



# Desert Sunrise

*"The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." Matthew 4:16*

Fall 2008 | Tucson, Arizona

## The Dream...Goes On

A lot has happened over the last 17 months in our journey to complete our dream... moving us closer and closer to the completion of a new Women and Children's Center.

### But there is still much to be done...

At the annual Board of Director's Retreat held in March 2007, the Gospel Rescue Mission Board of Directors felt God was asking us to move forward with His plan. We were not certain what His plan was, but we knew the problem – the tragedy of homelessness that affects us all.

Gospel Rescue Mission has been serving the homeless in Tucson since 1953. Yet here we are in 2008, and for several years now, we have been turning away anywhere from five to twenty-five women every day who are looking for shelter and safety... many with children.

### Saying no to One... is One too many...

So, we stepped out in faith with a plan to address the issue of never having to say "No room in the Inn" to another woman or child.

### The Plan...

In August of 2007, the Gospel Rescue Mission Board of Directors voted to start a three step program to address our growing ministry needs:

**Step One:** Purchase and renovate an existing group home located at 2909 N. 15th Ave. thus immediately relieving some of the space issues at our current women and children's facility by offering transitional housing for women and their children who are completing our program.

On March 8 of this year, we had a Grand Opening Celebration at our beautiful new Transition Home. Over 5,600 sq. feet of living space with six spacious bedrooms, large dining area, wonderful kitchen, separate children's play area, giant sized living room, and beautifully landscaped yard to rest and play in.

**Step Two:** Purchase and renovate an existing motel or apartment complex large enough to expand to a shelter and recovery center capable of serving one hundred women with their children.

God directed us to make an offer to purchase the Wayward Winds Lodge located on Miracle

*(Continued on page 2)*

- <sup>12</sup> He will rescue the poor when they cry to him; he will help the oppressed, who have no one to defend them.
- <sup>13</sup> He feels pity for the weak and the needy, and he will rescue them.
- <sup>14</sup> He will redeem them from oppression and violence, for their lives are precious to him.

*Psalm 72:12-14*



# Thanks from a Mom

When you donate to a program, do you ever ask yourself, "Do they really do what they say they do? Are people really being helped?" If you don't ask yourself these questions, you should.

Granted, not every graduate of our program remains clean and sober. Part of recovery, unfortunately, is relapse. However, Gospel Rescue Mission has both men and women who have remained sober and contributing members of the community, years after they graduated.

Here is a thank you letter from a mom who was fortunate enough to have 2 daughters pass through our women's center restoration & recovery program. Both are on successful roads in life.

**Lisa came to our program via a bus from California, running from a boyfriend who put gun to her head and actually pulled the trigger.** Lisa said, "Incredibly, the gun didn't go off. He was arrested and it was his parents who knew about the Mission in Tucson.

I was told it was full and there was no room. But, his parents put me on the bus and I showed up at the gate. Fortunately, God had a bed available for me that day."

Lisa successfully completed our restoration/recovery program and moved to Reno. So, about 4 years later when her younger sister, **Emily**, needed a recovery program, Lisa told her to go to our Mission. **Emily became the first woman to graduate our program in less than 1 year!** Emily has since taken that work ethic and dedication to accomplishing goals to her new career serving our country in the Navy!

Hi Roy-

I can still remember begging God not to take Emily by her addiction, and everyday praying for a miracle. Then we heard that there was an opening at your center. I knew God had led us there. And I will NEVER forget the feelings I had as I left my "baby" (she is the youngest!!) there, having no idea of what to expect, but knowing that there was nothing I could do to save her. I cried most of the way back to Nevada and knew that the day I had the money to do so, I would donate to pay back just a smidge of what you had given both Lisa and Emily, and countless others. So this is just my way to honor you, my Dad and the Lord. All I request is that my gift goes to the Women and Children's Center, you know just where to use it.

Lisa is doing very well and has been sober for 8 years. She is a manager in the accounting department at a local hotel/casino for about 7 years. Emily is just starting Air Crew School in Pensacola. She will be doing something like sonar on a P3 Orion anti-submarine plane. Tell me she isn't just one of the Lord's miracles.

Thank you, thank you for all your ministry toward the wayward, I cannot express (though I get wordy enough to try) the praise I have for the Gospel Rescue Mission.

