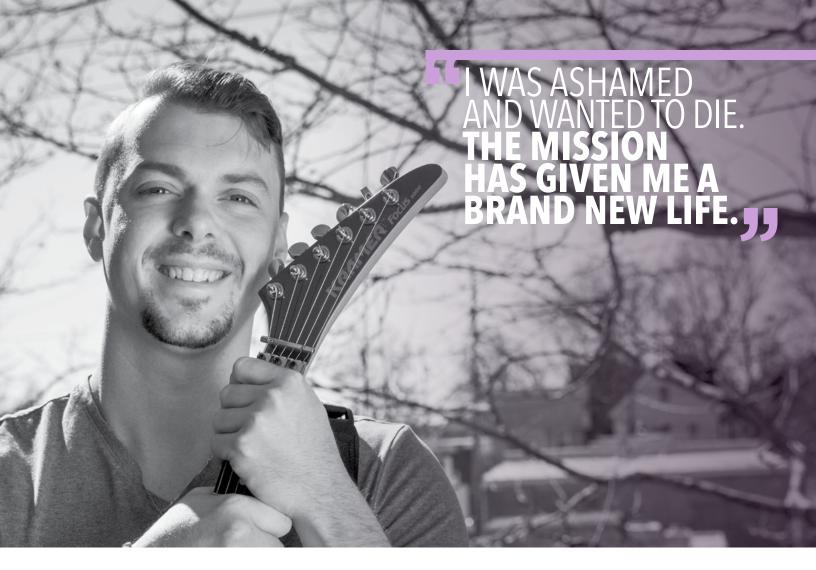


Don't miss... 2 How You Restore H

Restore Hope

3 "I've been given a brand new life."

Annual Easter Campaign



aul was a lonely little boy, an only child with few friends. "I always wanted people's approval and, as I got older, it became the most important thing in my life," he says. "Once I got to college, I made social interaction my primary focus. I was seeking my identity in all the wrong places."

It was then Paul began drinking heavily and, though he'd gone to school on academic scholarships, he flunked out. In the years to follow, his drinking escalated, costing him jobs and relationships. "I isolated a lot and alienated myself from my friends and family," he says. "I was ashamed and got to the point where I wanted to die because I couldn't get out of the bottle. It all seemed hopeless."

Then his father's pastor shared how our Life Change Program had transformed him and Paul decided to enter the program at our sister Mission in Morristown. There, he encountered a love he'd never known. "People genuinely cared about me and that convinced me there had to be a God," he says. "I took the weight off my shoulders and handed everything to Jesus. Now my identity is in Christ, which helps me not fear what people think about me anymore."

I'M CONTENT AND HAPPY ABOUT WHO I AM.

Paul completed the program and came to the Jersey Shore Rescue Mission as an intern, where he works with men in the first phase of our recovery program, and helps shelter guests access showers, meals and beds. "Hopelessness comes with homelessness so we show them a little bit of light," he says.

When Paul completes his internship, he plans to continue working with those in need. "I have a purpose to be light in the darkness for those who are still seeking, to bring people to Christ."

This Easter, Paul will be celebrating the beautiful new beginning in his life – made possible by your generous support. "I never imagined I could bring hope to others. The Mission has given me a brand new life."



A Message from DAVE SCOTT

YOU RESTORE

When we pass a homeless person on the street in Asbury Park, it's often easier to avert our eyes to our phones rather than engage with that person's very real pain. That way, we don't have to hear their cries... or see how broken their lives are... or feel how much they suffer.

But their pain is real, even if we look away.

On the cross, Jesus didn't look away from suffering, but endured it, fixing His eyes on "the joy set before Him." The glory of the cross is that Jesus boldly engaged with our pain. He experienced our struggles and our cries, and suffered with all of humanity. Jesus took our pain upon Himself and redeemed it.

Easter is our celebration of that new hope.

Your generous gifts demonstrate that you **turn toward** those who are hurting – and want to offer them healing and restoration through



Christ's love.

Because of you, people like Paul are celebrating HUGE changes in their lives. Paul's story is on page 3, and I hope as you read, you're inspired by how your gifts can turn a life filled with pain into a beautiful new beginning.

By God's grace, and your support, many like Paul are experiencing hope restored. On behalf of each person in our care, thank you for reaching out to them with the love and kindness that helps restore lives this Easter.

G. David Scott **Executive Director**



Imagine you're going through a difficult time, separated from family, and someone you've never met comes alongside you, sharing their compassion, letting you know you matter.

That's what happens for our guests when you volunteer at the Mission! **National Volunteer Week,** April 7-13, is the perfect time for you to begin sharing your time and gifts through one of our volunteer opportunities. You can:

- Serve a meal
- ► Help in the office
- ► Sort Thrift Store donations ► Tutor our clients
- ► Help with facility maintenance

For more information, visit **JerseyShoreRescueMission.org** and click on "Volunteer," or call **(732) 988-0242**. Thank you!

Preparing for Easter... AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Sunday, April 21: Easter Celebration from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Will you help set more places at our tables for hungry people this Easter?

Just look at our needs this
Easter season:
2,000+ meals for men,
women & children.

And there's no way we can serve them without you!

Donate food: Please consider hosting a food drive or donating these needed items by **Friday, April 19:**

- ☐ HAMS
- □ CANNED
- VEGETABLES
- □ STUFFING
- ☐ MASHED
 POTATOES
- **L**EGGS
- ☐ MILK

- □ ORANGE
- JUICE/FRUIT
- JUICE
- ☐ COFFEE CREAMER
- □ RECYCLABLE
- CUPS, PLATES,
 - BOWLS ξ
 - SILVERWARE



Drop off donations at the Mission, 701 Memorial Dr. in Asbury Park, 7 days a week. Thank you!

Don't have time to shop?

Donate now!

(973) 993-2880 JerseyShoreRescueMission.org



Volunteer: You can help out now until Easter Sunday! Visit **JerseyShoreRescueMission.org** and click on "Volunteer," or call **(732) 988-0242.**



KATHLEEN HAS A REASON

TO CELEBRATE!

Meet Kathleen! She came to the Mission believing all hope for her life was gone. Your support provided the hot, nourishing meal that changed everything – and gave her hope for a new life in Christ.

Today, you can help more people like Kathleen with your gift to feed, shelter and share God's love during our Annual Easter Campaign.

A meal is just \$2.82... and the hope it provides in the lives of homeless and hungry people is truly a reason to celebrate.

- GIVE NOW using the enclosed reply card & envelope.
- ☐ GIVE ONLINE anytime at **JerseyShoreRescueMission.org.**

Thank you for the new hope you make possible in hurting lives. Happy Easter!