

Don't miss...

2 Donald came in for a meal...

3 "Now I feel whole."

4 Easter



William's father left when he was just six years old, and he grew up longing for the sound of his father's voice. "He promised to call and send plane tickets to go see him, but he never did," William says. "I bottled all my disappointment inside."

When William was 10, he began numbing his pain with drugs. "I was trying to fill a void," he says.

He stopped using when he was 21 and maintained his sobriety for seven years. Then he went to see a doctor for his neck and shoulder pain and, though the doctor knew William was in recovery, he prescribed Percocet.

William relapsed, and for the next seven years he struggled with his addiction, costing him jobs, damaging his family relationships and alienating him from God. "I was trying to fill that void again," he says. "Finally, I realized I was losing everything."

It was then William entered our Life Change Program, where Bible studies, chapel services and Christian counseling have strengthened his faith and healed his heart. "My walk with Christ is closer than ever," he says. "And I've finally shared the pain I suppressed years ago."

His relationships with his family, including his father, have now been restored. "He says he's proud of me. I never thought I'd hear that."

Every day I see God working in my life.

William plans to complete the program and stay at the Mission for our Transition Phase, working and saving money for a place of his own. He's looking forward to marrying his fiancée and, someday, opening a restaurant. "I've been able to sharpen my skills working in the kitchen here," he says.

You may never meet William, but he's eternally grateful to YOU for your support – today, his heart is filled with new hope for the future. "The void I was trying to fill was the lack of a close relationship with Christ, but I turned my will over to Him completely. Now I feel whole."



Thank You Volunteers!

Your hearts and hands are changing lives...

Volunteer Appreciation Day is April 20 – the perfect time to thank our wonderful volunteers.

When you share your time, talents and compassion with our guests here at the Mission, you're letting them know they matter. You're loving "the least of these." And that love is changing lives...

"I'm so thankful for the volunteers... they've come and talked with me, taken time out of their vacation or the coldest days of winter to come to the Mission and serve me a meal. They're such a blessing."

- David, a program resident

If you've never volunteered at the Mission, what better time than **National Volunteer Week, April 19-25**, to begin expressing your compassion? We also have many volunteer opportunities available throughout the year, including:

- Organizing a food drive to stock our pantry
- Collecting hygiene items for our guests
- Filling backpacks for our annual Backpack Giveaway
- Bundling coats for our annual Coat Giveaway
- Wrapping Christmas gifts for our guests
- Sorting Thrift Store donations

For more information on ways you can help, visit our website at **JerseyShoreRescue.org** and click on "**Volunteer**," or call **(732)** 988-0242.



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



3,230 meals to serve



1,385 nights of shelter to provide



5-10 men in our Life Change recovery program (on average)



90 hours of education & counseling

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

"For He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness & transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son, who purchased our freedom & forgave our sins." Colossians 1:13-14, NLT



A Message from DAVE SCOTT

YOUR GIFTS ARE TRANSFORMING LIVES THIS **EASTER SEASON**

My friends, Easter will be here soon - and with it, the joy of being able to celebrate and shout, "He is risen indeed!"

I can't think of a truth that's more important to those staying at the Mission right now... people who are facing devastating struggles with homelessness, poverty and addiction.

That Jesus overcame death and rose again to offer a hurting world hope resonates with our guests.

In Jesus, they see that they too can overcome. As they begin to trust Him, their past guilt and shame transform into hope for a brighter future. They walk in freedom, knowing that they're forgiven.

Forgiveness is a doorway to new life. It opens up our guests to accepting love – not just God's, but love from our staff, their families and even themselves. From there, they blossom into the people they were always meant to be.

This Easter, I pray you'll experience the glorious hope of the cross in your life... and remember that YOU are making it possible for hurting people to find forgiveness and freedom through the cross too. I'm so grateful that each time you reach out to help, more hearts are touched by the love of a risen Savior.

G. David Scott **Executive Director**



OF A NEW LIFE.

Donald 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 \$2.82 — Fach meal you give makes a big

An everyight stay in our shelter (just \$22.00) difference!

• An overnight stay in our shelter (just \$22.00!)

Clothing, showers & Christ-centered care

This Easter, as Donald 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 JerseyShoreRescue.org.

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

YOU can help meet our EASTER NEEDS!

Sunday, April 12: Our Easter Celebration is from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

We need your help to prepare all the meals and care we'll provide this Easter season.

Between now and Easter Sunday, we're preparing to serve **3,230+ hot meals...** and provide hundreds of men, women and children with basic necessities like safe shelter, clean clothing and Christ-centered care.

Our homeless neighbors are counting on us... and we're counting on YOU.



FOOD ITEMS NEEDED

Consider hosting a food drive OR dropping off any of these needed food items

by Friday, April 10:

- ☐ HAMS
- ☐ CANNED
 - VEGIETABLES
- □ STUFFING
- POTATOES
- **L**EGGS

- ☐ MASHED
- □ MILK

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

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

No time to shop? Donate now.

(973) 993-2880

→ JerseyShoreRescue.org



Lend a hand this Easter season... VOLUNTEER.

Visit JerseyShoreRescue.org and click on "Volunteer," or call (732) 988-0242.