

a publication of COACHELLA VALLEY RESCUE MISSION

A NEW DAWN



CVRM
Coachella Valley
Rescue Mission

Holiday 2024

Don't miss...

2 12 Days of
Giving Back!

3 "I never thought I had a
future... until I came here."

4 Give a meal.
Spark a miracle!

**THANK YOU FOR
GIVING ASHLEY**

a life-changing

GIFT THIS

Christmas!



*You help make
Christmas
miracles possible*

Get ready... the busiest time of the year is upon us! I imagine your calendar is filling up quickly. But **before the year ends, please save a few moments for our neighbors who are homeless.**

I know you agree no one should live in a car... in a tent... or outside in the cold. Certainly not a child. Being homeless means living with constant fear and uncertainty. It's a terrible way to spend any day... much less Christmas Day. If there's anyone in need of a miracle, it's them.

You can make a Christmas miracle possible for a neighbor who is homeless by giving \$2.22 to provide a hot meal at Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. It may not seem like much – but each meal you provide can be someone's first step toward recovery and a new life. Where you see a meal, a hurting neighbor sees a miracle.

With your support, no man, woman or child in the Coachella Valley has to be hungry or homeless this Christmas. People like Ashley (whose story is on page 3) can find the miracle of hot meals, safe shelter and faith-based care at the Mission this holiday season... and all year round... thanks to you!



Darla Burkett

Darla Burkett
Executive Director

12 DAYS OF GIVING BACK



The Bible tells us it's more blessed to give than to receive, and what better time to experience the joy of giving than the Christmas season! It's also a wonderful time to teach children the importance of giving, or to partner with a friend or family member to give back.

Read on to explore **12 Days of Giving Back** and get inspired to share the miracle of Christmas this year:

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
Provide Food	Donate Clothes	Donate Toys
DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6
Write a Christmas Card	Create a Care Package	Help Serve Meals
DAY 7	DAY 8	DAY 9
Help Sort Donations	Help Run an Event at the Mission	Attend Chapel at the Mission
DAY 10	DAY 11	DAY 12
Fundraise at Your Church or School	Pray for Families at the Mission	Spread the Word

To learn more about ways you can share the joy of Christmas with Mission clients, give us a call at **(760) 347-3512** or visit us online at **CVRM.org**!

Leave a Legacy of Blessing

Thank you for your generous spirit. It's reflected in all you do to share your blessings with those in need.

Will you continue bringing healing and hope to the broken beyond your lifetime? When you remember Coachella Valley Rescue Mission in your will or estate plan, you ensure that your spirit of compassion continues blessing others tomorrow and beyond.

For information on planned giving opportunities, please contact our **Development Director, Scott Wolf**, at 📞 **(760) 347-3512** or 📧 **swolf@cvmr.org**.

"I never thought I had a future... UNTIL I CAME HERE."



"Along as I could remember, I'd lived on the streets," Ashley explains, as she thinks back on her childhood. The nightmare of homelessness was all she knew from when she was a young girl until early adulthood.

Memories of addiction still haunt her, but they also remind her of why she finally found the strength to seek help. **"When I found out I was pregnant I knew I had to change. I wanted to be with my daughter, to be able to raise her."**

Desperate for a new start, Ashley went to a rehab program. But after she was finished, she was worried she might have hit a dead end. **"I thought I had nowhere to go, and then they told me about Coachella Valley Rescue Mission."**

In the Mission's Gateway Program, Ashley reconnected with her faith in God for the first time since she was a young girl. "I pray every morning, and **when I'm feeling discouraged or lost, I know I can turn to Him.**"

She also found the support she needed to start building her future. "They helped me save money and gave me classes for parenting, budgeting and life skills... they really teach you everything."

And she had help caring for her daughter with diapers, formula and daycare during the hours that she took college courses. Now, Ashley has a vision for her future and a path to get there. **"They've made it so I can get my degree to be a drug and alcohol counselor in just two years."**

This Christmas, Ashley is experiencing all the joy this season has to offer – because YOU believed in the power of a fresh start and the promise of God's unending love. "I was so lost and alone before I came to the Mission, but coming here I've found peace, I've found God's love and I have hope for the future with my daughter."

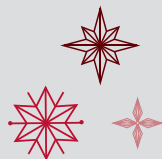


**"They taught me how to love myself
SO I CAN BETTER LOVE MY BABY."**

Tour the Mission!

See how your support impacts Coachella Valley Rescue Mission – join us for an inside view! Together, we'll explore the halls of the campus, see the busy goings-on in the kitchen and witness our programs at work... all made possible by the support of neighbors just like YOU!

Visit us on your own or bring a group! Just give us a call at ☎ (760) 347-3512 or email us at ✉ info@cvmr.org and we'll schedule a time convenient for you. See you soon!



Give a meal. Spark a miracle!

It's hard to find a reason to celebrate Christmas when you're homeless or hungry. **YOU can give JOY and spark a miracle** with a gift to lead someone to join our long-term recovery program and experience a new life! It all starts by providing a meal for \$2.22... because where you see a meal, they see a miracle.



\$2.22
for 1 hot meal



**CAN SPARK
A MIRACLE**



**That leads
to new life!**

Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!



Dear Santa,

I'm writing so you know where to find me this Christmas. We had to leave home. Mom said it cost too much. We lived in our car for a while, now we're at the Mission. The food is really good and there are other kids my age, but I still miss Christmas at home. I hope you can make it better by bringing my mom and me a gift, so please don't forget about us.

Love, Jane, age 7

P.S. The Mission doesn't have a chimney. Good luck!

Give kids and families at the Mission a Christmas/holiday to remember! Visit **CVRM.org** to learn ways you can help this holiday season.