



# 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*

Winter 2011 | Tucson, Arizona

## From *Ruin to Restoration* on Miracle Mile

At a dark time in her life, Patricia was prostituting for drugs at the *Wayward Winds Lodge*. GRM restoration student Patricia is thrilled that the community and the Mission are turning the *Wayward Winds* into a place of Christian addiction recovery and emergency help for homeless women and children.



Born in Brooklyn, an only child, her family moved to Tucson when she was 14. Patricia dropped out of high school her senior year fearing she was flunking too many classes to graduate. When she found out that she wasn't flunking out, she tried to re-enroll only to be denied. She said, *"That threw me for a loop."*

Patricia got pregnant at age 18. She decided to attend Tucson Job Corps to get her G.E.D., which she did, and was once again pregnant at age 20. Patricia stated, *"There I was raising 2 kids as a single parent. Unfortunately I got into the party scene at age 21 and began drinking. I drank more and more. Over the next 2 years, the drinking turned into using cocaine and that escalated into meth. My parents took my 2 children away from me. At age 23, I got married to a man I knew for just 2 months and my parents gave me my kids back."*

Through more bad choices, she and her husband continued to use drugs and ultimately became homeless. Living in their car and bouncing from home to home, her parents took the children again for their safety. So, she and her husband moved to Prescott where they sold drugs to afford drugs. She was arrested for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in her life and went to jail. After her husband was arrested and a \$200,000 bond was declared, she asked him for a divorce.

Patricia said, *"I moved back to Tucson and started using crack cocaine. I stopped using and was clean for about 8 months. In that time, I had gotten a job and a house. After work one day on the way to the dentist, I made a huge mistake again and I stopped by a saloon and started drinking. I neglected to pick my kids up from day care, so they called the authorities and CPS took my kids. My parents then legally adopted them."*

Patricia spent the next few years in and out of drug use and recovery programs, including one in Riverside. *"Without a job and a place to live I was homeless again and I went back to prostituting and drugging. I used to walk by the current women's center on Miracle Mile and wonder what the ladies were doing inside that fence in those buildings every day. I wasn't sure what Gospel Rescue Mission was, but I was curious,"* she stated. Tired of her lifestyle, and pregnant with her 3<sup>rd</sup> child, Patricia needed to make a change.

She added, *"I knew I would need a roof over my baby's head, so after trying to get into the Mission every day for 2 weeks, they finally had an opening. After 12 days there, I asked to be in the recovery program. I'd*

*(Continued on page 2)*



## From *Ruin to Restoration* on Miracle Mile

(Continued from page 1)

never been around so much God in all my life. I realized I needed a relationship with God, not a religion. I surrendered my life over to the Lord. I soon got comfortable with the Bible studies and my relationship with the Lord grew. I attended different classes including parenting and the GENESIS addictions process, where I learned the underlying issues of my drug use. I learned how to think before I acted. I also learned how to be a Christian woman and to have modesty, how to dress, talk, and act. I learned how to have healthy relationships and trust other women.”

Patricia is now living in the Mission’s transitional house, working part time, and attending Pima College. She wants to earn a degree in social services with a substance abuse emphasis. Her goal is to one day work at the Mission, or another Christian treatment facility. Patricia stated, “I want to give back and help other women like I’ve been helped.

**It’s indeed ironic that on Miracle Mile, the very same street that was leading her life to ruin... Patricia found restoration, recovery and hope. †**

# Connecting People

As I considered how much this community gives of their time, finances, and resources to help their needy neighbors through the Gospel Rescue Mission ministry, the role of the Mission became quite clear.

Gospel Rescue Mission’s role is simply *“CONNECTING THOSE WHO CARE TO HELP... WITH THOSE WHO NEED CARE AND HELP”*.

The Mission is but the pass through channel for people to demonstrate their love, compassion, and generosity for the poor, the hungry, the homeless and the oppressed men, women, and children in our community.

Volunteering or donating to the Mission is a way for people to fulfill **Isaiah 58:7-11** *“Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.”*

WOW - to think that as we share with those in need God will honor us by taking care of our needs.

Last year, over 10,000 people, businesses and churches made financial gifts to the Mission. Hundreds of volunteers donated 8,444 hours of labor on our new women and children’s facility, and 814 volunteers served meals at the Thanksgiving and Christmas Street Banquets. Fifty chapel teams present nightly chapel services at the men’s and women’s centers, hundreds of other monthly volunteers cook meals, mentor, tutor, teach classes, conduct Bible studies, and sort and distribute clothing and household items.

