

CHANGING LIVES

128 YEARS OF SERVICE



12 WAYS TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN 2020

FORMER MISSION YOUTH RETURNS DECADE LATER TO VOLUNTEER

A GLIMPSE AT OUR IMPACT IN 2019

Dear Friends,

I want you to know that as I read through the draft of this newsletter, I could not help but be so moved by Anastasia's story of Responding to the Call. We often talk about breaking the cycle of poverty with the youth who stay with us at The Crossing. Anastasia, who used to live at The Crossing with her family when she was in high school, has a master's degree, is a teacher and now comes back to tutor our kids. Wow! This is why we do this work! This is what we dream of: breaking the cycle of poverty and then having people who came to us for help want to give back—people who want to see others' lives changed just like their lives were changed.

And how about Scott Farleigh, featured on the last page of this newsletter, who works with Eagle Scouts who are interested in doing their Eagle projects at The Crossing? He is changing the lives of not only our participants, but also of every Eagle Scout who works on a project for the Mission. Recently, I was at The Crossing on a Saturday afternoon, and Scott was there, building a cabinet. He showed me his cabinet (awesome by the way), and we talked about the next Eagle Scout project. Why would he spend an entire day at The Crossing? Because he cares, and he wants to see lives Changed in the Name of Christ. He wants to make a difference.

Anastasia and Scott are humble people who do what they do out of love. They volunteer without fanfare or publicity. They are but two examples of the 16,520 volunteers we had last year who gave 111,640 hours of their time, commitment and hearts to others. We are so thankful for all of our volunteers. We could not do this work without them! Please join us in whatever way you can in doing God's work at Denver Rescue Mission. I know how you will be impacted, because I started at the Mission as a volunteer 32 years ago. You will be blessed!

Sincerely,



Brad Meuli
President and CEO



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

SERVE • LEARN • CONNECT

at Denver Rescue Mission



The Mission's Young Professionals group is seeking passionate individuals to join its growing network of influencers. Come serve, learn and connect with us to impact the lives of people experiencing homelessness, poverty and addiction.

DenverRescueMission.org/YoungProfessionals

A GLIMPSE AT OUR IMPACT IN 2019*

773,717
MEALS PROVIDED

111,640

VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED
AT THE MISSION

415,091
NIGHTS
OF SHELTER

38,198

TOTAL ATTENDEES
AT OUR CHAPEL SERVICES

* Fiscal Year: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

VIEW THE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT TO SEE THE WAYS YOUR GIFTS ARE IMPACTING LIVES:
DenverRescueMission.org/AnnualReport



1 Corinthians 13:4-5 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

RESPONDING TO THE CALL

For Anastasia, God's calling was to revisit a part of her past in order to impact the next generation.

Hanging on her mirror is a Bible verse that reads, *"1 Corinthians 13:4-5: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs."*

She received it at a Bible study at Denver Rescue Mission when she was 15 and has held on to it for years.

She reads the verse every morning when she looks in the mirror as a reminder of God's love and how He calls her to love others. In the reflection is a wife, daughter, sister, teacher, and volunteer—a woman of God with a heart for children and a desire to serve.

Anastasia decided to start volunteering at the Mission after being encouraged at church to live as a servant of God and respond to His calling on her life. After seeing a Facebook post from a former Mission volunteer, she felt God tugging on her heart to get involved with the youth Bible study. "God put it in front of me as the perfect opportunity," she said.

Returning to the Denver Broncos Youth Center (the Broncos Room), the Mission's youth education center at The Crossing, was an emotional step for Anastasia, because it brought back many bittersweet memories.

When she was a sophomore in high school, her family joined the STAR Transitional Program, and they lived at The Crossing for about six months. They started experiencing homelessness when she was in fourth grade, and she and her three younger brothers and older sister were in foster care before going to the Mission.

She spent her free time in the Broncos Room with other teens—some of whom she is still friends with today—attending homework nights, Bible studies and various events.

