

MISSION INSIDER

CREATING COMMUNITY. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

A newsletter of the Fresno Mission

Meet *Ricky* He can't thank YOU enough!

Because of you, Ricky's heart is filled with new hope this Easter.

Easter 2020
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



DON'T MISS...

- 2** Your Impact in 2019
- 3** "All glory goes to God."
- 4** Annual Easter Campaign

For more information: (559) 268-0839 • fresnomission.org

YOUR IMPACT IN 2019 *Thank you for your faithful support!*

RESCUE

Meeting immediate needs



288,000 meals served



87,536 safe overnight stays



Hundreds of case management sessions guiding guests to the help they need



EQUIP

Providing long-term care



485 men & 227 women healing in our long-term recovery programs

EMPOWER

Offering hope for the future



51 graduated from our recovery programs



55 program grads found employment



31 enrolled in college



"The Mission has transformed my outlook. I'm healed from the inside out... and I'm excited about what the future is going to hold."

– Deborah, a disciple in our recovery program

WE ARE GRATEFUL!

2019 Contributions.....\$4,242,175

Thrift Store & Car Sales.....\$1,607,010

Food Donations.....\$913,943

SOURCES OF INCOME

9% – foundations

4% – churches & civic groups

7% – businesses

80%
people like
you

Download a copy of our 2019 Annual Report at fresnomission.org.

“
As I look back at the
whole story, all glory
goes to God.
”



“I wasn’t prepared to be homeless,” Ricky says. **“You never think it will happen to you.”**

When Ricky started going to church again, the mother of his children didn’t want to. “Our spirits were pulling in different directions... and before you know it, there I was with the kids.”

For the next ten years as a single father, Ricky devoted himself to caring for them. They got by on \$500 a month... until one day, they were evicted.

The children moved to their mother’s, but Ricky became homeless. **“It didn’t really hit me until the first night I was outside,”** he says. “I was on a bench, and everybody was in their houses, with their families.”

For a little over a year, Ricky struggled on the streets. “It’s a whole different way of living when you’re homeless. You can’t cook. It’s difficult to stay clean... and there are really bad people out there at nighttime.”

As temperatures dropped, he knew he needed to escape the dangerous cold. **“I was asking God to lead**

me, and I ended up walking to the Mission.”

As he arrived at our doors, Ricky says, **“The staff saw I needed help immediately... and my nightmare was over.”**

The next day, he joined our Men’s Academy long-term program, and the loving community he found here provided the support he needed to move forward. “You meet a lot of guys that love God, just like you,” he says. “We encourage each other.”

Today, Ricky has graduated our program and works as Community Care staff, supporting guests arriving at the Mission. “I’m in a position to open the door for anybody that wants to change.”

He’s even reconnected with his children’s mother! “We’ve had conversations about redemption... It brought tears to my eyes.”

You may never meet Ricky, but he’s eternally grateful to YOU for your support – today, his heart is filled with new hope for the future. “The Mission has really changed my life. It’s been a total blessing for me.”

HERMAN CAME FOR A MEAL...



**... AND IT WAS THE START
OF A NEW LIFE!**

Herman didn’t have much hope left when he came to our door. Thanks to you, he was warmly welcomed and provided with the basic necessities that restored his hope:

- A hot meal for \$2.05 ← *Each meal you give makes a big difference!*
- A safe place to sleep
- Clothing, showers & Christ-centered care

This Easter, as Herman celebrates the hope in his life, **YOU can give even more people the gift of meals and care** that’s often the first step to healing and a new life in Christ!

✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

✎ Give online anytime at **fresnomission.org**.

Thank you again for your support of our Mission guests! Happy Easter!



Here's how YOUR gifts care for
our homeless neighbors this
Easter season!



just \$2.05
for a meal!

42,000 nourishing meals



10,100 nights of safe sleep



**Hundreds of men & women cared
for in our recovery programs**

**Thank you for touching
so many lives with your
compassion & support!**



A Message from Matt

CELEBRATING A SEASON OF NEW LIFE

New life: It's an idea we talk about a lot at Easter. That Jesus overcame death and rose again to offer new life to a hurting world is a message that speaks to many of our guests.

These men, women and families – even single fathers like Ricky (see page 3) – arrive at our doors painfully aware of their pressing needs.

Many are hungry... most haven't had a stable place to sleep, taking shelter in their cars or moving from couch to motel room – anything to avoid the streets.

For over 70 years, our ministry has offered life-saving services to struggling individuals in our community. Today, your support allows the Mission to provide comprehensive programs that equip and empower people to step into the life God wants for them.

As our ministry enters a season of new life this Easter, I'm excited to introduce our new logo and name,

the Fresno Mission. It's a name that reflects our renewed vision, to be on mission in Fresno transforming lives. (Read more about it on the insert!)

We may have removed "Rescue" from our name, but we're not removing rescue from our services – instead, thanks to the support of friends like you, we're doubling down on it.

Life transformation often starts with rescue, but it goes beyond. Through recovery programs, education and the support of loving, Christ-centered community, people move out of suffering and into flourishing lives.

This Easter, I pray you'll experience the glorious hope of new life in Christ... and remember that YOU are making it possible for so many hurting people to find a new life at the Fresno Mission.

Matthew Dildine
Chief Executive Officer



Matt, please use my Easter gift to feed & care for homeless neighbors:

- ☐ \$20.50 to feed and care for 10 people
- ☐ \$51.25 to feed and care for 25 people
- ☐ \$75.85 to feed and care for 37 people
- ☐ \$92.25 to feed and care for 45 people
- ☐ \$_____ to help as much as possible

This would be a blessing!

☐ CHECK ENCLOSED ☐ BILL MY CREDIT CARD

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD #

EXP. DATE

CVV

PHONE #

EMAIL

Donate now! ☎ (559) 268-0839 🌐 fresnomission.org

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