Because of those who cared to help, 200,000 meals, 60,000 shelter and recovery beds, 8,635 holiday banquet meals, 4,082 Christmas toys for children, over 6,000 food boxes, and over 200,000 clothing and household items were given to those who needed care and help...all for FREE.

It is indeed the pleasure and blessing of the Mission to serve our community by *“CONNECTING THOSE WHO CARE TO HELP... WITH THOSE WHO NEED CARE AND HELP”*.†



Roy E. Tullgren III  
Executive Director – Pastor

# “Well, It’s *Finally* Happening”

## New Women And Children’s Center Volunteer Opportunities = We Need You

In the next few weeks, the Mission will finally be opening its doors to the New Woman and Children’s Center on Miracle Mile. It has all happened so quickly and we are amazed at the number of volunteers and groups from our community that have pitched in to make this all possible. It has been wonderful to watch - there is nothing to stop our God who owns all of the cattle on the hilltop. When He wants something done – it get’s done, regardless of the economy.

We know that our lives are not to be lived as an island, but to be shared. Living for Christ means sharing our lives with others. Philippians 2:4 states, “*Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also the interests of others.*” Volunteer opportunities at the Mission provide you a tangible way to do just that!

As Christian volunteers, you are opening up your life and the fruit of your relationship with others. As volunteers, we have all experienced this joy before, as we gave of our time and talents. The desire of the Mission is to be a conduit between precious Believers in Christ and those most crying out to know that change. Yes, through our volunteer opportunities, we connect “*those who care to help...with those who need care and help*”.

Volunteers bring to this ministry prayer, maturity, wisdom, strengths, talents and so much more. How can any ministry be successful without this partnership?

**We need you now more than ever to join us in serving these precious ones.** Are you open to sharing your life in Christ – sharing *His fruit of the Spirit*?

Please call Suzanne at 740-1501, Ext. 7032 so she can give you a tour and show you what wonderful things the Lord is doing all over the Mission!!! †

### *Volunteering – As An Expression of The Fruit of The Spirit:*

How about sharing your **love** in Christ... as you teach computer skills with a woman just starting to job search? Or teaching **joy** in the kitchen...when some of the menu items don’t come out as planned? Offering God’s **peace**...to someone in turmoil, as you pray with them. Showing **patience**...as you help us transport our women and children to medical appointments? Can you share **kindness** with someone who is hurting and crushed by life? Can you share His **goodness**...as you help answer the phones in the office? Or demonstrating **faithfulness**...to women who have been let down over and over? Are you able to express **gentleness**... through your rocking a crying infant? Maintaining **self control**...when things don’t go right for you or a client?



# Time to Celebrate the Miracles on the Mile...

On Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will have our **Grand Opening Celebration** at our new Women and Children's Center on Miracle Mile. Miracle Mile ... how appropriate it is that! You might even say **"It was a God thing"** that He directed us to Miracle Mile! We would love to see *YOU* there.

Come when you can any time between 10:30-2:00 and take a tour of the new facility and our new transitional house. A special **Facility Dedication Program** will start at 11:00 with guest speakers, and testimonies of a client and a volunteer.

There are many times in our lives when God calls us to go somewhere or do something. He wants us to step out in faith in a situation that seems extremely ridiculous or even impossible ...so He can amaze us with what He does. Most of the time we miss out on these exciting opportunities because we are unwilling to move---or let Him move through us.

When He asks us to move, He never asks us to go alone. He asks us to move because He wants to go somewhere and He wants us to move with Him! Over the last three years, Tucson churches, youth groups, civic groups, businesses, and individuals have shared a journey with Gospel Rescue Mission ...a *Dream* if you will.

God called us to "GO" and move forward with an enormous Dream of a new women and children's center, capable of taking care of all the women and their children that He would direct to us for help. And, He called us to go at a time when others said it wasn't the right time because of the economy.

We are called to help the oppressed and the poor of heart because they are loved by God!

- <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

## YOU Are Invited to Attend Our *Grand Opening Celebration*

**New Women and  
Children's Center**

**April 9th, 10:30 AM  
to 2:00 PM**

**707 W. Miracle Mile**

PLEASE NOTE: Parking is limited.  
Additional parking is available at the  
east parking lot of Golden Pin Bowling  
Center, 1010 W. Miracle Mile - shuttle  
busses will be continually running.





In the book of James (James 1:22) we are called to be doers not merely hearers. The implication is that God calls us to serve. Well, that is just what thousands of people right here in Tucson have done. Over the last year, there was more than 8400 volunteer hours of “remodeling” labor logged at the new women center site. Several thousand people made financial gifts. God called some to give of their time, some of their finances and many were called to do both.

