



SPRINGFIELD  
RESCUE  
MISSION

Your Annual Ministry Report

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# EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892

This is a

*Beacon  
of Hope!*

—Rollie

Find this story of hope on pg 2

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FROM RON

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." —Jeremiah 29:11 NIV



# *This is a Beacon of Hope! —Rollie*

Rollie's only 37, but he has experienced a lifetime of depression, difficulty and despair.

Given up for adoption by his mother when he was only eight months old, he never even knew about her until he graduated from high school, "and I was on my way to college," he recalls. And that he'd had a sister too.

"My mom was young, and couldn't take care of us both," he says. "So she had to give me away."

It was from that point that Rollie traces his downward spiral. "I think that's what spiked the episodes with me," he says, and his depression only deepened when he turned to alcohol, then anything else to numb the pain.

"I knew nothing about what it would do to me. I was a really innocent kid," he sighs. "I got run into a world of . . . *nothing*."

A hard worker by nature, Rollie buried his growing disease and dependencies in job after job, until his adoptive father, whom he'd remained close to, "got really sick with cancer," he says. "He was in remission for about 10 years, then it just came back with a vengeance."

Watching his dad die was the final blow for Rollie . . . but the Lord saw him there in his pain:

**"I felt God leading me to the Rescue Mission," Rollie marvels. "He was saying, 'this is where you need to be. This is where you'll find Me.'"**

And the Lord was faithful to that promise. "It's only because of this place that I was able to deal with my dad's death; he just recently passed, three weeks ago. And I was able to do it without drinking, or any desire to," Rollie nods, grateful to be in God's hands—and *thankful for caring friends like you*.

And Rollie is determined to make the most of the opportunity you have helped provide to



**"Everybody who comes to the Rescue Mission needs help, they all need someone to talk to. And all of you really look forward to helping—it's a beacon of hope!"**

start over again through our proven New Life Rehabilitation Program. "It's just wonderful to see so much love everywhere!"

And when Rollie's asked about the support and care you give to those who are recovering, like him, he smiles, "I pray the best of blessings to you, always and constantly, because God has put it upon your heart to give to help us and this community.

**"Thank you for all you provide, because without it, people like me would be in rough shape. It's being presented with a lot of love—a lot of love! It's such a blessing that you give."**

# ANNUAL MINIS

Good Stewards

## How YOU are Transforming Lives with HOPE!



"I've gone days without eating. I'm struggling to make it. What you give is a blessing! And you always take your time to talk if we need a minute."

—Kelly



"It makes me feel good that there are places like this in our community, that are willing to help people in need. There are a lot of people out there that do struggle, and I think this is really important!"

—Chris



"Seeing this place is like heaven right now!"

—Ben

Through the gifts and prayers of faithful ministry partners like you, more than 8,331 suffering souls have been served through our lifesaving Men's Emergency Shelter and Emergency Service Programs, alongside our landmark New Life Rehabilitation Program over the past year, providing . . .



## 278,264 NUTRITIOUS MEALS PROVIDED

These meals are served to the community through a collection of services including . . .

- Public Breakfasts
- Easter Meals
- Thanksgiving Dinners
- Christmas Dinners
- The Rescue Mission's Mobile Operation SONshine Outreach
- Critically Needed Boxes of Food for struggling families



## 15,228 TOTAL NIGHTS OF SAFE SHELTER

Shelter is provided through the Emergency Shelter for Men and the Men's New Life Rehabilitation Program.



## ITEM DONATIONS

Give Away Center, Hygiene Kits & Hope Totes

77,662 items of clothing distributed in the **Give Away Center**

Over 3,500 **Toiletry/Hygiene Kits**—including **Hope Totes!**

**Undie Sunday/Monday Distribution**—for those coming in from the streets

# STRY REPORT<sup>†</sup>

## of Your Support!



The Rescue Mission relies on the generosity of faithful supporters. **Not one cent of support comes from direct government funding!**

### FUNDRAISING BREAKDOWN

**\$0 IN DIRECT GOVERNMENT FUNDING!**

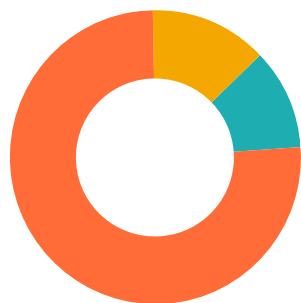
**93%** of support is thanks to individuals just like YOU and local business donations

**7%** from Church support and grants



With **21,700** volunteer hours donated by our family of friends like you for an annual savings of **\$603,694**

### FISCAL YEAR EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION



**76%** Services Provided (Program)

**13%** Fundraising

**11%** Administration

*Thank You for giving Hope to your neighbors in need through your compassionate action in support of this historic ministry to Greater Springfield!*



#### 2018 KEY PARTNER

Springfield Rescue Mission is honored to recognize **The Mary Collins Moynahan Foundation** for their commitment to Springfield's poor and homeless.

## Mark your Calendar

For Exciting Upcoming Opportunities!



