



# THE **MISSION** **GATE**

FEBRUARY 2021

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE RESCUE MISSION



**Expecting Another  
Fruitful Year**

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## Mission Statement

The Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission exists to help the hurting and homeless in Jesus' Name by providing food to all and rescue, relief and renewal services to men in Southern New Hampshire with a goal of being restored in relationship with God, reintegrated with society and reconciled with family.



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## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

**Lloyd Curtis**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## New Opportunity to Care for the Most Vulnerable

Dear Friend,

With help from caring people like you, Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission has provided shelter to homeless men for more than 18 years. And we are grateful.

Many women are also in desperate need of a safe place, help and hope — and there is very limited shelter space in the Nashua area for them.

For some time, our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and faithful friends have prayed for the Lord's blessing to begin a Women's Shelter.

A warm bed on a cold winter's night is certainly important, but we believe we are called to provide more:

namely, a welcoming facility with people who will share their love of Jesus and His mighty work to save and sustain all in need.

We are currently in a financial position to explore plans to purchase, staff and maintain a Women's Shelter supporting those divinely appointed by God to our care.

As good stewards of your gifts, we believe it is important not to burden the Mission with debt. In this new year, we are asking you to help us provide shelter, showers, food, clothing and the Gospel for up to ten homeless women in our community.

This is an exciting project. Please watch for more ways you can help us reach out to these most vulnerable among us. Thank you. May God bless you!

Sincerely,

Lloyd Curtis  
Executive Director

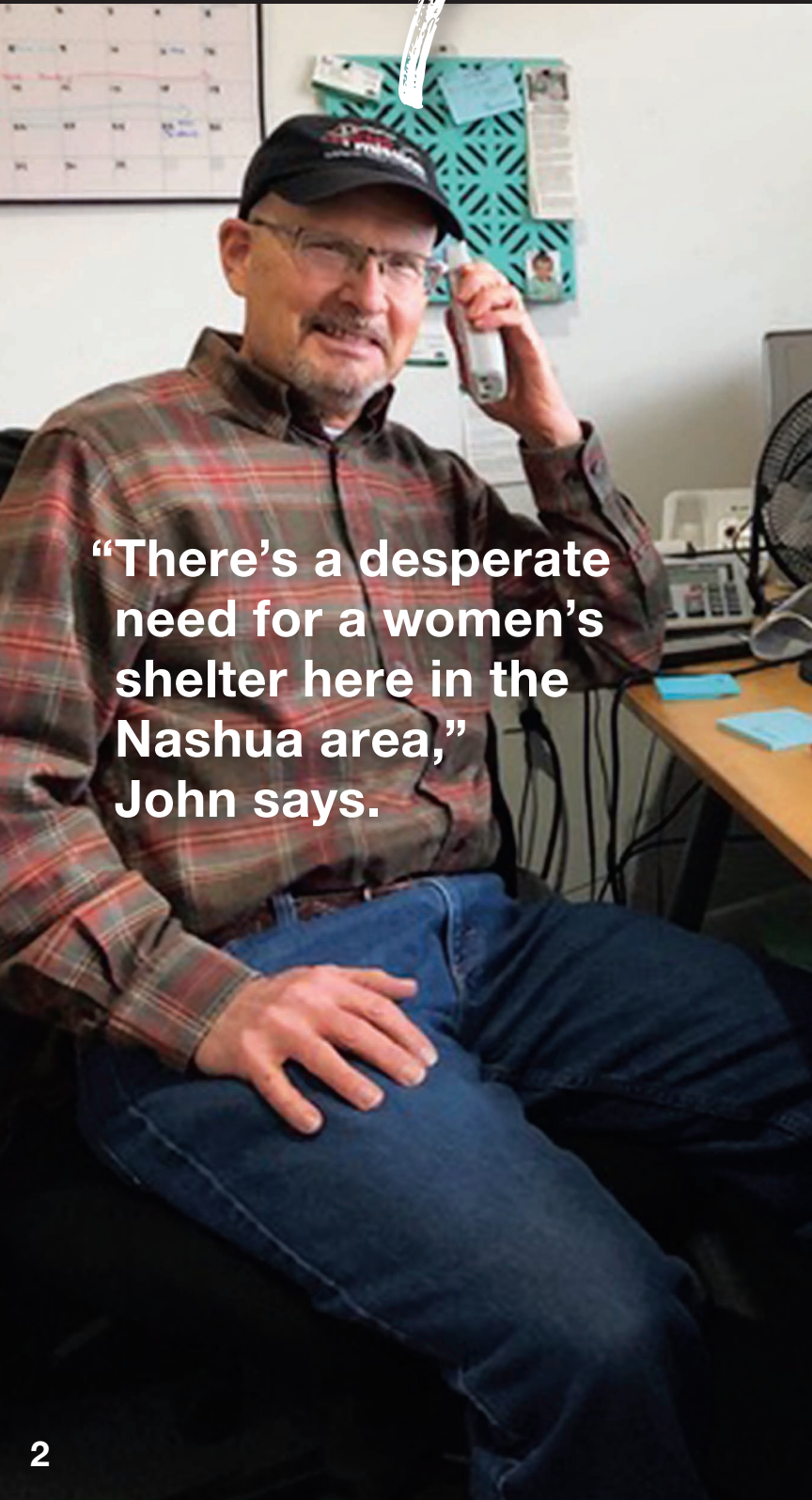
**And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.**

