

# the mission Gate

A Publication of the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission



## THE JOY OF FREE LIVING

*See how freedom in Christ led Ricky to freedom from addiction*



*We're excited to refresh our look with a new Mission logo. A huge thanks to Kristen Chadbourne from Riverside Christian Church for helping us bring the idea to fruition.*

also  
inside  
this  
issue

PAGE 2

*The truth that sets us free from Rick Rutter, Executive Director*

PAGE 3

*How guests use their newfound freedom to give back*



## The truth that sets us free

Dear Friend,

The word "freedom" holds special meaning in the hearts of Americans, doesn't it? We cherish our daily liberties and take time to remember men and women who sacrifice so much for us to maintain such extraordinary independence.

It might be why our recent Fourth of July Community Barbeque is one of my favorite events of the year. As we serve a nourishing meal to the hungry and honor those who serve our nation, I'm touched by the humility of our veterans and those in active duty. These brave neighbors value freedom dearly—in part because they understand the great cost of it.

I believe this understanding of the cost of freedom is why the Gospel holds so much power in the lives of men in our programs. For most of our guests, unyielding strongholds of addiction, poverty, self-reliance and cynicism have held them captive for years. These guys would give anything to be free. So when they learn the truth that Christ already gave everything on their behalf, men begin to experience life transformation.

It's true that serving hot meals and providing safe shelter open the door to greater stability for our guests. But lasting life change—the kind that Ricky will tell you about in this issue of *The Mission Gate*—only happens when sin and self-doubt no longer hold men hostage and Christ leads them instead. As Jesus promises in John 8, "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

I want you to know that your generosity plays an instrumental role in helping hurting neighbors experience this profound freedom. It's why I hope you'll partner with the Mission again today. Your gifts are life-altering and greatly needed, especially during financially lean summer months.

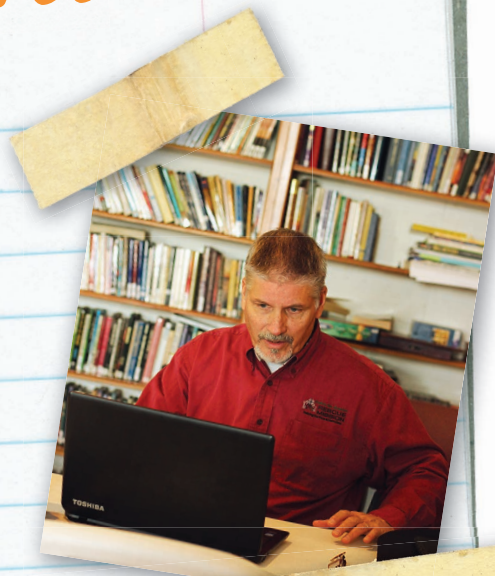
On behalf of Ricky and so many like him, thank you for your prayers and support for the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission. God is using you to help people in Nashua experience freedom in Christ... freedom that doesn't just last a lifetime, but freedom that lasts for eternity.

Sincerely,

*Rick Rutter*

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners...

—Isaiah 61:1



**Rick Rutter**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## mark your calendar

Contact the Mission at (603) 889-3421 to learn about upcoming events or have someone come and share about how you can help the homeless through the Mission.

- ✓ **AUGUST—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, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, socks and underwear, combs and brushes, disposable razors and shaving cream.
- ✓ **OCTOBER 9—Appreciation Celebration & Fundraiser**  
Join us at Trinity Baptist Church at 6:00 p.m. as we celebrate all that God is doing through friends like you at the Mission.
- ✓ **Holiday Volunteer Opportunities**  
Make the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays extra special for your family, coworkers or neighbors this year. It's not too early to start planning! Schedule your group to serve hot meals during the holiday season. Or, consider hosting a food drive or winter clothing drive.

## Men like Jeff are moving forward in freedom

It's always encouraging to see how God continues to work in the lives of Mission graduates. Jeff, whose story you might have read about in an earlier letter, came to the Mission after sleeping under the library on-and-off for years. He found new purpose in our R12 LifeChange Discipleship Program and has enjoyed nearly 12 months of freedom from alcohol.

Jeff is now preparing for a new internship position at the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission, using his skills to serve guests in a variety of ways, including:

- Managing the preparation and service of breakfast and lunch to the community
- Overseeing the teaching and education activities during the day
- Offering leadership and inspiration to new men entering the shelter and those beginning the R12 LifeChange Discipleship program

Jeff is one of many program graduates this quarter who are experiencing success: four have secured full-time employment, five now have permanent housing and one has been reunited with his children.

We praise God for His provision through your generosity and for giving these men new life and an opportunity to succeed in our community. Please continue to pray for their progress and joy as they live freely in Christ.



*We're excited about Jeff's new role as a Mission intern.*

For just \$2.09, you can serve a hot meal to a hungry neighbor. It costs very little to make a big difference.



# “The Mission brought me back to God.”

Ricky understands hard work. After serving with the National Guard for five years, he knows the discipline it takes to accomplish goals.

Sadly, Ricky's life took a downward spiral when an injury forced him out of uniform and into unstable circumstances. When jobs didn't pan out, and he lost his apartment, Ricky started a lonely journey into homelessness.

“The Mission has given me tools to help me through the recovery process.”

“Addiction kept me homeless for five years,” Ricky shares. Any effort he made toward sobriety seemed futile against the power of drugs. Ricky knew that overcoming addiction would be the hardest work of his life.

Thankfully, Ricky heard about the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission. He thought the Mission could help him with meals and emergency shelter while he figured out his future. What Ricky didn't realize was that the support he needed to address his addiction was right here, too.

“The Mission has given me tools to help me through the recovery process,” Ricky shares. “Pastor Rick and the Bible classes have changed my thinking on addiction and taught me how to handle rough spots and move toward success.”

