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Good News

Hiway 80 Rescue Mission • Men's Shelter • Women & Family Shelter • Tyler Outreach

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"I was" *a lost soul*"

Cliff's dad was a champion rodeo rider – and left the family when Cliff was a kid. Growing up without a dad was tough, and Cliff started living a wild life at a young age.

He settled down when he met his wife. But after 15 years of marriage and the birth of their daughter, things fell apart. "I turned to drugs and ended up destroying my life," Cliff says. "I was lost, going from job to job and using drugs to cope."

It all led to the day where Cliff sat in his car, wondering if there was anything left to live for. "**I was totally broken, looking at what I'd let myself become.** I told the Lord, if this is the rest of my life, I'd rather just check out."

But God wasn't finished with Cliff, and sitting in that driveway, Cliff remembered his pastor in Kilgore telling him about the Mission. "I just started driving...and the Lord led me here."

It wasn't easy for Cliff. "Coming here was nerve wracking. I was a lost soul, very angry and bitter," he

says. "I'd basically thrown my life away."

Cliff only planned to stay until he found work as an electrician or truck driver. But after a month, he realized that "God wanted me in the program here."

Since joining our long-term New Creation Program, Cliff has not only found freedom from his addiction... he's also grown spiritually. "I saw that I had nothing without God," he says. "It's by His grace that I'm here today, and not in prison or dead."

Cliff has worked hard on rebuilding his relationship with his daughter. "She means the world to me, and I'm listening to God, working to be the dad He's always meant for me to be."

As he looks toward the future, Cliff is full of hope. "I'm so grateful – **God and the Mission have made all the difference in my life,**" he says. "I want to encourage people to keeping giving because they really do help more people than you can imagine. They've changed my life."

Don't miss...

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A Message From Eric Burger



I don't think anyone has ever gotten out of bed in the morning and said, "Gee, I think I'll be homeless today."

People are here for a reason.

Some are simply seeking a hot meal or a night of shelter. Many more are looking for help and a refuge – a shelter in God that can save and restore lives ruined by alcohol, addiction, abuse and abandonment.

Matthew 7:7 clearly describes the refuge and shelter found here at the Mission: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

All in need are welcome here, just as they have been since our doors were opened nearly 59 years ago.

But it is only with your prayers and your support that we can continue to be a refuge for those who knock. Thank you, and God bless you for all you do.

Road to a New Life Starts Here

Rev. Eric Burger
Executive Director

A special gift to thank you for your support.

Thank you for feeding people who are hungry.

Thank you for making sure homeless people have safe shelter.

Thank you for your prayers on behalf of those in need.

Thank you for offering hope and new life!



As a tangible way of showing our gratitude, I'd like to send you a very special 2015 calendar.

Please check the box on your reply slip. Your calendar will be mailed at the end of November.

Hungry for Change?



National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week, Nov. 16-22.

We all want to end hunger and homelessness.

Here's your chance to bring together your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, people from your church, school or civic group to lessen the hardships hungry, homeless men, women and children face each day.

- » Serve a meal here at the Mission
- » Organize a drive

- o Canned food
- o Clothing, especially coats and jackets for cold weather
- o Hygiene items
- o Socks and underwear
- o Sheets & blankets
- » Skip lunch and donate the money to the Mission

For more information, call Paige Brewer at (903) 759-8101, ext. 228 or e-mail Paigeb@hiway80rm.org.

27 tons of food!

45,000 meals. That's 54,000 pounds of food – 27 tons! That's how much food Hiway 80 Rescue Mission will serve to hungry men, women and children this Thanksgiving season.

Wow! That seems impossible. But with your help, it will happen.

It costs just \$1.79 to feed one hungry person. Just \$1.79 to provide an entire meal of wholesome, home-cooked food...a meal that could not only help that person end a life of homelessness, but a meal that could be the start of a new and better life.

Your gift today to our 2014 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign will go a long way toward filling the Mission's pantry and providing the care hungry, homeless men, women and children will need this Thanksgiving season and beyond.

