

Rescue  Mission
OF MIDDLE GEORGIA

THE

MISSION

Bell

VOLUME 23 • ISSUE 10 • OCTOBER 2022

"Where Healing Begins"



**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
AWARENESS
MONTH**

STAND UP. STEP UP. SPEAK UP.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Charlie Cantrell *CHAIRMAN*

Stewart Vernon *VICE-CHAIR*

Beverly Olson *SECRETARY*

Susan Collins *TREASURER*

Blake Sullivan

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Dr. Bill Argo

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bobby Cramer

Buddy Clawson

Mike Jenkins

Frank Malloy

Alfred Sams

Chris R. Sheridan

Jeff Thompson

Louis Frank Tompkins

Wimberly Treadwell

ADVISORY BOARD

Oliver Bateman III

Martha Blue

Senator Saxby Chambliss

Ashley Copelan

Carolyn Crayton

Sheriff David Davis

Michael Ketterbaugh

Tommy Mixon

Robert Reichert

PRESIDENT/CEO

Pat Chastain

THE MISSION Bell

VOLUME 23 • ISSUE 10 • OCTOBER 2022

03 FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Growth

04 TESTIMONY FROM THE MISSION

God Has Delivered Me

06 Domestic Violence Awareness Month

State of Georgia Statistics

07 NEEDS LIST

Donation Drives That Change Lives

10 SCENES FROM AROUND THE MISSION

Fundraiser

12 WOMEN'S DIVISION HAPPENINGS

National Domestic Violence
Awareness Month

13 UPCOMING EVENTS

Candlelight Vigil

14 BARN CENTER

Exciting News

15 BARGAIN CENTER

Great Cold Weather Attire

PROVIDING *a Path of*
HOPE, REDEMPTION,
& **EMPOWERMENT**
THROUGH
Jesus Christ



PANAPRINT A community service product of Panaprint.

FROM THE President's Desk

Growth

God is moving in mighty ways here at the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, and we are in awe of His faithfulness. Our growth is far more than we could have imagined, but God knew what we needed when He moved us to our Zebulon Road campus.



In January of this year, we had 67 men, women, and children in our life recovery programs. As of today, we have 175 on campus including those residing in our Phase III housing. This is an increase of 160%. This is ALL GOD! He continues to bring hurting people to the Mission that are desperate for change. We pray that we remain focused solely on Him as he leads and guides us through these changes.

With growth such as this, comes many needs. Our biggest need is PRAYER. I humbly ask for your prayers for our board, staff, and residents as we transition into this wonderful growth. Thank you for partnering with us as we seek to share the Love of Christ above all else.

How you can help:

1. **PRAY** - Pray that we keep Jesus Christ at the forefront of all we do and every decision we make as we strive to glorify His name!
2. **DONATE** - There are many ways to support us through donations. You can donate your gently used items to our thrift ministry, you can host a donation or food drive, or donate your time by becoming a volunteer or mentor.
3. **SHOP** - We have great bargains at our 2 thrift stores, and we encourage you to come to visit: The Bargain Center at 3375 Napier Ave and The Barn Center at 6601 Zebulon Rd.
4. **GIVE** - When you give, you are supporting a life-changing program that produces real results. You can give through our website or by mail to: 6601 Zebulon Rd, Macon, GA 31220.

Please visit our new website for more information on ways to partner with us:
www.rescuemissionga.com

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Chastain". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a horizontal line that tapers off to the right.

Pat Chastain, *President/CEO*

Testimony FROM THE MISSION

GOD HAS Delivered Me

Hello! My name is Taylor, and I was born in Alexandria, Virginia in July of 1995. This is my story:

My twin brother and I were raised in Warner Robins, Georgia. My childhood was relatively normal, except for the fact that I was adopted at 9 weeks old. My parents did everything they could for my brother and me; we were well cared for, we traveled and we were loved.