Ricky knows that the freedom he's experienced from drugs requires a lot of prayer and staying close to Christ. He also has the support of the Mission when he needs some extra encouragement.



*Today, Ricky is free from the grip of drugs and is standing firm in his faith, thanks to you!*

Today, Ricky has his own apartment and helpful seasonal jobs. He also likes to volunteer at the Mission and see God working in the lives of other people like him. “Volunteering has been instrumental in my recovery,” Ricky says. “It keeps me busy and I like to lend a hand wherever I can.”

Ricky is grateful for the generosity of Mission partners and knows firsthand the impact of someone's gift. “Those gifts help to bring the Gospel to people who are lost and hurting,” Ricky shares. “Every gift really does help to change lives.”



*Serve a hot meal for the hungry for just \$2.09 today. Your gift feeds the body and nourishes the soul.*

# my gift to serve hot meals & new hope

Yes, I want to partner with the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission to give help and hope to our hungry and homeless neighbors. I've enclosed a gift of:

[ ]\$xxx [ ]\$xxx [ ]\$xxx [ ]\$\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. & Mrs. John Q. Sample  
123 Any Street  
Nashua, NH 12345

SNH1507N

My email address: \_\_\_\_\_

[MOTIVE CODE] [DONOR CODE]



P.O. Box 1024  
Nashua, NH 03061-1024  
nashuarescuemission.org  
603-557-8250

*Please return this portion with your check.  
Your gift is tax-deductible. Thank you!*  
*To make your gift by credit card or to  
submit prayer requests, please see reverse side.*



# my gift to serve hot meals & new hope

Yes, I want to partner with the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission to give help and hope to our hungry and homeless neighbors. I've enclosed a gift of:

[ ]\$xxx [ ]\$xxx [ ]\$xxx [ ]\$\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. & Mrs. John Q. Sample  
123 Any Street  
Nashua, NH 12345

SNH1507N

My email address: \_\_\_\_\_

[MOTIVE CODE] [DONOR CODE]



P.O. Box 1024  
Nashua, NH 03061-1024  
nashuarescuemission.org  
603-557-8250

*Please return this portion with your check.  
Your gift is tax-deductible. Thank you!*  
*To make your gift by credit card or to  
submit prayer requests, please see reverse side.*



# my gift to serve hot meals & new hope

Yes, I want to partner with the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission to give help and hope to our hungry and homeless neighbors. I've enclosed a gift of:

[ ]\$xxx [ ]\$xxx [ ]\$xxx [ ]\$\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. & Mrs. John Q. Sample  
123 Any Street  
Nashua, NH 12345

SNH1507N

My email address: \_\_\_\_\_

[MOTIVE CODE] [DONOR CODE]







P.O. Box 1024  
Nashua, NH 03061-1024  
nashuarescuemission.org  
603-557-8250

*Please return this portion with your check.  
Your gift is tax-deductible. Thank you!*  
*To make your gift by credit card or to  
submit prayer requests, please see reverse side.*



# Thank you for your support of the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission!

If gifts exceed expenses, extra funds will be used to care for hungry, homeless and hurting people throughout the year. No person is denied services based on race, creed, sex, disability or national origin.

Please charge my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card.    

Card Number      —       —

Expiration Date   /   Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Please pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## MORE GREAT WAYS TO HELP

**You can include  
the Mission in your will!**

Would you like information about this and other planned giving opportunities?  YES

Check with your employer on matching gift opportunities, increasing the impact of your donation.





**Thank you!**

You will receive a receipt for tax purposes. We never sell, rent or exchange our supporters' names!



# Thank you for your support of the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission!

If gifts exceed expenses, extra funds will be used to care for hungry, homeless and hurting people throughout the year. No person is denied services based on race, creed, sex, disability or national origin.

Please charge my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card.    

Card Number      —       —

Expiration Date   /   Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Please pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## MORE GREAT WAYS TO HELP

**You can include  
the Mission in your will!**

Would you like information about this and other planned giving opportunities?  YES

Check with your employer on matching gift opportunities, increasing the impact of your donation.





**Thank you!**

You will receive a receipt for tax purposes. We never sell, rent or exchange our supporters' names!



# Thank you for your support of the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission!

If gifts exceed expenses, extra funds will be used to care for hungry, homeless and hurting people throughout the year. No person is denied services based on race, creed, sex, disability or national origin.

Please charge my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card.    

Card Number      —       —

Expiration Date   /   Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Please pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## MORE GREAT WAYS TO HELP

**You can include  
the Mission in your will!**

Would you like information about this and other planned giving opportunities?  YES

Check with your employer on matching gift opportunities, increasing the impact of your donation.

**Thank you!**

You will receive a receipt for tax purposes. We never sell, rent or exchange our supporters' names!



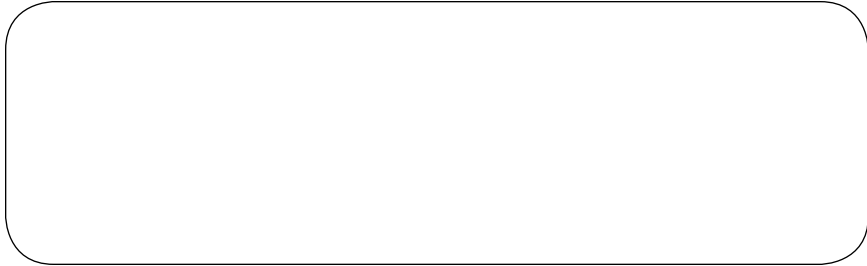


40 Chestnut Street  
Nashua, NH 03060-3319

your new

# mission Gate

newsletter enclosed!



*Read Ricky's story of  
freedom in Christ...*