Just a reminder: The Mission receives NO government funding. So we really do need your help to cook and serve more than 45,000 meals. Please, give generously. Thank you!

From Black Sheep to Chosen Child



Tawnya's childhood was filled with upheaval and uncertainty. "My dad was in the Air Force, so we moved around a lot," she says. "I knew my dad loved me, but always wondered about my mom. She always treated me differently than my sisters and brother. **To my mom, I was the black sheep.**"

Though Tawnya accepted Christ as her savior at the age of nine, it wasn't long before she was making self-destructive choices. "I thought my way was the only way to go," she says. "I cried out to God when trouble came, but then went back to doing things my way."

She experimented with drugs, and was an unwed mother of twins by the age of 15, raising her sons alone. Eventually, Tawnya found herself in an abusive relationship. "I left a couple of times, but always went back, and the abuse kept getting worse," she says. **"I really started believing I wasn't good for anything or anyone."**

Yet, when her boyfriend was away, Tawnya would take out her Bible and read the Word of God. "I knew I could no longer do it on my own and cried out to God, 'Lead me to where I need

to go and do with me what Your will is,'" she says. "That's when I ended up at Hiway 80 Rescue Mission."

Though Tawnya was frightened, the moment she walked through the Mission's front door, her fear went away. "I felt a peace come over me. At that point, I knew God had me," she says.

Tawnya joined the Mission's New Creation Program at the Women & Family Shelter, participating in Bible studies, life-skills classes and work therapy. "At times, it was hard with all the homework and chores...but I wouldn't take it back for anything," she says. "I have always wanted to learn more about the Bible and about God. That has been possible here. God knows our hearts. He knows what I have always longed for."

Since coming to the Mission, Tawnya's life has been transformed. "When I decided to let God lead my life, wow, what a change! **I have purpose, and the neat thing is that God chose me.** I love that," she says. "As Philippians 4:13 says, 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' And, with that, every day is like another little venture God has me on."

2014 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign

45,000 meals
15,875 nights of shelter

Our guests may not know you, but your presence is felt each and every day!

New Life Banquet Honors Good Samaritans & Volunteers



Filled with joy by the wonderful songs of Bill and Kim Nash, hundreds of Mission supporters attended our New Life Banquet in May. Gary Don, Sue Lawyer, Cynthia Manning and Lee Williams received Good Samaritan awards for their dedication to service here at the Mission. First Baptist Church of Longview and Macedonia Baptist Church both received the Great Commission Award.

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Hiway 80 Rescue Mission

3117 W. Marshall
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*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

The Good News is a publication
of Hiway 80 Rescue Mission.

“Camp Rescue is Awesome!”

“Awesome!” “Fun!” “I want to come back next year!”

These are just a few of the comments from the boys and girls who attended Camp Rescue this summer.

Some were children who are homeless and live at our Women & Family Shelter. Others were at-risk kids living in local hotels, or in homes where their parents are barely making ends meet.

Many of them had never visited the zoo, bowled or played mini golf. They enjoyed all these great new experiences – and more – with



Christian counselors who shared just how much Jesus loves them.

Thank you again to all those who supported and took part in this awesome adventure!

Praise & Prayer

Praise the Lord that we were able to care for all those who came to the Mission for help during the hot summer months.

Pray for our guests in our emergency shelter, the men in our New Creation Program and the women and children at our Women & Family Shelter, that the Lord will give them new hearts and that their road to a new life will start here.



Praise God for continuing to meet the needs of this ministry. We thank Him for friends like you!

Pray for God's continued protection over our staff and volunteers.

Commemorative Giving

January 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014

Our prayers and sympathy are with each of you who sent in a Living Memorial Gift in memory of your loved one. These gifts are a special legacy, offering hope to the hurting and hungry of Longview.

IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of

Richard Andrews
Martha Armstrong
Judge Henry Atkinson
Joe M. "Mike" Austin

Tom Azbell
Mitchell Billingsley
Berneice Birdsong

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