Yours in Christ- Peggy Dodd

P.S. - We just heard that Emily will be home for 2 weeks at Christmas, I told her I wanted to see her get off that plane with her uniform on!!



Roy E. Tullgren III  
Executive Director - Pastor

## The Dream...Goes On (Continued from page 1)

Mile directly north of our new women's transitional home. The The Wayward Winds Lodge was not for sale when we made the offer.

In order to move our women's shelter to this location, we had to apply for an exception to current zoning through the city of Tucson, which took a little over 16 months.

Praise God, on September 12, 2008 the City of Tucson gave us their approval to move forward.

**Step Three:** After the acquisition and remodeling of the new Women and Children's facility on Miracle Mile, we

will move the administration offices that are currently at the men's facility to the new property. This will allow for the expansion of the men's facility. (estimated cost \$50,000)

We have witnessed God overcome many obstacles already to make this dream come true, but there is still much for us all to do.

Now is the time to call upon God's people to unite to complete this dream. We estimate that it will cost 4 to 4.5 million dollars to complete this dream. We currently have received a little over 300 thousand dollars of donations toward completion of this dream.

The first hurdle the Mission jumped was the hurdle of zoning. The second hurdle is reaching the financial goal. The Mission has applied for a million dollar matching grant. Without your help the Mission will not be able to purchase the New Women & Children's Center.

Amazing things can happen when God's people unite to accomplish His good work. Please prayerfully consider making a donation today ...

Send your donation to Gospel Rescue Mission 5 to 25 Fund and we will praise God together as He completes this dream.

# "Freedom" for Maria... In More Ways Than One

*"I had a good job, 3 young children, a nice house in a middle class neighborhood, and a new car. One night I looked deeply at myself, and my life. I realized that the nice things I had were all bought with dirty money from drug sales. I felt guilty of my lifestyle. I felt a deep emptiness and began crying and I couldn't stop...all through the night,"* Maria stated.

The morning after this epiphany, Maria contacted a friend of hers who works at Catholic Community Services. Her friend suggested that she contact the Mission, but warned Maria that she may have to wait a while before she could get into the Mission, as the Mission turns down 5 to 25 women a day because it's full. So, Maria called another women's center instead and they told her that they had room for her.

However, God stepped in...Maria also decided to call the Mission...and lo and behold...there was an opening for the next day. *"I didn't know what to expect and I was scared to leave the life I was living. Yet I knew I had to find the old Maria...the nice Maria...not this functioning addict who looked good on the outside, but was not good at all on the inside. My children were not my priority anymore, the drugs were. My money, my possessions, and my life were all dirty. I had to reintroduce Maria to Maria,"* she said.

To calm her nerves, escape her fears, and gather some courage to make a life change of this magnitude...Maria responded with her old behavior and did an 8 ball of cocaine. The following day, August 14<sup>th</sup>, she gathered up her personal effects and her 3 children and headed off to our Women & Children's Center.

Two weeks later, Maria accepted the Lord as her personal Savior after an evening chapel. She began to pray and was being taught God's Word and principles for living a Christian lifestyle. *"I didn't expect this place to be so nice and the staff and fellow program students really do love and encourage you,"* she added.

***Then...one week after Maria accepted Christ...her faith was severely tested.*** Two officers from the County Attorney's office showed up to arrest Maria on warrants from criminal activities that occurred 8 years ago. Before she was taken to jail, we prayed with Maria and asked God to intervene and bring her back to us to continue her restoration program.

Maria was placed in a jail cell with 7 other inmates...all of whom were believers! She said, *"Every morning, we did a Bible study and prayed for my court appearance."* Five days after her arrest she appeared in court.

The Judge told Maria that she was mandated to have Maria serve a minimum of 60 days for the 8 counts against her. Maria then told the Judge that she was trying to turn her life around and was in our program to get the help she needed. The Judge responded that she "saw a light" in Maria's eyes that made her believe that Maria was indeed trying to turn her life around.

Because of this *light in her eyes*, the Judge said she couldn't bear in her heart to keep Maria in jail and released her back to the Mission! The Judge also lowered Maria's monthly fine from \$250 a month to \$50 a month. Maria found "**freedom**" in more ways than one...as a result of her new found **freedom in Christ**.