When I was in second grade, I went to school one day and the school was throwing a party for my brother and me. Come to find out, it was an adoption party. Up until this point, I had no idea I was adopted. When I learned I was adopted, I immediately felt different. I didn't know it then, but looking back now, this realization caused me to struggle with feelings of rejection and abandonment. It was at this time I put on my first mask. I was hurt and sad over finding out I was adopted, but I never wanted my parents to know or to be hurt by what I was feeling. My mom and dad would then tell me the truth about who my biological parents were. They were drug addicts, and my birth mother was in prison. I immediately became cruel to those around me and carried this sense of entitlement. I would throw the fact that my mom and dad were "not my parents" in their faces regularly to get what I wanted.

When I was 10 years old, my brother was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome, and my parents sent him to a behavioral health rehab for children in Atlanta. My mom went with him, and I did not see them for 2 months. This was difficult for my young mind to handle. My brother was the only blood family I had. Then one day, I turned around, and he was gone. I felt so alone and once again abandoned. When he came home, he was not the same as when he left, and I was concerned and confused. My way of coping with my emotions was to mask



CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

them. If I looked better on the outside, maybe people wouldn't ask me what was wrong with me. Any time people would compliment my hair or clothes, I would use those comments to counteract the lies I believed about myself or the things I thought defined me; "Your parents are drug addicts," "Your mom is in prison," "You're not good enough," "Nobody wants you," or "Nobody really loves you."

As the years progressed, so did the severity of my acting out. At 12 years old, I got drunk for the first time and was raped by my best friend's older brother. By the time I was 15, I was drinking daily, had already been arrested, and was sexually active. At 19, I had my first daughter, and shortly after she was born, I began using meth. I was involved in my first domestic violence relationship. We would both get high on meth, begin arguing and then he would become violent. This pattern continued for about a year before he was arrested, and I was able to get away from him. After that relationship, I ran right into the arms of another man who would begin the cycle all over again. We started out arguing with one another, and eventually, he began beating me. The abuse became so intense, that my dad stepped in and demanded I go to treatment. In June of 2018, I entered my first rehab and stayed 18 months before graduating. During my time in the program, I learned that I didn't need drugs to mask things, and I learned who I was without my parents, daughter, or boyfriend. I got a job and learned what true independence looks and feels like. When I got my phone back, I began communicating with old friends and eventually reconnected with my abuser. His drug use never stopped. The first few times we hung out I was able to fight the temptation, but one day I had a blow-up with my mom. That was my excuse to use. My drug use escalated to IV meth, and it took me farther and exponentially faster than anything ever had before.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



State of Georgia Statistics

37.4% of Georgia women and 30.4% of Georgia men experience intimate partner physical violence, sexual violence and/or stalking in their lifetimes.






In 2019, Georgia domestic violence programs answered 52,282 crisis calls.

Georgia domestic violence shelters provided shelter to 7,214 victims of domestic violence in FY 2019. An additional 4,176 were turned away due to lack of bed space.

In 2017, there were 149 domestic violence-related fatalities. 70% of those involved firearms.

In 2017, Georgia had the 10th highest rate in the US of women murdered by men.

DID YOU KNOW?

-  1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the United States have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.
-  On a typical day, local domestic violence hotlines receive approximately 19,159 calls, an average of approximately 13 calls every minute.
-  In 2018, domestic violence accounted for 20% of all violent crime.
-  Abusers' access to firearms increases the risk of intimate partner femicide at least five-fold. When firearms have been used in the most severe abuse incident, the risk increases 41-fold.
-  65% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner; 96% of the victims of these crimes are female.

Donation Drives THAT CHANGE LIVES

Your generous donation of these much needed items help the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia to be good stewards of our resources while meeting the daily needs of the men, women and children we serve. **THANK YOU** for any help you can give in meeting these needs.

Cleaning Products

TOILET PAPER	Fabuloso All Purpose
PAPER TOWELS	Cleaner
Bleach	Windex
Lysol Spray	Pine-sol
Bathroom Cleanser	

Other Items Needed

MEN'S BOXER BRIEFS (Large & XL)	Allergy Medicine (not Benadryl)
Spiral Notebooks	Children's Cold Medicine
Liquid Bath Soap	Twin Sheet Sets
Razors	Towels & Washcloths
Shave Gel	Shower Liners
Advil or Tylenol	
Cold Medicine	

Donate much needed items RIGHT FROM YOUR COMPUTER!