As a teenager, Anastasia felt embarrassed to tell her friends at school where she was living, but the comfort she lacked from her peers at school, she gained from the warm, welcoming ambiance created by the volunteers at the Mission.

"Being there in a safe space where there are people who pray over you and make sure that you're doing okay—people who actually have an idea of what you're going through—is something that was really helpful at the time," she said.

Now, nearly a decade later, Anastasia spends her Tuesday evenings back in the Broncos Room, teaching God's word to the kids. Together, they sing, dance and read stories about Jesus.

"I REALLY FEEL THAT GOD PUT ME HERE FOR A SPECIFIC REASON, AND IT'S JUST REALLY COOL TO KNOW THAT I CAN RELATE TO THESE STUDENTS."

Joe Bermingham, youth coordinator at the Mission, said Anastasia brings the same kind, gentle disposition that she had when she lived at The Crossing. "I'm very proud of her," he said. "She is in her own quiet way influencing these kids."

Anastasia holds a Master of Arts in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education and is a second grade teacher at the Center for Talent Development. "It gives our kids hope and a future," Joe said, "because if Anastasia was a kid here and is now a teacher with a master's degree, they know they can do it too." ■



WAYS TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

God works all things together for the good of those who love Him and who are called according to His purpose. What is God calling you to do in 2020?

What gifts, skills and talents can you use to be His hands and feet?



BRING YOUR HOBBIES AND SKILLS TO THE MISSION

Whether you're creative and innovative or organized and systematic, you can do what you love while reaching those in need. We have opportunities for many different interests and skill sets, such as musicians who perform during meal service, artists who create projects with our guests and various administrative roles.

You can also get involved in activities hosted at the Lawrence Street Community Center, such as bingo and karaoke.



WORK WITH OUR YOUTH

From tutoring to Bible studies, you can work with the children and teens living at The Crossing and help create a healthy and fun environment for them to grow and succeed.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THE MISSION, VISIT DENVERRESCUEMISSION.ORG/VOLUNTEER.

3

BECOME A MENTOR

If you have a gift in making connections and providing emotional and spiritual support to others, this is the ideal opportunity for you. We have mentorship opportunities that support men, women, children, and families in one-on-one and group settings.

4

USE YOUR PROFESSION TO MAKE AN IMPACT

We have several ways that you can apply your expertise to keep the Mission's services effective and efficient, including counseling, maintenance, mechanics, clinic law, and barber services.



5

HELP FOSTER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

If you enjoy teaching important skills or writing resumes, you can help our program participants develop their gifts to further their education and land a job, which is instrumental in breaking the cycle of homelessness.

6

HELP AT OUR WAREHOUSE

We have opportunities for you to work in our Ministry Outreach Center with our Client Services team in administrative or front-of-house roles helping families in need.

7

HOST OUR CHAPEL SERVICES

If you're passionate about teaching the word of God, consider hosting a chapel service at our Lawrence Street Shelter. The service includes worship, reading scripture, bringing a message of salvation, sharing testimonies, and offering an altar call.



8

JOIN OUR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GROUP

Are you a young professional who's passionate about giving back? Join our growing network of influencers to help serve meals, receive insider info, gain exclusive access to Mission projects, network with other young professionals and become a Mission ambassador to spark change in our community.

9

ENHANCE YOUR CAREER GOALS BY INTERNING

This is your chance to check out a career in the nonprofit world! Our internship program offers hands-on experience in nonprofit business operations, public relations, case management, community outreach, counseling, family and youth services, and more.



WANT TO HELP BUT STRAPPED FOR TIME? Here are three opportunities that don't require long-term commitments:

10

PREPARE AND SERVE MEALS

We serve three meals a day, 365 days a year at two locations, so we have plenty of opportunities for you to come serve and bless our guests through the comfort of a home-cooked meal.

11

SORT AND ORGANIZE DONATED ITEMS

If you thrive in creating and maintaining order and structure, you'll enjoy serving in our warehouse. The duties include sorting, folding, hanging, restocking and organizing clothing and food items.