Your prayer and financial support of this ministry provides a loving place for men and women to come and meet God and have their prayers answered in real ways every day at the Mission. Thank you for making it possible for Maria and hundreds more each month who need a special touch from God...and by the way...she's already made 2 payments on her fines!



## **"FORGIVENESS"**

***I have been forgiven! Now I have to learn how to forgive myself.***

***I'm like a butterfly, changing, growing, forming inside my cocoon, picking and choosing my true colors to be on my wings.***

***Soon I'll be free to fly.***

***I don't feel caged in my cocoon.***

***This is my time to grow with you.***

***I don't want to leave... I need to heal inside.***

***I am broken into a million pieces.***

***I need glue to restore my mind, body, and soul.***

***At last, I feel renewed!***

***I surrender myself to you O Lord!***

***Wash me, cleanse me, shine me, polish me, teach me, speak to me,***

***Hear me, show me, love me.***

***I want to love you, listen to you, speak to you, hear you and***

**FOLLOW YOU.**

*Maria*



# Let me tell you about our Holiday Street Banquets

Can you believe it? Yes it's that time of year to start "gearing up" for the Holiday Season at Gospel Rescue Mission. We want to invite you to be a part of this AWESOME outreach to the homeless and needy families in our community.

## Here's What Can You Do To Help!

CHOOSE an Item from below and bring it to the Mission for our Annual Thanksgiving and Christmas Street Banquets.

**400 Turkeys, 400 Pumpkin Pies, Lots of Stuffing, Dinner Rolls, Butter Patties, Brown Sugar, Cranberry Sauce, Tons of Coffee, Creamer, Sugar Packets, Hot Chocolate, Mixed Vegetables, And So Much More...**

## Want to volunteer to be a Banquet Server?

Call and get registered. We have several shifts available still.

**Thanksgiving Street Banquet  
November 26th, 2008**

**Christmas Street Banquet  
December 23rd, 2008**

We hope that you, your church, school or group will want to be a part of this wonderful outreach to those who are less fortunate. Thanks again and I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible so that we can coordinate the best Banquets possible. Call Suzanne at 740-1501 or e-mail at [suzanne@grmtucson.com](mailto:suzanne@grmtucson.com).

## Another Option!

### Christmas Stocking Stuffers:

Hygiene items are so critical for the men, women and children living on the streets. Please select some items and bless individual lives.

Detergent, Shampoo/Conditioner, Shaving Cream, Razors, Comb, Deodorant, Chap Stick, Kleenex, Hand Towels/Wash Rags, Hand Cream, Socks/Underwear (M & F), Handkerchiefs, Combs, Toothbrush/Paste, School Supplies for Kids Program, Stationary Kits, Manicure Kits, Socks, First Aid Items.

### Provide Christmas Gifts and Holiday Dinners to Working Poor Families

Ask us for more information.

### Toys For Needy Children:

Every year hundreds of needy children are blessed, as we give out close to 1500 new toys. Can you imagine the joy this brings to the life of a hungry, hurting and needy child? For many, this is the only gift they receive at Christmas! How would you like to put smiles on the faces of these children by donating new Christmas toys or volunteer to wrap gifts the week before the banquet?

# Meet Lilly, Our New Women's Center Program Director

As of August 1<sup>st</sup>, **Lilly Mees** has replaced Felice Stewart as **Program Director** of our Women and Children's Center, as Felice resigned to pursue the

foreign mission field as a missionary.



Lilly had her "rebellious times" as a teenager growing up in the projects in Brooklyn, NY. She said, "I went from an honors student to a high school drop

out". So, her parents sent her to Tucson at age 17 to spend some time with her sister who was a Christian. Sure enough...her sister introduced her to Jesus and her life has never been the same. She went back to Brooklyn and shared her new found faith with anyone she could. Lilly attended the Brooklyn Tabernacle, where her faith began to grow.

Lilly moved to Flagstaff, Arizona in the early 1990's where she began to work at the Flagstaff Rescue Mission. She began as a volunteer and was then hired to start up their new women's program. While at the Mission, Lilly began to pursue her

education, earning both a Bachelor's in Science and a Master's degree in Social Work...not bad for a high school drop out.

While a college student, she continued ministering at the Flagstaff Mission's women's center, called Hope Cottage. All in all, Lilly worked and volunteered at Hope Cottage for about 12 years, serving as an intern, teacher, mentor, counselor, and case manager, stating "I did anything that needed to be done; I did it as unto the Lord."

