



SPRINGFIELD  
RESCUE  
MISSION

YOU are helping shine a  
BEACON OF HOPE in our community

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# EXPECTATIONS

Serving the Homeless in Jesus' Name Since 1892

How you're helping  
to save & change lives!

**"We're ambassadors  
for Christ!"**

*Johnny*

*See inside*

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our neighbors in need,  
thanks to you! . . . . . **pg. 3**
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"A city on a hill cannot be hidden . . . In the same way, let your light shine before men,  
that they may see your good deeds, and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14-16 NIV



# ***"We're ambassadors for Christ!" —Johnny***

Johnny suffers from anxiety and PTSD; he's known much suffering in his life—from growing up with an abusive father to the trauma he experienced in the years following: "I witnessed the events of 9/11," Johnny admits. *"I was there."*

He's also struggled with his health throughout his life, "I was born with heart disease. It's called ventricular septal defect," he shares, remembering how the condition affected his life . . . until, seeking escape, "I used cocaine when I was a young teenager."

But rather than numbing the pain, the drugs damaged his heart even further. Years later, "I caught an infectious disease that spread to my heart . . . and I nearly died."

*That*, he knew, was his last wake-up call. "Being in darkness, fearing that I would die," he says.

And God heard his cry for help. "Landing here recently at the Rescue Mission is what brought me back to the Lord," Johnny says. Understanding that struggles like his, "bring us to our knees one way or another, humble us and help us to realize that without Him, nothing is possible!"

You'll be glad to know Johnny is managing his health. He is clean and sober, and he's dedicated himself to, "serving the community—that's one of the biggest things I enjoy doing here now because I'm on the front lines, even in the middle of the whole COVID situation!"

***"We're ambassadors for Christ," he declares. "We're missionaries for this Mission, where we've been blessed with landing!"***

Looking back, Johnny realizes, "The Lord always provided. That's what He does with us!" He smiles, a transformed man today—the *kind of real-world, real-life transformation you help make possible with your support for this ministry we share.*

In fact, as we began serving sit-down meals again this summer to neighbors in need like Johnny, please know that gifts and prayers like yours made it all possible.

**And as we look forward to every table being full for Thanksgiving, Christmas dinner and all the meals between, know how vital your help is in shining this BEACON OF HOPE in our community! Thanks and blessings.**



***"Nothing is impossible with the Lord."***



# DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

## for Your Neighbors in Need!

MATCH  
OPPORTUNITY

**A**s an important partner in this ministry, you have the opportunity right now to DOUBLE the value of any gift you send to help struggling men, women and children across our community!

Generous friends who join you in caring deeply for these suffering souls have issued a prayerful \$100,000 Matching Challenge to DOUBLE your impact by the September 21st deadline.

Your heartfelt gift today can make TWICE the impact by helping the Rescue Mission fund critical repairs and necessary improvements so, together, we can stand ready to *meet the need this holiday*

*season, before frigid winter weather arrives. We'll also be expanding our programs to better equip men to retain sobriety and claim the abundant life God wishes for them.*

So, please look for God's leading to send your special gift today, which will be DOUBLED instantly by the Matching Challenge to provide food, safe shelter, critical care, counseling and Christ-centered recovery to *transform more lives! Thanks and blessings.*

To make your special gift online, visit: [springfieldrescuemission.org/match](http://springfieldrescuemission.org/match)

## Mark Your Calendar for Exciting Upcoming Opportunities!

### SEPTEMBER 22

#### OPEN HOUSE

Join your family of friends at the Rescue Mission on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, anytime from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to see how your gifts and prayers are shining this beacon of hope! To RSVP or for more info, contact Rebecca Connor at [rconnor@springfieldrescuemission.org](mailto:rconnor@springfieldrescuemission.org) or 413-732-0808. **See you there!**

### OCTOBER 1–31

#### UNDIE SUNDAY/UNDIE MONDAY

All sizes and styles of NEW socks, underwear, and t-shirts welcome for men, women, and children—especially men's boxer briefs: M, L & XL. Men's T-shirts: L, XL, XXL, 3XL, 4XL. **Our 2021 goal: 4,000 sets of underwear, socks, and t-shirts with your help! Thanks so much.**

### SAVE THE DATES

#### CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS AT THE RESCUE MISSION

Your help is warmly appreciated this year as we return to sit-down dinners together with our neighbors in need. Please share the spirit of the season by volunteering with us! Sign-up now at [springfieldrescuemission.org/getinvolved](http://springfieldrescuemission.org/getinvolved) or call Lenore Brooks at 413-732-0808 ext. 220 or by email at [lbrooks@springfieldrescuemission.org](mailto:lbrooks@springfieldrescuemission.org). **Thank you!**

#### Thanksgiving Banquet November 24

Regular breakfast served from 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.  
Thanksgiving meals from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

#### Christmas Banquet December 23–24

Regular breakfast served from 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.  
Christmas meal served from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.  
Regular breakfast on Dec. 24th, 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

# A Personal Message from Kevin

## My Friend,

It's August—it's still hot, but we're all looking forward to a New England fall coming soon . . .

Yet, there are still many hungry, hurting people across our community coming through our doors each day for meals, help and hope . . . and the busy holiday season is just on the horizon, when *hopelessness, homelessness and loneliness* are felt most deeply.

To help meet that need, I'm excited to share with you the great news that a generous member of this Rescue Mission family of friends has issued an exciting \$62,000 Matching Challenge to hearts like yours, effectively **DOUBLING** the value of any gift you send by our September 21st deadline.

*After a difficult year of suffering and loss, YOU can continue shining this beacon of hope across our community to TWICE as many lives this fall! And just like that city in Christ's parable, our light here is shining bright as a beacon of hope today and in the days to come.*

Your gifts and prayers provide the healthy meals, nights of safe shelter, practical training and hope in Jesus for new life that's critical for those who

need us most—and who need you now.

That's why I enjoy sharing how your faithfulness is reflected in *this*, and every other, issue of **EXPECTATIONS**—and in each life you help save and change here, as Christ calls us to do.

**So, please continue to pray for our community's kids heading back to school . . . for struggling families and individuals looking to you and me for help . . . and then reach out today to make a **DOUBLE** difference for your neighbors in need as they come here at the holidays.**

Your heartfelt response to the **Matching Challenge** will help make possible the crucial repairs and improvements necessary to safely and securely welcome every life God brings to our door!

**Thanks for sharing, and thank you for caring. May God bless you in the busy weeks ahead.**

From the bottom of my heart,



Kevin Ramsdell  
Executive Director/CEO



P.S. The power of community is a mighty way to overcome hunger, hurt and homelessness, as expressed by recent partner, Rachel's Table. Dedicated to reducing waste and relieving hunger, Jodi Falk, Executive Director of Rachel's Table, says, "we were blessed to work alongside Springfield Rescue Mission to bring thousands of pounds of healthy, nutritious food to families in need at this time . . . *together!*"

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Give today at:  
[springfieldrescuemission.org/expectations](http://springfieldrescuemission.org/expectations)

Connect with us at:  
[info@springfieldrescuemission.org](mailto:info@springfieldrescuemission.org)

## 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!



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