



Eureka Rescue Mission
New Life Program
Serving the Community

The Eureka Rescue Mission New Life Program is a 12 month Christian Discipleship Program. On Saturdays we have what we call "God's Squad." Most, if not all of the members of the program, take to the streets of Old Town Eureka picking up trash, pulling weeds, and retrieving abandoned shopping carts. The men are also available for various events throughout the year, consisting of, but not limited to, 4th of July festivities, Arts Alive and Cruzin Eureka car show. Charlotte McDonald from Eureka Main Street and the Eureka Rescue Mission have a very close working relationship and she calls on the men weekly for various tasks to improve the Old Town community. On the 24th of September, all of the men who participated were invited to a monthly Eureka Main Street members meeting in order to receive an award for outstanding service. Charlotte, on behalf of Eureka Main Street, presented an engraved trophy to us which currently resides on the counter at the Executive Office. In Eureka, we also have a council-appointed advisory group, "Keep Eureka Beautiful" committee. Their goal is to build civic pride. The committee collaborates with many other community organizations like the city's Design Review Committee, Humboldt Heritage Society, Eureka Main Street Program and Eureka Chamber of Commerce. "Keep Eureka Beautiful" goes before the City Council often and they give awards of merit to different entities and individuals around town who pay special attention to beautifying our community. On December 1, the Eureka Rescue Mission received this award of merit in recognition of all the hard work of cutting brush and removing trash along Waterfront Drive, exposing the once hidden railroad tracks as well as the trees along the hillside. We are honored and humbled by these recognitions, realizing we are doing these efforts to bless those in our community, and not for the recognition. Thank you Charlotte, city council and all those involved.



Recent New Life Program Graduates



Robert Johansen graduated from the program on November 7, 2009. While on the program Robert gained the reputation of being a very hard worker. Since his graduation, Robert has found two jobs, and is currently engaged to be married. Keep up the good work Robert!



Jim Dixon graduated from the program on November 4, 2009. While on the program, Jim learned valuable life skills that will serve him well. Jim is also a good worker and immediately after graduation Jim went to work for Saint Vincent dePaul in Eureka, and has been doing a great job there!



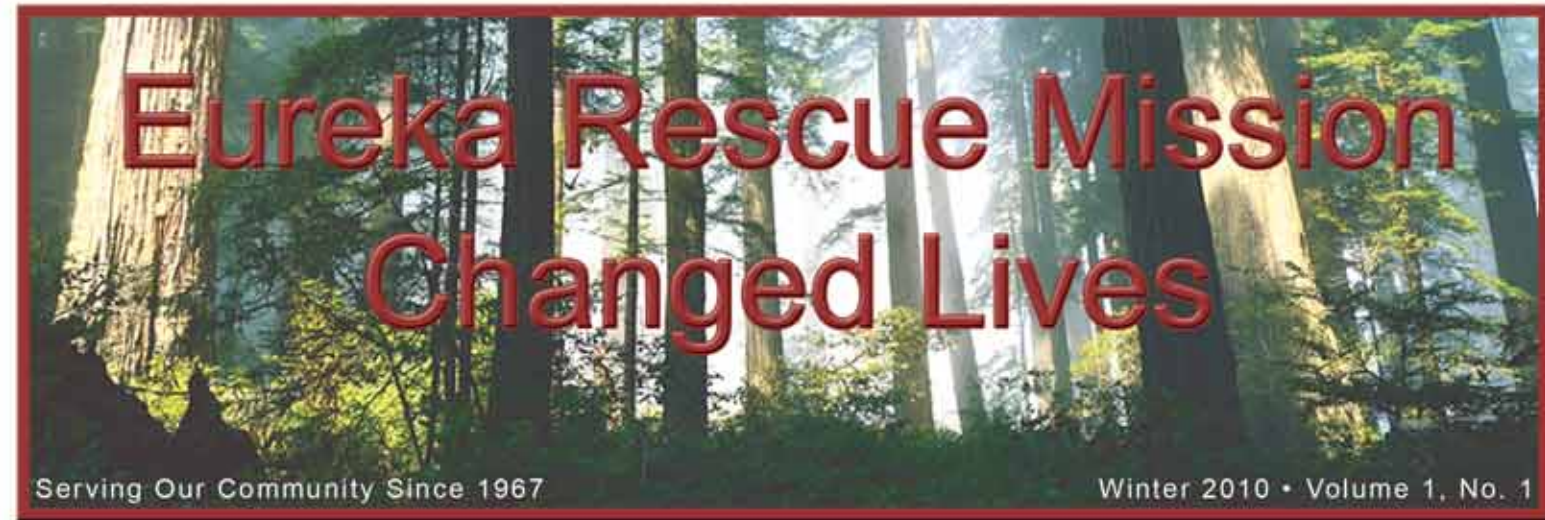
Craig Davis graduated from the program on December 16, 2009. While on the program Craig succeeded in overcoming some major personal challenges. Since his graduation from the program Craig has moved into his own apartment, and has friends from the Mission over frequently for fellowship.