It has truly been an amazing blessing to be able to witness God’s great plan in action. It is the Tucson community’s center...YOUR gift...to those in need. God has displayed His miracles over and over again by sending just the right people with just the right skills just when we needed them. There has truly been a great outpouring of miracles here ...and the “**Miracle on the Mile**” just continues to profess how much God loves us all...especially the helpless and needy. So, please join us on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate the opening of YOUR new Women and Children’s Center...and witness for yourself God’s “**Miracle on the Mile**.” †



## *New Women and Children’s Center Current Funding Level*

Thank you to those who have made a financial gift toward the new facility. We still need additional funds to complete the project debt free. So, please consider making a gift no matter how small or large and designate it to the *5 to 25 Fund*. Send your gift to 707 W. Miracle Mile, or make it online at [www.grmtucson.com](http://www.grmtucson.com). *THANK YOU.*

A detailed budget is available at our office, but below are the basic numbers.

Estimated total funds for the project .....	\$4,300,000
Funds raised as of January 31 <sup>st</sup> .....	\$3,125,453
<b>Funds needed to complete debt free .....</b>	<b>\$1,307,281</b>

## Asking God His Desire for You

Has anyone ever asked a favor or request that was to your benefit? If not, let me be the first. OK?

The request is for you to consider is giving a gift to God in your estate plan, better known as a planned gift.

A planned gift honors God today and benefits charity work in the future. In so doing, God will bestow on you a blessing that the world is incapable of providing. Proverbs 10:22 "It is the blessings of the Lord that makes you rich without sorrow."

How does one make a planned gift to charity? It may be as easy as making charity a beneficiary on a life insurance policy or a family trust. It may be as simple as giving a gift through a will bequest. There are numerous strategies for giving a planned gift.

You may ask; how does that benefit me today? Depending on your planned gift, it may reduce taxes or increase income. In most cases a planned gift does not affect your daily budget.

How do I start? Ask God His desire for you. It may be that God would desire for you to tithe the value of your estate. God's plan for you will probably be different than others providing future gifts.

If you would like more information on how a planned gift benefits you and charity, give me a call, drop me a note or email me today. It would be my delight to have a phone chat or arrange a time for a personal visit.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Bob Reynhout*  
Stewardship Coordinator

*bob@grmtucson.com*  
Phone (520) 449- 6712 (cell)  
707 W. Miracle Mile, Tucson, AZ 85705

*Let us hear  
from you today*



*Left to right: Jess Wolliscroft, Carolyn Baldwin, Chuck Baldwin, Kathi Wolliscroft, John Remple, Anita Remple, Rueben Willems, Linda Willems, Gary Klefman, Sandy Klefman, Shirley McFarland, Mel McFarland*

## SOWER Ministry Partnering with the Mission

*No...not sewers with thread...*

*SOWERS with a heart for the Lord!*

Servants On Wheels Ever Ready (SOWERS) are first and foremost SERVANTS...people with a true missionary heart who are more interested in serving others than accommodating their own desires. Sowers are all SERVANTS and they choose to serve in the SOWER Ministry.

Sowers are born again Christians who have recreational vehicles (RVs), are self-supported, and are retired or semi-retired. They travel around the country volunteering their time and labor to work on projects at Christian ministries (usually, but not limited to construction, maintenance or landscaping type projects). If you have been visiting or volunteering at the new women and children's facility recently, I am sure you have seen several of the SOWERS diligently working. Some of the projects they have helped us with include:

- Laying tile in the adopt-a-rooms
- Interior and exterior painting
- Replacing old sewer and water lines
- Decorating adopt-a-rooms
- Working in the administration office –helping with mail
- Building a new children's play area
- And much more...too many to list

Every month a new group comes to volunteer three weeks at a time – 6 hours a day – 4 days a week. They often give more. Since September, we have had the pleasure of having more than 20 SOWER couples working along side us here at the new Women and Children's Center.

Come by and say hi to our new friends if you have a chance ...and be sure to tell them how much we appreciate and love them for all they do to serve all of us at Gospel Rescue Mission. †

# Yet Another Extraordinary Mission Volunteer

**Roger Davenport** started volunteering at the Gospel Rescue Men's Center in January 2002. He is yet another one of our extraordinary volunteers who bless this ministry and those we serve. At the start of his volunteer service, we placed him as a "case manager" where he assisted men in need of primarily medical attention; with the focus on dental and optical needs. Roger networked and advocated with medical providers to obtain free or discounted exams, glasses, and dental work.



