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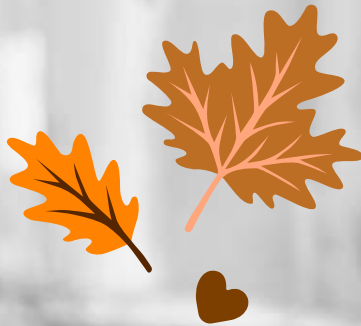
MISSION

Bell

Providing a path of hope, redemption, and empowerment through Jesus Christ

## A Heart of Thanksgiving

Johnny wants to share  
how your support  
changed his life! 



Learn More... Visit [rescuemissionga.com](https://rescuemissionga.com) (478) 743-5445

# Recovery is for everyone. Recovery works!



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

September is **National Recovery Month**, and here at the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, we're celebrating the courageous men and women who have said yes to the hard but rewarding work of recovery through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Throughout my 10 years at the Mission, I've witnessed the unparalleled impact a Christian-based recovery community can make. In fact, it's one of the reasons why, at the Mission, we live by this statement from the book, "The Cure":

***"What if there was a place so safe that the worst of me could be known, and I would discover that I would not be loved less, but [loved even] more in the telling of it?"***

Recovery from addiction isn't easy... but it's always worth it. The brave choice of one hurting man or woman to rebuild their life not only impacts their future, but also their family

and community!

That's why the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia is committed to offering our hurting neighbors this critical support. Thanks to the generosity of caring friends like you, we can provide a safe, healing environment where people can get better – spiritually, physically, and mentally.

As we celebrate the victories of our residents who've experienced recovery – like Johnny, whose inspiring story is on the next page – I invite you to help us spread the word that **recovery works!**

Thank you for empowering our ministry of recovery through your faithful prayers and generous gifts.

God Bless,

Pat Chastain, President/CEO

## BY THE NUMBERS... THE NEED FOR RECOVERY



**50%** of people 12 and older have used illegal drugs at least once in their lifetime.



**2,390 people** died of drug overdose in Georgia in 2021.

**2,202 Georgians** died from alcohol in 2020.



**Only 10.3%** of people with substance abuse disorder receive treatment.

Join Our  
**2023 Thanksgiving CAMPAIGN**

**50,940**  
**Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season**

This Thanksgiving, countless guests will gather at our tables. Many are longing to overcome addiction, domestic violence, and homelessness... wishing they could reunite with their families for the holidays.

**For just \$2.77, YOU can provide a nourishing meal along with support through our life-recovery program.** Your gift surrounds hurting people with loving care that leads to a better life through:

- Safe, welcoming housing
- Warm clothing, coats, & shoes
- Classes & job training
- Christ's life-changing love

**Please help our neighbors in need this holiday season!** Send your 2023 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at [rescuemissionga.com/donate](https://rescuemissionga.com/donate).

*Meet Johnny – who is thankful for your support!*

# “Before I came to the Mission, I was lost... Now I’m found.”



From an early age, Johnny struggled to feel loved and accepted. His mother left when he was only 5 years old, and her absence created a hole in his life.

“I missed my mom, and I couldn’t understand why she would leave,” he says. “I felt so alone growing up.”

Over the years, Johnny looked to other figures in his life for guidance, but they led him down a destructive path. “I started drinking at a young age... then using other substances. It scared me to death, but I wanted to fit in,” he says. “From there, everything went downhill.”

At his lowest point, Johnny spiraled into a deep depression that led to losing his job, home,

relationships, and everything he’d worked for. “I was homeless for about a year and a half... Sometimes, I’d sleep on a church porch.” He knew he needed help to change his life.

“**I felt like I’d let myself down...**”

His first night here at the Mission, Johnny experienced a warm welcome and the acceptance he’d craved all his life. “They showed me so much love... They fed me... They welcomed me as a brother in need.”

Through work therapy and the Christian fellowship he’s found in our program, Johnny is

no longer struggling in isolation but is learning to trust others. **“Before I came to the Mission, I wouldn’t let anybody in... but now I’ve got a support team. I’m a changed person.”**

Today, Johnny is looking forward to starting his own professional painting business after he completes our program. “I see myself having a home and a family again.”

**Johnny is filled with thanksgiving for God’s redeeming love in his life – and your incredible generosity and support!** “I’m thankful to the Mission for helping me at a time when I couldn’t help myself... It’s given me a whole new outlook on life.”





# SEPTEMBER IS RECOVERY MONTH

**RECOVERY IS FOR EVERYONE:**  
Every Person, Every Family, Every Community



Each September, **National Recovery Month** celebrates the millions of Americans whose lives have been transformed through recovery. Since these successes often go unnoticed by the broader population, Recovery Month provides an opportunity for everyone to recognize their accomplishments.

Recovery Month also helps promote new evidence-based treatments and recovery practices, while honoring care providers and community members across the nation who help make recovery possible.

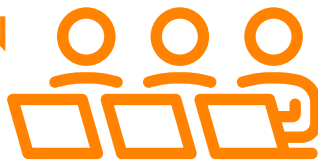
Oftentimes, individuals engaged in drug and alcohol abuse feel isolated and alone. It's important that we offer them support through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Each year, tens of

thousands of recovery programs around the country celebrate the brave individuals who have embraced recovery in the hopes that their faces and voices will encourage those who have yet to seek help.

**We invite YOU to join us in celebrating those who have experienced recovery!**

Visit [rescuemissionga.com/stay-informed/stories-of-hope](http://rescuemissionga.com/stay-informed/stories-of-hope) to read inspiring stories of men and women who have found healing through Jesus Christ at the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia!

## ONLINE AUCTION



## BIDDING IS OPEN!



Your bids support the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia during the Five Star Celebrity Classic's online auction!

**Now through September 18, bid online for a chance to win these great items:**



Autographed sports memorabilia  
Vacation packages  
Jewelry

Fine art  
Household items  
And more!



Please bid generously, knowing every bid helps support life recovery at the Mission!  
Sign up and bid online now at [qtogo.us/qmlink/rescuemissionga](http://qtogo.us/qmlink/rescuemissionga).