

the mission Gate

A Publication of the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission



Overflowing with Thanksgiving

ON THE BACK PAGE — See why Kyle, a 20-year-old guest in our men's program, is thankful for you this holiday season...



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A big thank you from Rick Rutter, Executive Director

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Get involved this holiday season... the life that changes could be yours!

Thanks be to God

Dear Friend,

Every holiday season, I take time to reflect on the blessings of life. A loving God. A supportive family. Faithful friends. My cup truly overflows.

But I'm also thankful for an extended family—people like you who see the needs in our community and take action. Everyone reading this letter right now is important. From volunteers to donors to community partners, God uses your generosity of time, talent and treasure to give people new hope and new life.

The men and women who turn to Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission are grateful, too. As you'll read in Kyle's story in this issue of *The Mission Gate* without your support, he's not sure where he'd be right now. As a young man with so much to look forward to in his future, I'm glad we were here in his time of need.

You'll also read about upcoming events in which you can participate and creative ways to give and get others involved. For as much as you give, I hope you'll also receive the blessing of knowing that you make a difference right here in Nashua.

As you celebrate the holidays, please don't underestimate the power of your gifts and your prayers. They mean a lot to me. But more importantly, they mean a lot to people like Kyle and the hundreds of men, women and children who have nourishing food and a second chance this Thanksgiving season.

Sincerely,

Rick Rutter



Rick Rutter
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I thank my
God in all my
remembrance
of you, always
offering prayer
with joy in my
every prayer for
you all...

—Philippians 1:3-4



Southern New Hampshire
**RESCUE
MISSION**

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

Unique Ways to Give

Learn about Planned Giving

If you're looking for an opportunity to make an eternal impact in the lives of the hurting and homeless, learn more about planned giving! The easiest way to do this is 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 on the process of planned giving. If you're considering a planned gift or would like more information, call Joseph Padilla at Orchard Foundation at (888) 689-6300 today.

Organize a Food Drive

One of the most enjoyable ways to give is partnering with others! We're always in need of food for the pantry, so why not organize a food drive through your church, office or neighborhood? Ideas of non-perishable food items include 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. If you'd like someone to visit your group to share about the Mission, please contact Rick Rutter at (603) 557-8250. Thanks in advance for getting others involved in giving!



mark your calendar

- ✓ **November 23 – Great Thanksgiving Banquet: 5:00 p.m.**
Our traditional Thanksgiving dinner to the hungry and homeless.
 - ✓ **November 27 – Thanksgiving Day Brunch: 9:00 a.m.**
Includes morning devotions followed by breakfast for whoever would like to attend, including first responders who work on the holiday.
 - ✓ **December 21 – Christmas Dinner: 5:00 p.m.**
Our traditional Christmas meal, which also includes gift-giving to those in attendance.
 - ✓ **December 25 – Christmas Day Brunch: 9:00 a.m.**
Morning devotions start at 9:00 a.m., followed by breakfast for anyone who would like to come, including first responders who work on the holiday.
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Our Kitchen is Open for Business

Thank You

We've crossed the finish line! Our new kitchen is open for business! We recently received our Health Department License and can effectively feed more people in and around the community.



As always, God's timing is perfect. And your gifts are having an immediate impact. We are able to feed more who are hungry and help other ministries in new ways.

The very same week everything was completed, we were able to help another organization who was moving to a new location. Their kitchen was closed—but ours was open! In the past, we didn't have the space or equipment to serve in this way.

We praise God and send a huge thank you to all of the individuals and churches in the community who helped us complete the hard work of updating our kitchen. I'm eager to better serve the hurting among us and partner with other ministries and nonprofits. It's exciting to see so many people of God work together to see lives changed now and for eternity.

Please stop by and see for yourself! Visit nashuarescuemission.org to learn more and to volunteer to serve hot meals.



Kyle Arrived as an Uncertain Teenager.

He's Leaving as a Man of God.

Kyle's dysfunctional childhood is fresh in his memory. After all, he was only nineteen when he came to the Mission last October. He knows his mom tried her best, but she was facing demons of her own—and left many scars along the way.

When Kyle finally decided it was best to leave his unhealthy home life behind, the only place he thought to turn was the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission.

"It was a big decision, but I've come to know it's one of the best decisions I've made," Kyle shares. "The first night was sleepless. It was a strange experience to think of this as my new temporary home, but it got better."

Before coming to the Mission, Kyle never had a job, a social security card or an ID. "I didn't have anything," he recalls. "Just some clothes and some paper and pencils."

Thanks to the generosity of friends like you, Kyle found the stability and support he lacked most of his life. He received physical care through nourishing meals, a comfortable bed in which to rest and daily essentials to care for himself each day. But what has meant the most to Kyle is a sense of family—people who care about his well-being and offer guidance along the way.

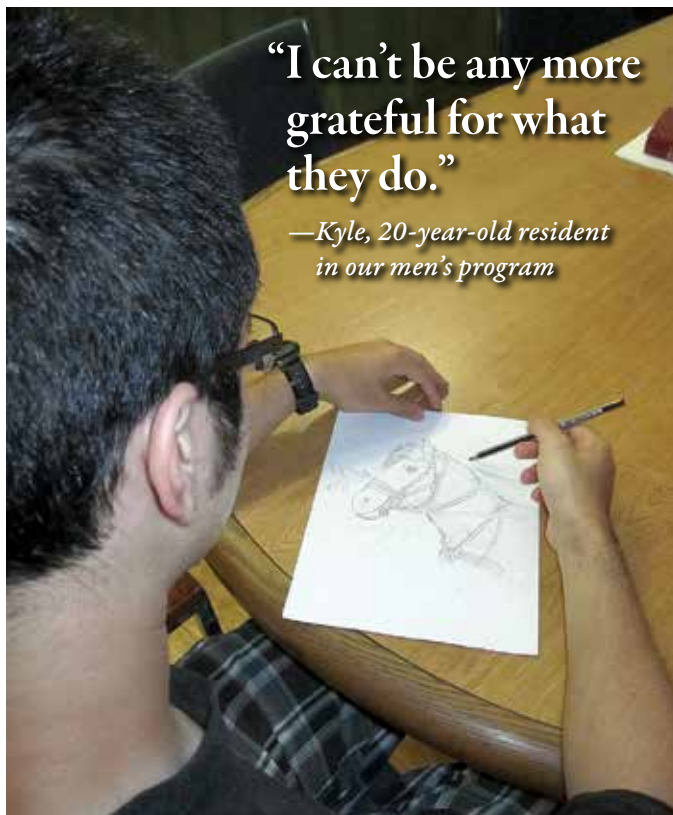
"I consider a lot of people here father figures," Kyle says. "So many people here have excellent character. I've been coming out of my shell and growing, too."

Kyle credits his Discipleship Program courses for helping him learn more about God and the Bible and how to make wise choices in his life. He's also thankful for the many people who volunteer to help him on his journey.

"The holidays are very special here," Kyle says. "At Christmas, we got presents and it was great to see so many churches come together to help. You can tell they really care about you and why you're here. It's very encouraging."

After a year in our men's program, Kyle has truly developed from an insecure teenager to a confident man. He has a job in the food industry and is pursuing an associate's degree at Nashua Community College.

"I can't really put into words how thankful I am," Kyle says of the people who keep the Mission running. "I have a job, I'm saving money, I don't even need food stamps. They're helping me gain life experience and want me to have a future. I can't be anymore grateful for what they do."



Kyle is part of a graphic arts club at Nashua Community College and hopes to earn his associate's degree to become an illustrator.