Lilly worked at a hospital in Flagstaff and then moved to Tucson a couple of years ago to be closer to Fred, her now husband of a little over one year. She was enjoying working at Northwest Hospital as a Cardio Thoracic (Heart & Lung) Case Manager. Ironically, God began to move on HER HEART to become more involved in ministry.

Lilly said, "I was thinking of volunteering at Gospel Rescue Mission when I heard about the opening for the director's position. So, I started to pursue the

position, but I was only kind of serious about it. I was happy working at the hospital. But Fred and the Lord were challenging me. Fred asked me, do you want to work for God full time and be known for helping to heal not just the physical and emotional, but also the spiritual for the sake of eternity? So, I got God's perspective on it. This isn't a demotion as the world might view it. It is a promotion to be entrusted with lives in a spiritual way. It is the highest of callings."

After having been in the Program Director's position now for several months, Lilly concluded, "I know I can't do this job by my own wisdom and strength. It keeps me humble and reliant on God. So, the Mission is good for me too... not just the clients."

Lilly and Fred attend Victory Assembly of God church. Fred comes from a long line of Lutheran pastors. He works as the Associate Director of the Tucson Jazz Society and he wants to host a concert as a fundraiser for our new Women's Center!

# Meet Stan Hamnett, Our New Men's Center Program Director

*"As a child, I dreamt of becoming a missionary. I heard about missionary work at church.. Years later here I am, a local missionary to the homeless and poor populations,"* stated our new Program Director, **Stan Hamnett**.



Stan is not new to our Mission, as he joined our staff in February 1996. Most recently, Stan was serving as our Clinical Director.

When Lonny Davis retired earlier this year, Stan felt God's leading to apply for the directorship. He added, "As a child I asked God to put me in a place where I could help others. This is a great way to contribute even more. I believe this is an answer to my prayers since childhood."

Stan is retired from the Air Force, having served our country for 24 years. For 12

years, he was in aircraft maintenance and he was a flight engineer. He could no longer work in this area after he hurt his back. It was at that point that Stan felt the calling to do addiction counseling. He earned both a bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in counseling while in the Air Force. So for an additional 12 years, Stan served as an addiction counselor to service men and women.

Stan loves his "gadgets"...any new fangled electronic gismo...and Stan probably has it. He is lovingly referred to at the Mission as "the gadget man." His latest interest is ham radio. He has become involved with the **Pima County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services**. Should there be a local or national emergency (especially if traditional lines of communication go down), Stan and others will communicate information

through ham radio and endeavor to link the community to resources and the Mission to the community as a resource.

Stan's "big vision" is to recruit our national organization and the local affiliates to become involved in the ham radio emergency services system, in order to have Rescue Missions assist on a nationwide basis.

Stan has always been involved in his church teaching classes and in leadership positions. No doubt, God will use Stan's knowledge and many years of experience in the field of addictions and his strong faith to direct the Men's Center over the years to come.

Please keep Stan in your prayers for God's wisdom, discernment and strength in his new position of Men's Center Program Director.



## Good Shepherd Outreach

September was National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. Our Good Shepherd was at the Red Road to Wellbriety held at Northminster Presbyterian Church on Saturday September 6th. Over 250 Native Americans participated in this health and wellness event. Families were served 400 hot dogs & 400 hamburgers prepared on the Red Shepherd. During the event, the families had the opportunity to shop the White Shepherd for clothes and shoes for the whole family, blankets, toiletry kits and light jackets. The Red Shepherd also cooked hundreds of hot dogs for the Recovery Walk and EXPO on September 27, 2008



## United Way Days of Caring

United Way Days of Caring blessed the Mission with 3 crews of volunteers. MIX FM Radio/Journal Broadcasting had 12 people who worked at the Women & Children's Center cleaning the kitchen and weeding around the modular. Volunteers from DMAFB had 10 and Conway Freight had 15 people scraping, cleaning and painting the chapel, kitchen, and oven clean up and landscaping. Women from the Women's Center volunteered at Interfaith Aids Program and men from the Men's Center volunteered at Amado, AZ building a ramada.