Visit Our **Amazon Wish List** to Browse, Order & Ship items directly to the Rescue Mission with just a few quick, easy steps...

Items purchased locally can be brought to the Mission at 6601 Zebulon Road.

For more information contact Karen Kinsler at 478-743-5445 ext.404 or karen@rescuemissionga.com

STAFF

Pat Chastain
President/CEO

Tina Hicks
Vice President of Finance

Dawn Burns
Vice President of Operations

Steve Floyd
Logistics Coordinator

Greg Brooks
*Food Service &
Maintenance Supervisor*

PROGRAMS

Jason Beck
Vice President of Programs

Jessica Coleman
Women's Program Director

Chako Scott
Women's Assistant

Kiia Jackson
Case Manager

Scott Davidson
Men's Program Assistant

Charles Anderson
Men's Program Assistant

DEVELOPMENT

Karen Kinsler
Development Director

Patti Stevenson
Development Assistant

Jaime Kaplan
Special Events Coordinator

Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

In November of 2020, I gave birth to my second daughter. She and I both tested positive for meth upon delivery. The Department of Family & Children services took her, and she was placed in foster care for 7 months. Losing her was another excuse to continue using. During the drug use, while trying to navigate the trauma from the abuse and losing my daughter, I found out I was pregnant again. During the pregnancy, I would get clean and break free from the abusive relationship only to return a month or so later. I was bouncing from hotel room to hotel room, running from responsibility and trying to accept that he and I were never going to work. On March 15, 2022, I had my youngest daughter. Despite being clean at the time of delivery, she was still removed from my custody and placed with her sister in my abuser's mother's care. Losing my third daughter was my breaking point. It was at this time I decided I needed help.

On May 19, 2022, I walked through the doors of the Rescue Mission, and I immediately knew this was going to be a safe place for me to heal. I could just feel the love. Since being at the Mission, God has shown me that the lifestyle that I was living and the abuse I was experiencing are not the life He has planned



for me. I have discovered a passion for helping and encouraging women who are like me; watching the ladies begin to believe the truth about who they are and not the lies we have believed for so long makes me feel encouraged and worthy too. It has helped me to realize I am not alone in what I have felt or believed about myself and to be able to walk with others out of that darkness is priceless.

I am really looking forward to learning my purpose, and I am excited about the life that Jesus has in store for me

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Testimony CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

and my girls. Since being here I have been to court on 3 occasions concerning my rights to my daughters. At the first appearance, they were discussing terminating my parental rights to two of my girls. The last time I went, they determined I was doing good, and if I stay the course, they will throw out the possibility of terminating my rights. Only God could work a miracle like that; I am still shocked and just so grateful.

The Rescue Mission has greatly impacted my life by bringing me to Jesus, so I could allow Him to deliver me from drugs and heal my heart. My life and the lives of my girls will never be the same, and for that, I am so grateful.

Galatians 2:20 "My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."



Fundraiser for a 15 Passenger Van



Our Women & Children's Program Has Grown by 73% Since January!!!

We've experienced a 73% growth in the number of women and children in our Life-Recovery Program in 2022. God is so good! We are so blessed that more and more women and women with children are finding their way to the Rescue Mission to receive healing from their struggles with domestic violence, addiction, sexual abuse, homelessness, and other life-challenging issues.

In order to effectively serve their needs we are raising money for a new 15 passenger van.

We need to raise **\$40,000** to purchase a 15 passenger van to take our women and children to school and daycare, doctor and counseling appointments, church, Celebrate Recovery, work therapy, and other locations.



Since the Mission relies on the generosity of individuals like you, we need your help. Would you please consider making a gift today to help us achieve our goal and provide for our women and children's daily transportation needs.

We **THANK YOU** in advance for your support that will help us to meet the needs of the women and children in our Life-Recovery Program.