Ririe Fleming graduated from the program on January 6, 2010. While on the program, Ririe applied himself to his studies with enthusiasm. He really has a heart for the homeless and for children. Since his graduation Ririe has taken the position of maintenance for the Mission and is enjoying the work.

The Eureka Rescue Mission is a Federal 501c3 and State exempt nonprofit organization. All donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged with a receipt to ensure accountability.

All donations to the Eureka Rescue Mission are used to help individuals in Humboldt County.



A VERY SPECIAL GIFT FROM REDWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

It was an enormous crowd that gathered outside the Mission on December 18th. Happy, cheerful children came in the front door of the Mission carrying boxes and bags of gifts which would be given to the men of the New Life Discipleship Program. Their joy and enthusiasm was extremely contagious, and the men they came in contact with couldn't help but crack a smile. The men were soon caught up in the spirit of the exciting event. It was not only the wrapped gifts that blessed the men, but the children also brought gifts with them that were not quite as obvious, but by the time they left the Mission it was very apparent that the gifts of love, joy and peace had been given to the men on that day also. It was most certainly a time of great blessing as the children set aside time to come to the Mission to sing, and whether they knew it or not, to minister to a few of those broken hearted and contrite men. It was not all fun and laughter for a few of these men ...



they are fathers, and down inside them there is a longing, a pain. It did not go unnoticed as these men hung their heads, deep in thought about little ones that they miss – little ones whom they long to have in their lives again. Their difficult life, full of struggle has led them to this point, to this very moment. It's a special moment between them and God as they wrestle to make sense out of the seemingly wasted time and lost relationship. A scripture from the book of Isaiah comes to mind, "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." Those are the words of God and the heart and ministry of His Son Jesus Christ. The reflection into their past seems to have been a peaceful, healing occurrence and it's not long before the singing of the children draws them out of their thoughts and into the joyous spirit of fellowship. It is hard to express the gratitude that the men and staff of the Eureka Rescue Mission have for all those wonderful children (over 40 of them!), but without them it most certainly would have been a lonelier, emptier, quieter, less thoughtful Christmas celebration for 2009. Thank you teachers, parents and students of the Redwood Christian School!



Women and Children's Shelter - Homeless Guest Services
New Life Discipleship Program - Thrift Store
Rebuilding broken lives ... One life at a time



CHANGED LIVES

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EUREKA RESCUE
MISSION**

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This newsletter is produced entirely by Eureka Rescue Mission staff and volunteers

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A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR DAN ICE

