

Preparing for the Holiday season beginning with Thanksgiving, followed shortly thereafter with our annual Christmas toy giveaway. We expect to service well over a two thousand plus people, and it is as fun as it is crazy!

With last year's numbers being higher than ever, we expect much the same this year. But in all of this craziness somehow God makes it all possible, and He doesn't miss a beat. With each seating for each event we fill those that come with the life sustaining story of Jesus and His resurrection hope before we bless them with a hearty turkey meal, and a wrapped age specific toy.

But what do we need for this to come off without a hitch? To your right is a small list that has been created for your perusal...

1. Frozen Turkeys
2. Hams
3. Cranberry sauce
4. Stuffing
5. Potatoes
6. Corn
7. New un-wrapped toys, Ages 0-4, - 5-8, - 9-12
8. Cash contributions
9. Wrapping paper & tape
10. Volunteers



The best part of my job is getting to see the change of heart these disciples go through as they walk from a life filled with death and destruction- and for the first time catch a glimpse of hope-catch a glimpse of Jesus. I can't help but get emotional every time I look at this picture because the smiles that you see here are real. The hope in their eyes-real. The joy that radiates off of them-real. I get to experience God working in these men every single day and am absolutely blessed to partner with them as they embark on the beginning of a life filled with prosperity and adventure. There is honestly nothing on earth that can measure the joy that bursts from within when I think of all the Lord has done here at MRM.

Randall McKinney
Case Manager
MRM

*Serving the least the last and the lost
with the life changing love of Christ*



Madera Rescue Mission THE VOICE

Fourth Quarter Volume 4

Who knew we had a web presence and Facebook Page?

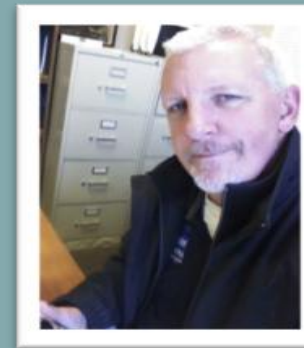
A great big shout out has to go to Level 5 for creating the page and all the effort it took to get it in place. But we also must make mention of Mrs. Cantino for her willingness to keep it as current as possible.

The Web Page www.maderarescue.org has too many things to list but includes such highlights as:

- Who we are
- Where and how we help
- How you can get involved today & partner with us for years to come
- A list of on-line resources
- Events and so much more
- Plus drop downs beneath each of these headings

And don't forget to Friend us on *FB* at Madera Rescue Mission CA

Madera Rescue Mission
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www.maderarm.org



THE SUMMER SLUMP!

Well Mission family, we made it! In fact for the first time in as long as I've been told, we did better than survive, we **THRIVED!**

That's not to suggest that we will rest on our laurels, but rather, like any other yearend we want to finish strong. With two final events to cap this year off as our best ever.

For those who received a phone call by yours truly, thank you for your kindness as we touched base and made connections that solidified a partnership we couldn't survive without.

So from all of us and those you helped.

THANK-YOU

Isaiah 58:10 If you extend your soul to the hungry And satisfy the afflicted soul, Then your light shall dawn in the darkness, And your darkness shall be as the noonday.

Did this year fly by or what?

From the Director's Perspective

Where do I start? As I ponder the below verse found in **Proverbs 19:17** I find the beauty of love described very definitively. It includes two things:

1. **Compassion**, which is the inward principle of love in the heart; it is to have pity on the poor. Those that have nothing for the poor, still might have pity/sympathy for them, or a charitable concern and;
2. **The need to give abundantly** and well beyond the place of pity, according to their needs and our ability, **James 2:15-16.**

And month after month, event after event, I've watched regular well-meaning people come and give from in many cases a lack of personal abundance themselves. Did they know that by giving to the poor abundantly out of compassion that God would attribute that which was given, to their account as if it was lent to Him, or directly given to Him. We'll never know, but we have been blessed this year.

Proverbs 19:17 He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, And He will pay back what he has given.

Amanda and Phil, two recent Program Graduates and yes Phil does Smile.

All tolled we have been blessed to date with **Twenty Two** Graduates with many going on to work, finish grade 12, or in some instances move onto college. **AMEN!**

This I do know, as January rolled into February all the way forward to October this year has flown by like none other.

- A successful inaugural "Second Wind" 5k run
- A new web page presence, www.maderarescue.org
- Multiple Graduation ceremonies, with multiple graduates both 12 & 18 months
- A Facebook (90) day challenge that raised over \$7 thousand dollars
- Our first "Scrabble" motorcycle fundraiser
- The most well attended Banquet of all time
- Not to mention a significant face-lift of all Mission facilities.

Lord Jesus, did You ever build on a firm foundation this year! You used all of us and everything we brought. All I have left to say is, **"THANK-YOU"** and **"WOW!!!"** and **"AMEN."**



This Year's Thread; "Building on a Firm Foundation" 1Corinthians 3:11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Our Daily Needs...

