



# SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Rescue Mission

An Outreach ministry of



October 2011

Changing Lives for Good

## Homeless for the Holidays

The holidays can still be a time of joy for families in the midst of homelessness. Kristine and her daughter Ally, age 8, moved to Los Angeles from Nebraska to start a new life. When things didn't go as planned, they had nowhere to live and they sought shelter, most recently with the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission.

As we approach the holiday season, Kristine recalled previous Thanksgivings and Christmases in their own home and contrasted it with holidays in a shelter. Perhaps

surprisingly, their thoughts go to how the shelter became their home for a season. Kristine reflects on Christmas last year; the families that adopted them and gave them gifts specific to their needs, and being provided for during the most vulnerable of times. "You forget where you are, if just for a moment," she said.

Kristine and Ally look forward to celebrating family holiday traditions in their own home next year. In the mean time, she says, "we just want to remember

the reason we are celebrating, for thankfulness, and to honor the birth of Jesus!"



Looking forward to a happy holiday season.

## Food to Feed the Hungry



Cedrick Meadows has headed our local food department for the past six years. Every week, he creates a menu and oversees preparing food for over 500 people in need on the

streets of the San Fernando Valley. Cedrick and the Rescue SOS team work hard to gather a broad range of food to ensure healthy and well-rounded meals are served. Around the Holidays, this becomes particularly challenging as special events like the Great Thanksgiving Banquet approach. This annual event provides hot meals for 400-600 homeless, on top of our normal outreach meals.

Cedrick sees his job as "catering for the homeless." As he put it, he makes sure all his meals have meaning; a loving touch from people who care.

Schools, companies, individuals, and many of our weekly volunteers hold food drives and donate in addition to their usual giving. This year over 850 lbs. of turkey along with cranberry sauce, stuffing, canned green beans, canned yams, and rolls will be needed to feed the crowd.

The generous donations of people all over the Valley allow us to continue our weekly meals and store up for big events. If you are interested in holding a food drive or donating needed items, please contact Rob Baskerville at (818) 861-4329. Thank you!

# Making Thanksgiving Great

Thanksgiving is around the corner! It's already been nearly a year since we fed well over 400 homeless guests at our annual Great Thanksgiving Banquet last fall.

Eager, hungry guests of the mission lined up along Sherman Way before the doors opening at our host site, Church on the Way in Van Nuys, for the six o'clock meal. Five buses made their way from all over the valley, including Sunland, Pacoima, and Winnetka. In all, more than 300 volunteers joined in, serving meals, giving out hygiene kits, and simply making the evening special.

Our Great Thanksgiving Banquet this year is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, November 22, 6pm, once again at Church on

the Way. Our aim each year is to bless our homeless friends in the San Fernando Valley with a Thanksgiving dinner they would otherwise not have and will never forget. We will serve our guests with all of our hearts and with the love God shows each of us.

If you would like to take part in this event, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, April Lindh (818-765-4476 x5040). This is a great event to be involved in and each year volunteer roles fill up quickly, so call right away. Even though we have many

more people offer to serve at this event than we can involve, know that opportunities to bless the homeless exist year-round. There is no shortage of need, or love, to be shown!



Making a tough holiday GREAT!

## A Season for Food!

The fall season at the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission is food drive season. We hold drives throughout the year, but the holiday season is when the most



The Holiday's are upon us... Can you help?

food comes into the mission, and the most food is needed.

The last three years NMB Tech Corporation has played a big part in providing for us and our guests. They have over ten departments that compete yearly to raise the most food for the mission by October.

When asked, "What does it mean to raise food for the mission?" One company representative remarked, "Giving is being kind, compassionate, loving, and sweet." Isn't that the truth? Consider your own food drive at home, church, or workplace. Give Rob Baskerville a call at (818) 861-4329 a call for ideas or help!

## THRIFT STORES

- FURNITURE
- TOYS
- CLOTHING
- MUCH MORE!

100% of ALL proceeds help *feed, shelter, and clothe* the Homeless

### Sun Valley Super Thrift Store

9007 Lankershim Blvd.  
Sun Valley, CA 91352  
Phone: (818) 691-2572

### North Hollywood Super Thrift Store

13422 Saticoy Street  
North Hollywood, CA 91605  
Phone: (818) 474-1291

### Reseda Super Thrift Store

18344 Sherman Way  
Reseda, CA 91335  
Phone: (818) 654-4806



[www.sfvrescuemission.org](http://www.sfvrescuemission.org)

for more news log on to [www.sfvrescuemission.org](http://www.sfvrescuemission.org)

13422 Saticoy Street, North Hollywood, CA 91605 • (818) 785-4476