



RESCUE REPORT

Changing Lives in Solano County...

...for a Brighter Tomorrow

There's Always Hope!

We never know what tiny spark is going to start a person on the road to a new life. It might be a simple hot meal served with kindness by a volunteer. Or a shower and a good night's sleep somewhere other than the streets where you have to watch your back every minute. Or, perhaps, just the fact that we never give up hope!

Shawn entered our program several times. But his addiction had a greater control over his life than

his desire to make any real change. He'd come back again and again and each time, we would welcome him with open arms, praying that this time things would be different.

By the age of 23, Shawn was deep into addiction and his problems were getting worse instead of better. Then his girlfriend told him she was pregnant. That miraculous event was the "spark" that made all the difference in Shawn's life. After

completing a drug

recovery program, he returned to Mission SOLANO to live at our Next Step House and begin his transition to become the husband, father and man he now desired to be!

Today, Shawn is continuing to grow in his faith while serving our country in Iraq in the US Army. He is the proud father of another child, Lydia, who joins her brother Michael.

His wife says, "I know my soldier would be happy to receive mail and encouragement at any time. Regardless of your politics & opinions on the war, these men & women need the support of their country."

PSPV2, Porter, Shawn
A Co/I STB/I BCT/IAD (101st)
COB Speicher
APO AE 09393

Thanks to your support, people like Shawn and his family are finding hope for a better future. ☀



Easter Dinner Volunteers Needed!

On Easter Sunday, March 23, we will be hosting our annual Easter Dinner for the homeless and needy. We need your help to serve dinners to our guests and provide food boxes this Easter season.

If you would like to volunteer to help us spread help and hope this Easter season, please call **707-422-1011**. ☀



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Making the Holidays Brighter

Not only does our financial support come from individuals, we are also blessed with many who volunteer their personal time. Mission SOLANO always wants to be able to provide as much help as possible for those in need, but without the help of our volunteers, we could not do as much as we do. This past Thanksgiving season, not only did we serve over 30,000 meals, but we also gave away over 450 food boxes filled with all the necessary Thanksgiving dinner fixings to our community's neediest. We want to thank all our volunteers for making the holidays special. If you would like to know how you can volunteer your time, please call **707-422-1011**.

Thank You



KUIC and Mission SOLANO thank all the Mission friends and 95.3 KUIC listeners who helped to provide more than 14,000 meals and care through our *Feed the Hungry* Radio-thon this past November. A special thank you to Fairfield

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A Message From Ron Marlette



Nothing Defeats Hope!

A little over a month before he died, the famous atheist Jean-Paul Sartre declared that he so strongly resisted feelings of despair that he would say to himself, "I know I shall die in hope." Then in profound sadness, he would add, "But hope needs a foundation."

At Mission SOLANO we offer the greatest foundation of hope there is...

Born in a stable. His mother a virgin. He was raised in a carpenter shop. His parents were poor. His people were slaves. His friends were a lowly lot. His chances in life were very slim. He was expected to be a slave. But people in darkness saw light in Him and hope in the freedom He gave.

As we celebrate Easter, let us rejoice in the hope it represents. If Christ has not been raised, our faith is vain (I Cor. 15:14). The whole of the New Testament revelation rests on this as an historical fact. This is the foundation of our hope.

I believe this hope also moves in your heart as you support this vital ministry. Hope for a better, brighter future for men, women and children who are homeless, hungry, addicted or in need.

Thank you for helping us to bring this hope to all who come.

Wishing you an Easter filled with hope,


Ron Marlette
Executive Director

We Are Easter People!

If the Mission were a holiday, it would surely be Easter! Easter is spring sunshine after a dark winter. And Easter is hope – hope for a better life, hope for a tomorrow with enough food and shelter, hope for change,

and most important, hope in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks to your support, the lives of men, women and children are transformed here at Mission SOLANO because they have found hope. You can see it in their

eyes and hear it in their voices when they share their stories.

Through your gifts of time and money and through your prayers, you bring hope to the people in our community who need it most. With your

My Life Was a Wreck!

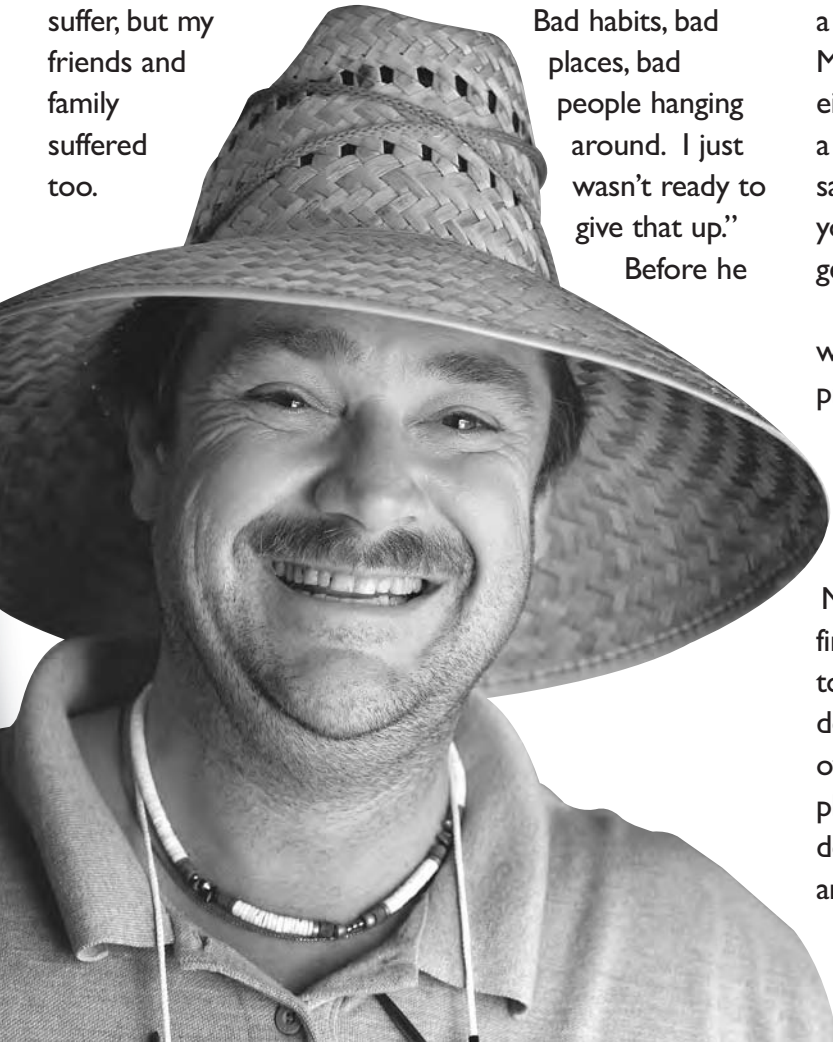
Steven was an addict for 22 years. “Booze, pot, dope, it didn’t matter,” he remembers, “My drug of choice was always ‘more.’ And not only did I suffer, but my friends and family suffered too.”