*Thanksgiving and Christmas traditions
Why they are so important at the Mission*

Consider your activities during our past holiday season. If yours were like mine, they were filled with family, traditional food, traditional fun around sports, traveling to family with family, gifts and love shared with those dearest and important to you. Warm, encouraging, caring time with friends and family. Days off work spent resting and relaxing away from the daily routines. As you are well aware, we at the Mission spend a great deal of time, energy and resources to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for those less fortunate and in need within our community. Some ask why all the effort, why focus on these activities at a rescue mission? Let me explain: our goal at the Mission is to share the bread for life (physical needs) to share the "Bread of Life" (spiritual need). We desire to meet physical needs in order to earn the opportunity to share Jesus Christ to those needing spiritual life. OK, you might say, but why traditional meals, gifts, music, and the concepts of thankfulness and joy? This



touches on a major misconception, that being poor, needy or homeless is a type or classification of people. In reality, it is a condition, or temporary circumstance people find themselves in. These normal, feeling, thinking folks find themselves in abnormal circumstances. The people we serve have the same needs, desires and emotions that we all share. So, as you reflect on your Thanksgiving and Christmas experiences, the family, the warmth, good food, joy and rest, these are exactly the experiences we desire for those we serve at our Holiday meals. Most of our guests are away from family or with family with no resources to have

or provide turkey meals or Christmas gifts. As we provide those tangible experiences we share the love, happiness, security and acceptance that we all desire, but can be desperately lacking when life is reduced to striving and worrying about the basics of life; shelter, clothing, warmth and a safe place to sleep. The love of God we share during our Thanksgiving and Christmas meals and festivities bring hope to the hopeless, joy to the sorrowing and is the stepping stone to bring present and eternal peace to folks who are introduced to the love of God. Thank you for the sacrificial giving of your time and resources to our ministry at your Eureka Rescue Mission, we minister on your behalf. God bless you as you bless others.



Kiwanis Donate Books & Bookshelf To Women & Children's Shelter

Kiwanis Club of Henderson Center was interested in doing something for the children of our shelter. On January 7, 2009, Paul Jerland, Lynda Pozel, her husband Jack Pozel, and a handful of other Kiwanis members came to our shelter with books in hand that they had been collecting for us, along with a beautiful handmade book shelf. Jack Pozel made the book shelf and installed it himself. Dave Silverbrand was here to record the event for our local news media. One of the mothers was here in the house at the time. She was very excited about the new books for the kids. She said her daughter loved reading books and had already read most of the children's books that we had here in the shelter. After

the book shelf and books had been donated, I started to brain storm ways to encourage the books to be used. God's blessings always multiply. Now we have volunteers coming in the evening to the shelter to read the books to the children. The kids sit with their favorite stuffed animals or blankets all cozy and listen to the stories. It's a peaceful time in the evening when things were usually very busy. Some of the older children are even reading to the younger ones. This helps their reading skills for school. Kiwanis also donated a children's dictionary that the children are using to do their school homework. The books are being used for bed time stories as well. I think we all can look back into our childhood and remember our favorite stories and how they took us away to a special place of fun. What a wonderful donation! - Lisa Skidmore, Womens Shelter Director

2009 Memorials

NOTE: Due to the many memorials, we will share more in the next newsletter. Memorial gifts ... last a lifetime. By sending a memorial gift to the Eureka Rescue Mission, you can recognize a life you wish to honor. Mail your gift to: Eureka Rescue Mission, P.O. Box 76, Eureka, CA 95502.

Dorothy Belloni

- Eileen Amos

Mary Brazil

- Johnnie Avila

Vern "Rock" Buell

- Annette Hauger

- George Otterbeck

- Mabel Anderson

- Earl Moranda

- Donald Graham

- Matthew Forsell

- Albert Keller

- Demello, McAuley,

McReynolds & Holland

Ferne Bunnell

- Eileen Amos

Jason Freeman

- Mamie Phillis

John G French

- Minerva French

Phil Katri

- Mamie Phillis

Clarence Leppek

- Aldo Bongio

- Richard Matteoli

- Pierson Building Center

- Stuart Sundet

- Peggy Van Doorn

- Dan & Carol Ice



INTRODUCING
OUR NEW
WOMEN'S SHELTER
DIRECTOR

We are blessed and excited to introduce Lisa Skidmore as our new Women's Shelter Director! Lisa left her self-employed work in the private sector, as a home care provider, in response to God's calling to become involved in full-time ministry, to share the Lord's love and compassion with patience and enthusiasm, seasoned with discernment. What a wonderful addition to our ministry staff!

