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The Vision

A PUBLICATION OF CITY RESCUE MINISTRIES OF SAGINAW



Rebuilding LIVES



*"I'm grateful
for these classes.*

*They taught
me a lot and so
many of you have
helped me."*

~LARRY JONES

Spring is on the horizon and soon we'll see orange signs saying, "Men at Work." Such is the case at City Rescue Mission where lives are under re-construction as Mission guests are rebuilding their lives. Men and women alike are working hard at putting their lives back together through classes and Christian support from Rescue Mission staff and volunteers. Larry Jones is one of those individuals.

After being expelled from High School, Larry knew he had to change his behavior and get back on the road to rebuilding his life. That's when he left Saginaw for Grand Rapids. In Grand Rapids he enrolled in the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center where he received his diploma and a certificate of completion for its Carpentry training. Larry came to City Rescue Mission in September of 2017 after moving from Grand Rapids and a short lived stay with a younger brother, in Saginaw.

Living with his brother didn't work out and with both of his parents deceased, Larry came to the Rescue Mission for shelter and support.

He enrolled in the Mission's Spiritually Accountable Vocationally Equipped (S.A.V.E.) Program. Larry proudly finished the Life Skills and Jobs for Life classes and was even more proud because the graduation fell on his 25th birthday. As he gave his graduation speech, through a huge grin, he stated, "I'm grateful for these classes. They taught me a lot and so many of you have helped me." Both Craig Laszlo and Jeff Hegenauer shared their surprise and sentiments of seeing Larry "come out of his shell" to share words of thanks. "Wow, I don't think I've heard you say that many words before!" stated Craig Laszlo, Co-Facilitator of Jobs for Life Program.

Larry shared that he doesn't speak much because he wants to keep his thoughts in the right perspective. He listens before he speaks to assure that his response is the correct one. Growing up, he said a physician once told his mother, "Larry is a deep thinker." Larry confessed that he believes for that reason he is sometimes misunderstood. Although Mission staff and volunteers think he's a kind and respectful young man. Larry trains in the Mission kitchen which is a part of the S.A.V.E. program. He recently returned to his childhood church, First Baptist of Bridgeport. His face lights up when talking about his Christian walk. "I have to keep God on the side. Well, actually I need to keep him right in the middle," he chuckled.



DIRECTOR'S DESK



One of my personal hobbies is jogging. I know that people usually equate a hobby with something pleasurable, and I am sure some of you would find no pleasure in jogging. However, for me, on a warm summer evening jogging while the sun is setting is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and experience God's creation. It's been a great opportunity to listen to scripture, Christian music, or meditate. But I hate it when the winter months come around and I am relegated to a treadmill. I am stuck in one place indoors and it's hard to feel a sense of accomplishment.

One of my favorite passages in scripture is *Jude 22* "And of some have compassion, making a difference." God has put us on this earth to be an agent of change, not just to be consumed with ourselves and our desires. It is so easy to fall into the trap of allowing things to consume our time and resources that have little impact. Have you taken the time to consider what things in your life truly produce positive change? God has called us to make a difference.

Even as a staff, at the Mission, we can fall into the trap of doing good versus doing God's work. Doing God's work is more than meals and clothing. It can feel really good to see people in need and help them materially. If we're not careful, that can be a distraction from doing God's work if that is our only outcome. It's like being on a treadmill, it has minimal benefit. If life change isn't occurring, and people's lives aren't any different than when they came through the Mission doors, then we have missed the chance to make a difference...a difference for Christ.

So as we start another year of ministry together, let's challenge each other, staff, donors, and volunteers alike that we are making sure our time and resources are producing outcomes that make a difference!

Dan Streeter
Chief Executive Officer



Thank You!

Jobs for Life Champions

Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan is grateful for our Jobs for Life (JFL) Champion volunteers. Champions come alongside Mission guests to support them one-on-one in their journey to rebuild their lives. They attend classes with the guests, offering assistance, support, guidance and a sense of community. This is what JFL Co-Facilitators are saying about Mission Champions;

"Champions are a pivotal part of the Jobs for Life classes. The volunteers work directly with the students sharing their own life experiences with them and building relationships with them."
 ~ Jeff Hegenauer, City Rescue Mission of Saginaw



Champions (left to right) Dale Breternitz, Patrice Wollnski, Bill Winistorf



Champion Cruz-Gutierrez-Blondin (middle) pictured with two JFL graduates

"We love our Jobs for Life Champions! They graciously provide support, encouragement, and counsel for our guests throughout the course and beyond."
 ~ Craig Laszlo, Good Samaritan Rescue Mission of Bay City

Join us

SATURDAY
March 3, 2018

Bring your church groups, employees, family and friends!

LIGHTING THE WAY HOME



Featuring pre-game Concert with
MODERN DAY CURE
 and **FRANKENMUTH BIBLE CHURCH PRAISE BAND**



FILL THE
LIMO FOOD Drive



DURING THE HOCKEY FOR HOMELESS GAME



Donate a canned food item or donate \$1 and receive a ticket to enter the drawing to win the

Detroit Red Wings prize package:

Package includes 2 tickets to an upcoming Detroit Red Wings game with transportation by Stretch Limo.

Receive an entry ticket for every food item or dollar donated.

GOT TICKETS?

Tickets are \$13 each, group of 20 or more, just \$10!



Our Mission

To glorify God by SERVING PEOPLE IN NEED, PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL,
AND ESTABLISHING DISCIPLES AMONG DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE.

Operation Hope and Care



A little bag makes a big difference!

Help Provide Hope and Care to the Homeless

Fill a hope and care tote with items:

The annual Operation Hope & Care is in effect. Operation H & C is a great project for church groups, civic groups and individuals. Every family and individual, who checks in to the Mission's emergency shelter, receives a Hope & Care tote filled with NEW hygiene products. Call Jenny to order your bags and posters at 989-752-6051 ext. 122. What a difference a bag can make!

- Women's Body Wash
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Men's & Women's Shaving Cream
- Men's & Women's Razors
- Men's & Women's Deoderant
- Body Lotion
- Large Combs and Brushes
- Nail Clippers
- Tissues
- Haircare products (gel etc.)



Dutch Apple Pies

in time for Spring!

Order a Dutch Apple Pie for Easter, Mother's Day or just because you like them. Pies are limited to the first 500 orders. All orders must be pre-paid. Call Good Samaritan Rescue Mission to order your spring Dutch Apple Pie, today! You may order online at www.gsrmbycity.org or by calling Marlene at 989-893-5973 ext. 221.

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