- ✓ Toilet Paper.
- ✓ Liquid washer Soap (*he, compatible*)
- ✓ Socks, Underwear, Gloves, Winter Jackets
- ✓ Personal grooming items
 - Soap, shampoo
 - Toothpaste,
 - Hand-sanitizer
 - Disposable shavers

A kind word from a dear partner

Thank you for your service to the people of Madera County. The offering we give monthly is in the memory of my brother "Jerry" and his wife, whom you helped find the Lord and get back on their feet. They are both retired now and live in Arizona. Thank you and God bless you all. Mary

Upcoming Events...

- Auxiliary Luncheon to be held on the 3rd Friday of each month at 11:30 am. To be held on November 21st at Yosemite Christian Center 1201 E. Yosemite Ave. Madera, CA
- Program Graduation (3) graduates will be celebrating on November 21st 6:00 pm at the Mission. Snacks to follow. **Please come!!!**
- **BIG – BIG – BIG** – Mission Yard sale! December 6th Details to follow look for more info in the Madera Tribune, and on Facebook www.maderarescue.org
- Auxiliary Luncheon at 11:30 am. December 19th at the Madera Rescue Mission 332 Elm St. Madera, CA
- Annual Dinner & New Toy Giveaway December 20th, between 11 am to 4:00 pm **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

A thought I had...

(Ms. Thurston has since gotten married to a Smith, congratulations. As a graduate staff person we've also uncovered her gift of poetry...)

As I look out the window I see people passing by, enjoying the gentle breeze and all the Lord has provided. --- A woman about to give birth, a child playing in the dirt, a man with one leg using crutches to walk the earth. --- The leaves on the trees allow me to see that summer has begun to ease. The season has been relentless, soaking up all the water supply. Fire's burning, destroying, need we ask why? --- The clouds the color of grays and pink, allow me to gaze, reminisce and re-think. --- Oh this special day! Unlike on other, it's like I'm falling in love with life itself wonderful new to discover. --- As I look out the window my heart fills with joy as my soul cries out, just look at the smiling faces of Your children you'll see there's no doubt. --- The words You have placed, inspired by grace help me see through the window to another place.

So what's taken place these past several months thanks to the Red & Nancy fund?

So much has happened these past several months that quite frankly couldn't have happened without the generous love gift we received last year from the Red & Nancy Fund. The Fund administrators were adamant that these funds be allocated to capital improvements and maintenance issues as they arose.

Where do I begin?

- A new decorative rod iron fence encompassing the grounds, complete with decorative gates.
- New exterior improvements including paint that not only add years to the buildings but save energy and create a kinder less institutional presence for our neighbors.
- Repairs and replacement of almost all bathroom fixtures and tiling. (*Something sorely needed given the numerous leaks, and subsequent damage.*)
- Many new doors and flooring were needed.
- Much needed swamp coolers & air conditioners either being upgraded or replaced.
- Security Cameras & Signage.
- New Bedding for all of Men's services.
- Plumbing upgrades

Thank you Lord for directing these funds our way, we will continue to steward these funds as wisely as possible. We have every intention of deploying these funds for Your glory, as we maintain Your facilities to the best of our collective ability. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Foundation Administrators were quoted as saying, "Red & Nancy would love what you're doing."

*We couldn't do what we do without our **INCRDEIBLE** Volunteers!*



If you've been wondering, "Where and how could I plug in at the Mission?" Than consider calling Mrs. Lynda Belmontez so that she can coordinate a tour and hand you a volunteer packet. "We Need You!"

So what exactly do our volunteers do?

They bring the Gospel message of hope 365 days a year, as seen above.

They Teach, Mentor and help with those needing direction and encouragement.

They cook and they clean!

They answer the phones and do data entry.

- *They do fundraisers, help at fundraisers and contribute during fundraisers.*
- *They pick-up donations*

Perhaps a better question might be, what don't they do? I've found if we have a need God brings the help.



Sincerely, Ashley Bullock

Just who do you help?

Hello my name is Ashley Bullock. I heard about the Madera Rescue Mission when I was in a mental health facility in Visalia This place here at the Mission has been so warm and helpful and I am very appreciative for that. I have been homeless officially for almost two weeks now but I have been homeless for most of my adolescent and adult life with no permanent home for myself and now three going on four little boy Michael. Why is that? Well too many fights with my parents and family, and to be honest I'm not quite sure what to think of that. All I know is that I have never had a BIGGER smile come on my face every morning from being here yet I know for my son's sake I need to leave my family behind, but it's difficult. As for the future I don't know where I will be that's up to God to decide. As for the Mission they have provided great services. Thank you to all the supporters as well for helping me and my son even without knowing us. It's been tough for us but we are getting better now.