## Hope for the Holidays

Albertson's and KLOVE are joining Gospel Rescue Mission to bring Hope for the Holidays to the poor, needy and homeless of Tucson. On November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> the Red Good Shepherd and a refrigerated GRM truck will be at the Albertson's\* on Speedway and Silverbell. A suggested donation of \$2.50 will go towards a hot dog, chips and a drink which are being provided by Albertson's. GRM will go shopping at Albertson's for food items that will go towards our food boxes and for the banquets. Upon entering the store shoppers will be encouraged to make purchases of frozen turkeys, pies and canned foods. Last year the Mission was able to spend the hot dog money for turkeys, hams and canned goods.



*All Albertsons locations are gathering food for the Mission during Thanksgiving Week*

- 6363 E. 22nd Street
- 5085 N. La Canada
- 9595 Broadway Blvd.
- 7300 N. La Cholla
- 2854 N. Campbell
- 1350 N. Silverbell Road\*
- 6600 E. Grant

# There's Something For Everyone



Women's Center recovery student, Debbie, shows off her 2001 Isuzu Trooper. The day before long-time Mission supporter **Rose Mardula** donated the car, she even put new tires on it; now that's thoughtfulness in going "up and beyond." Debbie uses the Trooper to travel between the Women's Center and Pima College, where she is studying medical billing and coding. The Mission accepts donations of vehicles in running condition and we give them *free of charge* to clients who are graduating from our recovery program. Please contact Dale Platt at 740-1501 ext. 204 if you'd like to donate a car in good running condition. **Thanks!**



Six men graduated from the program in October 2008.

Is the Lord leading YOU to serve? Perhaps we have a Volunteer opportunity that's just right for you! Look below to find out where you could help. Call Suzanne today at 740-1501 Ext. 209

## Men's Shelter

Drivers  
Case Managers  
Maintenance  
Career Center  
Employment Advocacy  
Evening Teachers

## Outreach Ministry

Prayer Ministry  
Keep Hope Alive Canister



## Women's Shelter

Children's Chapel  
Case Managers  
1 to 1 Mentors  
Drivers

## Community Ministries

Clothing Warehouse  
Furniture Barn  
Appliance/Equipment Repair  
Holiday Administration  
PR/Booth Volunteers

Life Skills  
Reception/Clothing Room  
Kitchen  
Evening Groups/Meals  
Staff Support  
Maintenance

## More Upcoming Events!

- **KLOVE Sticker Stops** to help Gospel Rescue Mission
  - **Cops & Rodders (Car Show)** November 8
  - **Home Show at TCC** November 10, 11 & 12
  - **Bobby Olson Cancer Walk at U of A** November 15
  - **Tour de Tucson at Udall Park** November 22
  - **Albertson's Silverbell & Speedway** November 15
  - **4th Avenue Street Fair** December 13-16
- Call Suzanne at 740-1501 ext. 209 to volunteer.



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**For information on local resources for recovery visit [www.tucosnrecovery.org](http://www.tucosnrecovery.org)**

This site is hosted by Stan Hamnett, Program Director at Men's Center.

## Donations

Donations of automobiles, household items, clothing and food may be dropped off at either shelter 7 days a week. For large appliances, call Community Ministries, M-S, 10:00 AM to 11:45 AM and 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM, 740-1501 Extension 229, or email [donations4grm@grmtucson.com](mailto:donations4grm@grmtucson.com), **(Please make sure we have your phone number)** to schedule the donation pick-up truck. The Mission does not operate a thrift store. So, in kind donations are distributed free of charge to those in need. We also accept donations of products & materials, such as cleaning supplies, construction materials, computer software, office equipment, etc.

### Donation Drop Centers

- **Community Ministries at 338 W. 28th Street**
- **Women & Children's Center at 1130 W. Miracle Mile**
- **At The Men's Center at 312 W. 28th Street**

### Cell Phone Donation

Do you have an old cell phone? Donate your cell phone to Gospel Rescue Mission and we will recycle it. We have a recycler who makes a donation to the Mission. Don't forget! We can use your old cell phones.

### United Way

A THANK YOU to financial partners that have designated your gifts from the United Way and Combined Federal Campaign to Gospel Rescue Mission. If you have not given yet, but plan to give our United Way code is #1069, City Employees #9778TE, Pima County #9788PE, CFC #70657. Thanks!