**JUNE 1 – AUGUST 1**

### Stock a Classroom— Help a Teacher!

You can help the children of low-income families across our community have the essentials they need to learn and grow by providing needed school supplies for the coming academic year!

To provide school supplies and other basics to teachers for their students in need, look for updates at [springfieldrescuemission.org](http://springfieldrescuemission.org), call Barbara Brizzolari at 413-732-0808, ext. 225 or email [bbrizzolari@springfieldrescuemission.org](mailto:bbrizzolari@springfieldrescuemission.org)  
*Thank you!*



**JOIN US!**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 22**

10 a.m. – Noon

### Open House!

Join your family of friends at the Rescue Mission to see in person how your gifts and prayers are saving and changing lives! (*Light refreshments will be served.*) For more information, go to [springfieldrescuemission.org](http://springfieldrescuemission.org) or call Barbara Brizzolari at 413-732-0808, ext. 225. See you here!



## Your Help is Vital Month After Month!

As a faithful friend of the Rescue Mission, you know that the need experienced by those God places in our care is ongoing, and now you have the opportunity to make a monthly impact as a **Sustainer of Hope!**

### HEAR FROM JAY, A CURRENT SUSTAINER!

"I saw the program up close and personal and it's been amazing!" says Jay, whose monthly **Sustainers of Hope** gifts make an enduring difference providing new life to suffering souls. More than that, he's involving others in this vital opportunity too. "I got our church to put the Rescue Mission on the budget, so it's now donating too!"

### YOUR BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- ▶ Helping **meet the intense need** with your monthly offering
- ▶ Having an **easy-to-adjust commitment and giving options** that work best for you
- ▶ Seizing the chance to **provide regular support providing fewer administrative and overhead expenses** at the Rescue Mission

### HOW TO MAKE 12X THE IMPACT!

Simply check the box on your enclosed reply slip, and return it in the envelope provided with your first lifesaving monthly gift right away. *And welcome to Sustainers of Hope!*

**"I chose to leave  
that life . . . and I  
turned to God."  
—Gene**

### GENE'S STORY

**"I** thought I was going to go out and rule the world. It just didn't happen. I fell on my face," recalls Gene with a regretful smile.

Then his smile fades as he remembers where it led him. "I found out that if you fall on your face long enough, *you just give up.*"

Like so many who give up in despair, Gene says, "I fell into my weakness—addiction. I kept trying to control it on my own, but I got further and further away from where I needed to be." And with the worldly disease like addiction comes worldly consequences.

***Down and out, Gene looked up from his despair . . . and saw the Lord. "I chose to leave that life, and came to the Rescue Mission," he nods. "And I turned to God."***

"Once I repented," Gene says, "and gave up struggling to make it on my own, He started guiding me, and all the Scriptures and all the Bible classes I attended, well, it was focus time!"

And Gene's focus has remained fixed on the Lord and on helping others who are still searching for focus—and a future. "I'll ask them, 'are you tired?' If you're tired of trying to make it on your own and coming up with nothing, and finding yourself frustrated"—or worse—"then it's only a matter of time before you want to do something different . . . so trust in God!"

Alongside his trust in God, Gene is grateful for compassion in action like yours that has made New Life in Christ possible for him at the Rescue Mission!

***Thank you for helping us make hope and a future possible for these neighbors in our care!***



**Ronald Willoughby**  
Executive Director/CEO

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The goal of the Springfield Rescue Mission since 1892 is to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the hungry, homeless, addicted and poor by introducing them to Christ and helping them apply the Word of God to every area of their lives.

The Springfield Rescue Mission is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.

*You can donate your used cell phone, ink and laser cartridges to the Rescue Mission!*



**Like us on Facebook**  
@springfieldrescuemission



**Follow us on Twitter**  
@hope4spfld

# YOU are the one bringing Hope to your neighbors!

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” —Jeremiah 29:11 NIV*

My Friend,

It's May, it's springtime in Western Massachusetts and summer's right over the horizon . . .

But for those in our community who are struggling through hunger and homelessness or suffering from physical, emotional and spiritual pain, summer just means more heartbreak . . .

**That's why the help and the HOPE found in Jesus Christ and hearts like yours means so much right now!**

And in this special Ministry Report issue of *EXPECTATIONS*, you'll see how important you are in reaching an incredible number of lives, whether with life-sustaining meals, nights of shelter, basic essentials provided free to those most in need or through comfort and counsel in Christ.

More than that, every single cent that goes to rebuilding your neighbors' lives is thanks to ministry partners like you, who answer Christ's calling to seek and to serve those less fortunate—

**So as we continue walking, praying and serving together today, tomorrow, this summer and all year long, know that this our mission remains dedicated to saving and changing lives.**

But I must say that more and more men, women and children arrive at our door every day, and feeding them, caring for them and moving them forward with “hope and a future” happens only with your help. So thank you for giving and praying to bring HOPE to Greater Springfield!

Thanking God for you,

*Ronald Willoughby*



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