*GIVE BY CHECK WITH THE ATTACHED REPLY FORM OR GIVE ONLINE AT
www.rescuemissionga.com/van*



My Gift to Help Purchase a Van for the Women & Children

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

_____ My check for \$_____ is enclosed

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFT!

Donate online now! rescuemissionga.com/van

Return to: Rescue Mission
6601 Zebulon Road
Macon GA 31220

Reply Envelope Provided on Page 5

Women's Division HAPPENINGS

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Because we have the privilege of walking with women and children directly affected by domestic violence, we love to celebrate the lives of the ones who made it out but also take time to remember those who were not as fortunate.



According to the Georgia Commission on Family Violence, in 2021, there were 114,640 crisis calls to family violence and sexual assault agencies by men and women looking for help in escaping domestic violence situations. Every year, we partner with our local agency, Crisis Line and Safe House, and hold different events around the community in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness month. On Saturday, October 1, and Saturday, October 29 we will be partnering with the Shoppes at River Crossing by setting up a display table providing information on domestic violence awareness. We will also have a table and tent set up at the Bargain Center located at 3375 Napier Avenue in Macon on Wednesday, October 12 from 10 am – 6 pm. The Bargain Center will have a special promotion for that day only in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month; please be sure to come to visit us!

We invite you to attend our annual Candlelight Vigil at Rosa Parks Square located at 701 Poplar Street in Macon. This event is such a reverent and special time as we light candles to honor and remember the victims who lost their lives at the hands of another. Please join us at 6:30 pm to participate in this special occasion.

It is a tremendous honor to walk with women and children as they heal from the trauma that violence brings. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has an amazing way of mending what has been broken and making it whole. It is such a privilege to watch Him do what only He can do.



Jessica Coleman
Women's Program Director

*"For I will restore you to health
and I will heal you of your
wounds,' declares the LORD."*

Jeremiah 30:17



Rosa Parks Square
701 Poplar Street
Macon, GA

Tuesday Night
October 18, 2022
6:30 pm

Join us to honor victims of domestic violence and their families, celebrate the successes of survivors, and take a stand against abuse in our community.



presented by



Jessica Coleman @478-743-5445
jessica@rescuemissionga.com



Dee Simms @478-745-9292
dsimms@cl-sh.org

*If it rains the event will be cancelled

EXCITING NEWS FOR
THE BARN CENTER

**We are opening on
Mondays beginning
October 3th.
The store hours will be
10 am - 6 pm. Be sure to
follow us on Facebook for
our weekly specials!**

*6601 Zebulon Road, Macon, GA
Monday - Saturday / 10:00am - 6:00pm
478-743-5445 ext. 406*

When you shop at the Barn Center you not only save, you help fund programs for the men, women, and children we serve!



facebook.com/MissionBargainCenter

Bargain CENTER

Fall is right around the corner
and we've got some
great cold weather attire at

THE BARGAIN CENTER



BARGAIN CENTER STAFF

Niger Brown
*Vice President of Retail
Operations*

Roger Patton
Store Manager

BARN CENTER STAFF

Kyle Patat
Store Manager

Stuart Fowler
Pricing Manager

Charlie Hegg
Processing Supervisor

DRIVERS

Art Ellis
Curtis Roundtree
Reginald Reeves
John Baker

MAINTENANCE

Travis Wilson
Maintenance Manager
Josh Taylor

Furniture, Appliances, Table Settings, Shoes,
Kitchenware, Clothing & So Much More!

3375 Napier Avenue, Macon, GA
Monday - Saturday / 10:00am - 6:00pm
478-743-5445

When you shop the Bargain Center you not only save, you help fund
programs for the men, women, and children we serve!



facebook.com/MissionBargainCenter



P.O. Box 749 | Macon, GA 31202

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GIVE YEAR-ROUND

Consider becoming a monthly giver and have a lasting impact throughout the year! Find out how at rescuemissionga.com



BARGAIN CENTER

Shop at 3375 Napier Avenue or donate items to a great cause. For large pickups call 743-5445.

Nonprofit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 232
Macon, GA



Proud "Certified Excellent" member of City Gate, accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, and recognized as a "Four Star Charity" by Charity Navigator.