12

WASH AND WAX VEHICLES

If you like cars (and cleaning them!), this is the ideal opportunity to make your mark. Help prepare the trucks and cars that are used for our fleet service as well as the donated vehicles that are gifted to program participants.

WHETHER IT'S THROUGH A MEAL, A SONG OR A NEW HAIRCUT, EVERYONE EXPERIENCES GOD'S LOVE IN DIFFERENT WAYS. WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE CAN CONTINUE SERVING IN MANY DIFFERENT CAPACITIES. GIVE TODAY AT DENVERRESCUEMISSION.ORG/CHANGINGLIVES.

What inspired you to get involved with the Mission?

For years, I wanted to tutor kids. I love seeing kids succeed and make progress. I called the Mission and connected with Youth Coordinator, Joe Bermingham. Shortly after, I started as a Whiz Kids tutor, which is a one-on-one tutoring relationship focused on math and reading development. I've been volunteering for the Mission in various capacities for about 10 years.



In what ways have you worked with the youth at the Mission?

I like doing maintenance at The Crossing where there's a need, such as building cabinets and bookshelves and coat hooks. I usually have a couple of the boys in the youth room help me, and I'll show them how to hang hooks and shelves and make sure things are level. That way, I'm teaching them a new skill, but more importantly, I'm spending time with them and showing them that someone cares about them. They really crave that acceptance.

Will you share about the times you brought Boy Scouts to volunteer?

I bring Boy Scouts in to do various projects at The Crossing facility, such as carpet cleaning and painting. I'm also the point-of-contact for Eagle Scout projects, which have included replacing a picket fence, installing picnic benches and putting landscaping rocks down. I keep a running list in my mind of what potential Eagle Scout projects could be around here to fulfill both the needs of the facility and the project needs for the Scouts.

Why do you choose to volunteer your time to help the Mission?

I have finally found a place where I can really give a lot, and I know it's making an impact. I know my work is being appreciated and affecting lives. I have a real passion for building up the next generation. I know that I'm especially impacting the boys. I want to be a positive role model for them.

Scott Farleigh was born and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska. After serving a hitch in the Navy and attending college at Southeast Community College in Milford, he moved to the Denver area in 1981. He is an electrical engineer in both telecommunications and aerospace. Scott is married and has two daughters, six granddaughters and a grandson.

NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH



January is National Mentoring Month! There's no better time to get involved at Denver Rescue Mission. If you have a heart for mentoring adults, families, teens, or children, we have various opportunities for you to serve.

For more information visit DenverRescueMission.org/Mentor or contact Sarah Hood at SHood@DenRescue.org or 303.953.3951.



EMERGENCY SERVICES

People are invited inside, off the street where their immediate needs are met and critical relationships are built with Mission staff.



REHABILITATION

Men living with an addiction are equipped with work readiness skills, receive help to overcome destructive habits, find permanent housing, and begin a new life.



TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS

Families and individuals in need receive case management, develop life skills and save for permanent housing.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

People struggling in our community receive assistance with food, clothing, furniture, household items and holiday meals.

LOCATIONS

- Lawrence Street Community Center:** Meals, restrooms, showers, laundry, clean drinking water, and access to Mission staff for encouragement and guidance 
- Lawrence Street Shelter:** Overnight shelter for men and chapel 
- Holly Center:** Overnight shelter for men assigned weekly and lockers for storage 
- The Crossing:** Transitional program for families and rehabilitation program for men 
- Harvest Farm:** Rural rehabilitation program near Fort Collins 
- Fort Collins Rescue Mission:** Meals, shelter and programs toward achieving self-sufficiency 
- Ministry Outreach Center:** Central warehouse facility including food, clothing and furniture distribution 
- Administration & Education:** Entry point for Mission transitional programs and home to the Mission's administrative and development staff 
- 48th Street Center:** Overnight shelter for men, operated in partnership with the City of Denver 