

THE

MISSION

Bell

"All that is broken can be made whole again"

THANK YOU FOR GIVING
Sarah A NEW BEGINNING.

Because of you, she has joy in her heart this Easter!

Darkness, fear, and shame haunted Sarah for most of her life. From the ages of 5 to 14 she suffered beatings and abuse at the hands of her father. At times, she said the abuse was so severe she thought he may actually kill her. Because they lived alone, and because Sarah was shamed into keeping quiet, the abuse went undetected and left both physical and emotional scars that she carries to this day.

"I'm sharing my story now, because there is so much pain in secrecy. Secrecy allows all the negative feelings – shame, guilt, and thoughts of suicide – to fester and manifest in destructive ways. That's what happened to me. My father stole my innocence and childhood, but I refuse to let him steal my future too."

Determined not to let the past define the rest of her life, Sarah threw herself into being the best wife, mom, and employee she could be. She kept herself busy so she didn't have to acknowledge the extreme pain inside her. To the casual observer, it looked like she had it all. But inside, Sarah was a hurting, broken little girl desperate to hide from the horrific memories, shame, anger, and guilt she'd carried for almost 30 years.

Eventually the pain took its toll. Through a series of circumstances, Sarah lost everything she held dear. When she arrived at the Rescue



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For information about our Easter Community Meals, visit
RESCUEMISSIONGA.COM/NEWS

“I am a survivor.”

Mission, she was alone, homeless, depressed, full of fear and anxiety, and not prepared for the love she was about to receive.

“I was scared when I first came to the Mission. I was recently divorced. I’d lost my job and house. I’d gotten a DUI. My daughter had to go live with her dad, so I could get my life together.”

“It’s embarrassing to say that I was basically homeless, and that’s why I came to the Mission. I was so angry at the world. I had it all, but I’d given up on life. I had no desire to do anything. I didn’t want to go to work. I didn’t want to get up. I was so lost and desperate.”

Sarah had never allowed herself to confront her past. Here, she found a safe place and the love and support she needed to slowly put together the pieces of her shattered childhood, so she could find healing and peace.

“I had never allowed myself to be angry at God or my father for what happened to me; I wouldn’t even allow myself to think about it. The Mission gave me the opportunity to expose my feelings and deal with them. It has been a divine intervention for me.”

“During my time here I have begun to heal through counseling, the classes, and the love and support of my ‘sisters’ in the program.”

Sarah used to feel worthless, but now she knows she is a survivor and is worthy through Jesus Christ. Her desire is to provide hope and empower child sexual abuse survivors by shining a light on an issue that is uncomfortable to talk about.

“It is so empowering to have the hurt I carried for 30 years finally lifted off my shoulders. I believe there is healing and freedom in speaking up and speaking out, and there is power to overcome when you believe in the Lord.”

With Jesus’ love in her heart and hope for the future, Sarah is grateful for your support this Easter.

“I am hopeful God will open the door in the future for me to speak to others who have gone through what I have. I want to share my story to help others find the voice and healing they so desperately need – a healing that can come only by way of Jesus Christ. I want my story to point others to the Healer and to glorify Him.”

“Most importantly, I started walking with the Lord, and it’s changing everything. It’s changing me.”





FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

THE GIFT OF *Eternal Life*

Easter is such an incredible time of year, isn't it? A day when we're both humbled by the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and lifted up as children of the King. It still amazes me that God goes to such great lengths to make you and me part of His family!

That's why we're committed to making local men, women, and children feel welcome here at the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia. We invite them to be part of *our* family... and share with them the eternal hope that Jesus freely offers us *all* when we accept Him as our Father.

This Easter, you are sharing the blessings of love and community with everyone who comes through our doors. Through your prayers and financial gifts, you give them the strength to overcome their current challenges and start on a path toward new life.

Thank you for making this Easter a season of rejoicing. **I hope your own celebrations are especially meaningful, knowing how lives are being transformed through your generosity and God's unending grace.**

God Bless,

Pat Chastain
President/CEO



An Easter Blessing to You

*From the men, women,
and children at the
Rescue Mission*

May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to you and those you hold most dear.

And may Christ, Our Risen Savior, always be there by your side to bless you most abundantly and be your loving guide.

Your Impact Can Go Twice As Far

Did you know that when you make a monetary donation to the Rescue Mission, it can potentially be doubled with just the click of a button?

That's right – doubled and maybe even tripled! Many companies offer a matching gift program for their employees. Most have a match ratio, 1:1 for instance, and a match maximum, which is the total amount they will donate in matching contributions per employee annually.

This is a great way to increase your impact. Your employer could turn your donation of \$100, for example, into \$200! And best of all, it's easy. Simply visit the Matching Gifts page at rescuemissionga.com/ways-to-help/matching-gifts, type in your employer's name, and click the "Let's Check" button.

If your employer has a matching gift program, all the information you need will be available instantly, including a link to their matching gift form so you can complete and submit your matching request right away.

Increase your impact by checking to see if your employer has a matching program today! Go now to check out rescuemissionga.com/ways-to-help/matching-gifts.

Current Needs at the Mission



The Rescue Mission provides everything for our residents so they can fully focus on their recovery, free from concerns about how to meet their essential daily needs.

We use an enormous amount of hygiene, cleaning, and other products so your donated items are vital to helping us meet their needs. Donations of these items also help offset the cost of daily essential items, allowing more money to go toward the programs and services we provide.

Greatest Need

- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels

Daily Needs

- Bath Soap
- Shampoo & Conditioner (all hair types)
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Mouthwash (alcohol free)
- Denture Cleaner & Adhesive
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Razors & Shaving Cream (men and women)
- Q-Tips
- Kleenex
- Wet Wipes

amazonsmile

For fast, convenient shopping right at your fingertips, visit our AmazonSmile current needs list and ship directly to the Rescue Mission.

DROP-OFF OR SHIP DONATIONS

Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia
6601 Zebulon Road, Macon, GA 31220
Monday – Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



Intercessory Prayer Team Volunteers Needed

Prayer is one of the pillars of the Rescue Mission. Our Intercessory Prayer Team serves as “prayer warriors” for the ministry, our residents, and the staff. The team receives weekly, confidential prayer requests via email to lift up in prayer and periodically conducts prayer walks on the Mission’s campus.

If you would like to support the Mission in prayer, we would love to hear from you. For more information, contact Karen Kinsler at **(478) 743-5445, ext. 404**, karen@rescuemissionga.com or sign up online at rescuemissionga.com.



"Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

– Romans 6:4, NIV