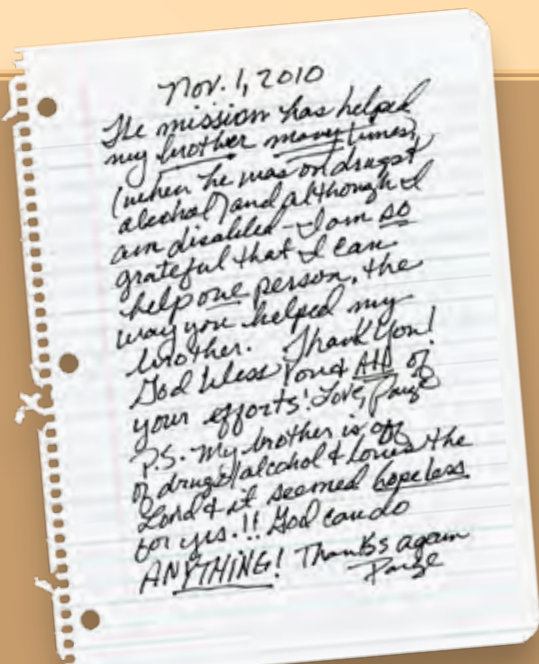
In the first year of his volunteering, Roger directed close to 75 clients to outside service providers. We found that the dental and vision assistance not only helped the clients physically, and with their esteem, but also their ability to gain employment. Men with several front teeth missing or needing eye glasses to read and function had a difficult time getting hired. Unless faced with this challenge, we don't appreciate how hard this would be for people suffering with poor vision and dental problems.

As Roger's responsibilities began to increase...so did the number of men coming to him for help. He started out as a one day a week volunteer, moving to 2 days a week to keep up with the needs. Along with dental and vision care, Roger is currently providing case management for other needs, including registration of health insurance, legal assistance, identification and birth certificates, personal/family restoration, and the list goes on. He is so much an integral part of our staff that whenever possible he attends our staff meetings.

**Roger is someone who is actively helping change a life - one person at a time.** Roger's concern for the men he assists is exemplified by his calling the Mission on days when he is not here in order to check on someone. That is a wonderful example of a volunteer who is not just providing a service that is beneficial to our men, but is demonstrating care, concern, and compassion through personal involvement.

The men are truly blessed to have Roger as a part of their lives while they are here at the Mission. He is a remarkable volunteer and even better...a remarkable man with Godly character. We are so appreciative of his faithful efforts over the many years of involvement that we recently nominated Roger to the Governor's Office for a state wide volunteer award. Whether he receives the award or not, doesn't change how much we all love Roger and his volunteer impact at our Mission. †

*Could God be calling YOU  
to be our next "extraordinary volunteer"?*



## Every Penny Counts

We have an adage that we often recite at our Mission...*"Every Penny Counts"*.

Because we value each penny, we were especially touched by the note that Paige sent with her gift. The gift was a money order for \$2.03 and the envelope also contained 2 pennies. Paige apologized for enclosing 2 pennies and explained that she thought the cost of the Thanksgiving meal was \$2.03. However, after she returned from purchasing the money order, she looked at our letter and realized it was \$2.05.

Sending the exact amount was important to Paige because she wanted to purchase one meal for one person at the banquet since the Mission had helped her brother at a time of need in his life with shelter, food and recovery. She wanted to give back despite her limited resources. Being on disability, every penny is critical to Paige.

Needless to say, we were brought to tears as we read her note. Hope you enjoy reading it and appreciate that at the Mission, as with Paige, *"Every Penny Counts."*



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**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!

## *Book Signing at Mission*

As part of our Open House Celebration, 2 local authors, **Richard Hunter** and **Mary Barerras**, will be present for a book signing. There are unique tie ins to our Mission with these 2 books.

Richard's book, "*Will Work for Food*" is a compilation of testimonies from local homeless men and women with 8 of the 14 testimonies being clients of our Mission. The book offers personal insights of homelessness.

Mary is a part time employee of the Mission and she and her husband Dennis are Co-Pastors of Harvest Center Church. Her book "*Take Care of the Difficult Today and Leave the Impossible for Tomorrow*" is a book of encouragement and hope for those who are going through struggles in life. It is available at book stores and online.



As you can see from the picture...Jesse is pretty excited about receiving this beautiful car from one of Gospel Rescue Mission's donors. But I can also tell you that his joy of getting the car doesn't compare to the joy he is receiving each and every day since surrendering his life over to Christ. Jesse will soon be leaving the mission but he knows he is not going alone... "Jesus is with me everywhere I go" says Jesse and that is the best blessing of all.



Keep up with the daily happenings at the Mission through our **Blog, Facebook, or Twitter**. The easiest way is to go to our blog at <http://gospelrescuer.com> Note the "r" in rescuer. From the blog you can link to our Facebook and Twitter postings. So, add us as your friend on Facebook and stay "up to date".