When I was going through my homeless years and living on the streets, my mom tried to help me, but I wasn’t ready to quit my old ‘stinkin’ thinkin.’

Bad habits, bad places, bad people hanging around. I just wasn’t ready to give that up.”
Before he

enrolled in the recovery program at Mission SOLANO, Steve had been living on the streets in Fairfield for two years. “I was living in a tent out in a field. I’d come to the Mission nearly every day, either for food or to take a shower. Then someone said to me, ‘So, when are you going to come in and get off the street?’”

After recovery, Steve went into the Next Step program, living in a “clean and sober” house where he could continue to work and still be connected with the Mission. We helped him find work and he was able to save enough to make a deposit on a place of his own. “I owe a lot to this place,” Steve says. “I decided to make a change and ask the Lord for His help and guidance, and so far it’s worked!”



Thank You

(continued from page 2)

Hilton Garden Inn for hosting our event. To all those who sponsored meals for our phone bank, answered phones and donated, we offer our

warmest thanks!
Thank you for making this day such a huge success!



Christmas Feast & Toy Giveaway

This past Christmas Eve over 5,000 toys were given out to children to help make their Christmas a little brighter. The day was filled with lots of smiles. Many received toys and a delicious meal was served. The event is designed not only to make Christmas better for those who don’t have much but also for those who are able to share their blessings with others. We want to thank all those who gave financially, volunteered and all the civic and community leaders who helped pass out toys and serve meals.



help and hope, they overcome poverty, addictions and suffering and move on to live healthier, happier, more hopeful lives!

Please help us continue to bring this message of hope to those

in need by sending a special Easter gift today. You may use the enclosed envelope, or make a secure



donation online at www.MissionSolano.org.



Toy Run a Great Success!

On December 24, 2007, Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3 of Fairfield, sponsored a pancake breakfast, encouraging each of its members and staff to participate by donating toys for children in need at Mission SOLANO. The breakfast was followed by "Santa" leading a Toy Run through town to deliver gifts to children at the shelter. There were more than 250 toys collected by riders from Operating Engineers and other "bike lovers" who joined together to make this outreach a success. Thank you to everyone who helped put a smile on the faces of these

children!

Following the Toy Run, a local church, New Covenant Worship, held an outreach to the community and for our guests that stay at the Mission. Volunteers from the church donated "like new" clothing for men, women and children, in addition to shoes, purses and fragrance items. With much hard work and enthusiasm, the rooms were transformed into a "store" where guests were given play money to shop for much-



needed clothing and other necessities. To top it off, guests enjoyed refreshments, raffle prizes, music and a warm welcome! We are excited to see members of our community partner to meet the basic needs of the homeless and hurting in our community. Thank you! ❁

Happy Holidays!

The holidays can be difficult for many people, especially the homeless. A hot meal and a smile often go a long way toward making the holidays a little brighter for those in need.

With your help, Mission SOLANO provided plenty of comfort and cheer at our Christmas dinner. Our volunteers helped us serve more than 8,000 meals to needy people this Christmas season.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time. Your generosity helped bring joy to those who are often forgotten. ❁

We Want to Hear From YOU!



Mission SOLANO depends on friends and neighbors to provide help to our community's neediest people. Because the majority of our support comes from individuals like you, we like to communicate with our donors through the mail. It is the most cost-effective way we can communicate, which allows

more of your donations to go toward helping those in need. We realize your time is valuable and we want to know how we can best communicate with you. Please complete the survey on the back of the reply form and return it in the envelope enclosed with your donation. ❁

Here's My Special Easter Gift

Use it to bring **Help and Hope** to Fairfield and Solano County's neediest people.

- \$17.90 for 10 meals and care
- \$26.85 for 15 meals and care
- \$53.70 for 30 meals and care
- \$_____ to help as much as possible

Bill my credit card: VISA MC AMEX DISC

CREDIT CARD # _____

EXP. DATE _____ PHONE # _____

Please send me information about your monthly giving club.



Donate online at www.MissionSolano.org, or by calling 707-422-1011.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Mission SOLANO

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