

the mission Gate

A Publication of the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission



What's “Normal” Anyway?

*Jim is getting back to normal... and helping others along the way!
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Ministering in the Strength of the Spirit

Dear Friend,

Summer has arrived, and here at Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission we're feeling the heat. While we're glad to welcome the sunshine, this season can feel a bit challenging.

Though the needs of our guests are just as great, giving typically takes a hit during the summer months. This can lead to a bit of worry if you don't know Who's in your corner.

Thankfully, we work for Someone who always has our back. And when we're stretched thin, worn down or just plain tired, He gently reminds us that His Spirit is enough for us. We minister in His strength, and it's that strength — along with the encouragement of our faithful partners — that calls to mind a God who truly supplies all our needs.

This month, you're going to meet Jim, a man who's embracing a whole new "normal" after years of alcohol addiction left him homeless and desperate.

You'll also hear from Pauline, one of our terrific volunteers. She truly embodies what it means to minister in the strength of the Spirit, actively seeking God's wisdom each time she walks through our doors.

Thank you for allowing the Lord to use you in the work of the Mission. Your prayers and your faithful partnership are a constant encouragement to us.

And if your circumstances are leading to your own bit of worry, I pray you'll be reminded that we serve a great God Who's more than able to meet your needs. God bless you!

Sincerely,

**And my God shall supply all your needs
according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**

—Philippians 4:19



Rick Rutter
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

planned giving

If you'd like an opportunity to make an eternal impact in the lives of the hurting and homeless, let us tell you about Planned Giving! The easiest way to do this is to include Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission in your will. Planned gifts can also take the form of gift annuities, gifts of stock and gifts of life insurance. Orchard Foundation has graciously offered to counsel donors through this process. If you're considering a planned gift or would like more information, call Joseph Padilla at the Orchard Foundation: (888) 689-6300.

When “yes” is just the beginning

Pauline isn't picky about where she volunteers at the Mission. Filing papers, straightening the office, peeling onions... if it needs to be done, she's willing to do it.

Her main purpose is to connect with the guests. “I always pray before I come,” she tells us. “I say, ‘Lord, use me in any way you can.’ I just love people!”

Pauline heard a radio ad for the Mission one morning during breakfast. Delighted to find a place where she could serve AND share her faith, she responded immediately. “I said, ‘Missions? Yes! I’m going to go down and help.’ My heart is to serve!”

That “yes” was just the beginning for Pauline. Under the guise of “onion peeler,” she shares the love of Christ with our guests. “The Holy Spirit helps me when I need it,” she reminds us. “When I’m praying with someone, I ask Him to show me what to say, and He always brings me the words. He knows what they need!”

Are you thinking about volunteering? Pauline has some encouragement for you. “Have you prayed about it? If you’re thinking about coming, I’ll go with you! What’s holding you back? This place has changed me. I’m really being used, and it’s not enough. I want to do more!”

If you, your church group or coworkers would like to get involved, consider taking on one of these volunteer positions:



EVENTS: Help with logistics for events and day-of needs (registrations, supplies, etc.) Current planned events include our Fall Banquet and a Yard Sale.

MEALS: Provide or serve breakfast or lunch during the week.

OFFICE ASSISTANCE: Tasks include data entry, processing and mailing letters and answering phones.

MENTORS: Discipleship opportunity for men to walk alongside men in the LifeChange Program.

PRAYER WARRIORS: Pray for the mission, staff, volunteers, donors and guests.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: Do you have an entrepreneurial spirit? We’re looking for people to develop a business model and small business that will employ mission students while raising revenue to support the ministry of rescue.

OUTREACH TEAMS: Developing relationships that create trust through tangible expressions of Christ’s love. Walk with the “street” population of Nashua’s homeless to help them determine the best path to permanent housing and self-sufficiency — a place they can call home.

Contact the Mission at (603) 889-3421 or office@nashuarescuemission.org to learn more.

Partner with us today and *beyond!*

July 2016: Paper the Mission

Organize a paper drive at your church, office or school to help provide paper goods for the Mission. Paper plates, bowls, cups, napkins, paper towels, toilet paper, computer paper and plastic table covers are appreciated. You can also invite Rick to speak to your group about the Mission!

August 2016: Mission Hope

Collect toiletry items to be distributed to the homeless and used by shelter residents — a great project for coworkers, neighbors or classmates. Donations should be new and for men (travel and standard-size are helpful) including:

- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Soap and deodorant
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Socks and underwear
- Combs and brushes
- Disposable razors and shaving cream

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mark your calendar

- ✓ **August 10 – Summer Graduation**
At 6 p.m. at the Mission. Light refreshments will be served.
- ✓ **September 5 – Labor Day Picnic and Neighborhood Outreach**
We’ll serve the hungry a picnic lunch and celebrate the holiday together.
- ✓ **September 16 – Second Annual Fall Fundraising Banquet**
Join us at Trinity Baptist Church for our Fall Fundraising Banquet. Check the website for more details!

To volunteer, or for more information about any of our ongoing projects, visit our website or Facebook page or call Rick Rutter at (603) 889-3421.

What's "normal" anyway?

By all accounts, Jim lived what most of us consider a "normal" life. A steady job, a car, a home with his wife... Jim was self-sufficient and content.

But beneath the surface, Jim was fighting a dark battle with alcohol. And despite his best efforts, his demons seemed to be winning. Eventually, Jim lost everything and ended up on the streets: homeless, alone and desperate.

Jim drifted in and out of life on the streets for several years until he received a tragic wake-up call. "My best friend died," he shares. "I loved her dearly, and she basically drank herself to death. *I really felt like I was going to be next.*"

Desperate for change, Jim arrived at the Mission and entered the LifeChange Program. Here, daily Bible study helped Jim discover a powerful ally in his fight. "I'm saved now!" he exclaims. "I'm sober, and I'm different. *I have hope that I didn't have before.*"

Now that he's established a new "normal," Jim is happy to help others find their own path. "When new guys come in, I can help them out. I give them coffee... talk with them. I like to pass on a little bit of hope. I live here, so obviously I'm in need. But some people are even more in need than me!"

Jim is finally hopeful about his future. He looks forward to returning to self-sufficiency, and he has a message for those whose support of the Mission has changed his life.



"I have hope that I didn't have before."

Jim is getting back to normal... and helping others along the way!

"You don't realize how much you impact someone's life. You give a pair of socks to someone who really needs them, and you make their week. It's a wonderful thing that you're doing... greater than you imagine."

**partner with us to
bring hope!**

Hope Partners commit to a monthly gift. This increases your impact and allows us to help as many people as possible. Become a Hope Partner today! Call (603) 889-3421 or visit NashuaRescueMission.org.



Ways to Give

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Sept 2016: Sock Hop

Collect new socks for men, women and children.

Oct 2016: Food Drive

Organize a food drive through your church, office or neighborhood. We need non-perishable food items, including canned fruits and vegetables, canned soups, pasta, pasta sauces, peanut butter and canned fish and meat. Food can be dropped off at the Mission Monday through Saturday between 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Nov 2016: Winter Coat Drive

Collect new or gently used winter coats for men, women and children.