— PHILIPPIANS 4:19, ESV



# Hope

## ON THE HOTLINE FOR HOMELESS



**“There’s a desperate need for a women’s shelter here in the Nashua area,” John says.**

For three years, John, a dedicated volunteer at Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission, has answered voicemails to the Coordinated Access Hotline — voicemails from men and women who have nowhere to go. Every time he prepares to answer the hotline, John prays, “Dear God, let it be You this person hears. Let it be my voice with Your words.”

John tells us he had been able to use God’s words to comfort a woman in distress that very morning. “She was forced to leave her living arrangement because of domestic violence and was sleeping in her car at a Walmart. She just needed a safe, warm place to stay.” After listening to her story, John arranged for her to go to the Nashua Soup Kitchen, the only place in Nashua that shelters women and families as well as men.

“There’s a desperate need for a women’s shelter here in the Nashua area,” John says. “I get about a dozen calls from homeless women every week, more as the weather gets colder. I’ve unfortunately had to tell a lot of women there’s nothing available and to just call the Soup Kitchen every morning to see if they have a bed for them. I’ve tried referring them to Manchester and other shelters outside the area, but they’re in the same position.”

John hopes to be able to soon welcome women to their own shelter at Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission. “Over the last couple of years, I’ve discussed a women’s rescue mission with a lot of professional women who have an interest in providing Bible studies, counseling and working

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**May the God of hope fill you with  
so that by the power of the Holy**

# RIZON ESS WOMEN



pro bono. They're ready to jump in and provide these services. They want to get involved with homeless women as I've been able to get involved with the men."

Plans are now underway for Hope House, a shelter for up to ten women that will provide the same services men have at the Mission. "We're a Christian ministry. We address people's spiritual needs as well as their physical and mental needs. Only God can solve a lot of the core issues that homeless people face. We address that with men here at the Mission and, God willing, someday we'll be able to address it with women, too."

**h all joy and peace in believing,  
Spirit you may abound in hope.**

— ROMANS 15:13, ESV

## CHOOSING FAITH OVER FEAR

If 2020 could be defined by any one word, for many people it would be "fear" — of the COVID-19 virus, of losing family members, of the economic fallout from the shutdowns.

At Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission, with God's blessing and your faithfulness, we are able to choose faith over fear, continuing to serve the hungry and homeless in the Nashua area. This year...

- Our gift center provided almost **12,000 meals** to our needy community of men, women and children during August, September and October alone, while the pandemic raged and needs were the greatest for those most vulnerable.
- We served approximately **1,200 repeat guests** from August through September who came to our Gift Center every other Tuesday for their weekly groceries.
- We served approximately **131 new guests** from August through September who came to us for the first time to discover much needed help and hope. They did not go hungry!
- **Our clothing distribution remained open** with a steady supply of coats, socks, pants, shirts, shoes and other items to guests in our emergency shelter and families in our community.
- We also served **60 wonderful Christmas meals** to our hungry neighbors, although we provided the meals in containers to go.

We are blessed!

That's why we remained diligent during the pandemic in our response to keep our facility and community safe. We received a generous donation of a fogging machine and supplies, air purifier, masks, hand sanitizer, wipes, etc. We have a regular schedule for disinfecting the entire Mission. We incorporated protocols to take temperatures of all sheltered guests each night during check-in. Finally, we have established a quarantine area to isolate anyone exhibiting symptoms.

Our facility is as safe as we can make it in order for us to remain open and available to provide homeless assistance to all those in need. Keep praying!