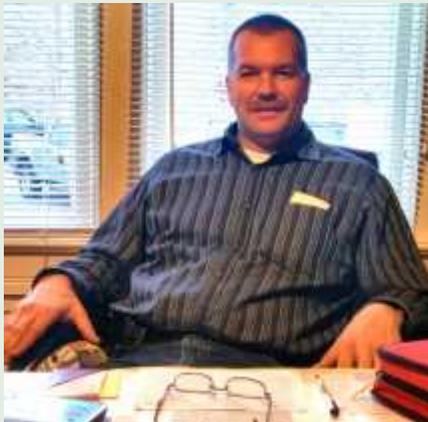
Rebuilding Broken Lives... One Life at a Time

CHANGED LIVES

Serving Our Community Since 1967

Spring 2020 Vol. 11 #2

From the Desk of the Director



Bryan Hall, Sr.
Executive Director

Sometimes God has us step up to the plate to teach us how to hit a curveball and COVID-19 is a serious curveball. Life as we knew it at the Eureka Rescue Mission and across our country, changed overnight. Our normal mode of operations was set aside and now we have modified our standard operating procedures to conform to guidelines handed down by the Governor and local health officials to hopefully prevent any spread of this highly contagious virus into the homeless community. Unfortunately we had to close our thriving Thrift Store which is our main source of income, forcing us to lay off over half of our workforce. This has created a serious lack of funding that we use to support our Shelters. Thankfully we have you, our faithful donors, and a giving community

who have continued supporting us during these trying times. Humboldt Area Foundation and Providence St. Joseph Health's Community Resilience Fund have also provided emergency funding for us to continue our ministry of reaching the most vulnerable of our community. Currently we are totally quarantining all who are in both our Shelters, encouraging those who are inside to stay inside until this crisis is over. All of our guests would normally leave our facilities during the

day to go out into the community seeking services and employment but are now voluntarily confined within our gates. We have implemented a mandatory hand washing station, provided by the City, at the entrance of our Men's facility in addition to a regimented daily program of disinfecting high-touch surfaces throughout our shelters and office spaces. At the Men's Shelter we have separated our bunk beds into single beds, spaced over 6 feet apart in our dormitory. During mealtime we are seating only 4 per table and all guests are served their meals by our New Life Program members. Face-masks have been provided for all who are inside and we encourage everyone to utilize them as much as possible. No volunteers are permitted to come from the community at this time and we are maintaining a total of approximately 106 men, women and children inside our shelters. Our Women and Children's shelter has right at 33 women and children and our goal is to safely, carefully and incrementally increase our capacity at both shelters. This will hopefully keep more people experiencing homelessness safe which will be crucial to not overwhelming the hospitals should this virus spread exponentially in our community. Any new intakes are required to be screened and cleared by professional medical staff before coming to the shelters. In addition to providing services for all who are inside, we are serving breakfast and dinner through our front gate to the homeless who choose to remain outdoors. I am amazed at how much our local community has already helped thus far. Thankfully we are food secure and the food donations keep coming in from our giving community. Currently we are serving an average of 450 meals per day. We covet your prayers and support during this challenging time, together we will make it through and hopefully sometime soon things will get back to normal. May God richly bless you in Jesus name. Thank you!

Bryan Hall



Would you like more information?

Find us online at:

www.eurekarescuemission.org



News from the Women and Children's Shelter



The Crisis of COVID-19 has had a major impact all over the world; life has come to an unexpected halt. Here at the Eureka Rescue Mission Women and Children's Shelter, many of our guests are staying positive and uniting through the quarantine process. Of course there are going to be some rough patches, but overall, we are hanging in there by keeping the faith and abiding by the rules and requests of our authorities. We have witnessed our guests coming closer together now more than ever. Ladies that generally self-isolate have been conversing and interacting with others, teaming up by participating in deep cleaning tasks, working puzzles, enjoying art therapy and playing games with the other guests. In some ways this crisis is allowing some of our ladies to feel safe enough to venture out from behind the barriers they have built around themselves. The community has been a huge encouragement for us by reaching out to meet our needs, ranging from donations of food, diapers, and hygiene products, all the way down to Easter baskets that

were handmade and delivered to the shelter. We are continuing to stay positive and uplifted during this time through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we are in this together. With a heart full of gratitude, we feel truly blessed that even during a worldwide crisis we are sheltered, safe, well fed, and warm. The Corona Virus might be a big thing, but our God is bigger and more powerful than anything the enemy sends our way. We will continue to worship and praise His Holy name, all the while serving Him and His people. Our goal is to continue setting a good example by following the requests and recommendations of State and local authorities, praying for all nations and all of God's children. May God bless you all and we pray that the Lord will keep you in the shadow of The Almighty! We will most certainly overcome this devastating time with the help of the Lord, stronger than before!

Psalm 91:1-6 NKJV He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence COVID-19) that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.



Angela Diggs relocated to Eureka from Arizona to accept a position in the beauty industry as a hair stylist. Clients of hers, on business trips coming from Humboldt County, would come and get their hair done in Arizona. Angela was offered an opportunity that felt too good to be true by one of her customers who was willing to relocate her, offering her housing in Eureka while she built her clientele locally. Angela has an amazing talent and passion for braiding and attaching hair extensions. She decided to take a leap of faith and venture to Eureka with the hope of starting a flourishing business and new life. The beginning was good; the couple she was living with helped her build a clientele by introducing her to their friends and family who had hair needs. All seemed well and Angela was able to pay her own way in addition to saving enough money on the side to look for a place of her own. As time progressed, tensions arose with the people she was living with which unfortunately resulted in Angela being assaulted by one of her roommates. She contacted the police to stand-by while she moved her belongings out and they referred her to the Eureka Rescue Mission Women and Children's Shelter for help. Angela was immediately accepted into the shelter where she felt completely safe and secure. After about four months of hard work and dedication, Angela was able to secure her own one-bedroom apartment within walking distance from the Mission. Before the COVID-19 shelter in place order was initiated, Angela was faithfully volunteering at dinner services, giving hope and strength to our other guests. Since the quarantine, Angela still stays in touch with us remotely on a regular basis and is eager to be able to return to her volunteer opportunities here at the Women's Shelter when this is all over. Angela was asked if there was anything she would like to say to the supporters of the Eureka Rescue Mission. Her response was, "Thank you to the folks that believe in what is done in this Ministry. The love of Christ flows throughout the shelter by the words and actions of the staff and other guests. What might seem like a small act of kindness to one person, can actually be the game changer for another. You are all appreciated and I am very thankful." Stories like this bring light in seemingly dark times! We were blessed to have Angela with us and are even more blessed to have played a part in her success. Thank you to all our supporters for your sacrificial support in helping us make a positive difference in the lives of those who need it most.



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