

# Sharing Hope

**HOPE OF THE VALLEY**  
RESCUE MISSION

*Providing Life Essential Services to those in Need*

## “Drugs took everything from me.”

Before he began using drugs, Dan was “doing great.” He was married with two young children, had his own home and a business.

Then, he started using cocaine and began living “two separate lives.” Eventually, he was using every day. When the cocaine didn’t give him the high he wanted, he switched to meth. And that’s when “the wheels fell off.”

His family didn’t know he was using cocaine, but his addiction to meth was a different story.

“Lost and hopeless....”

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A Message from  
Ken Craft

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"Brother, can you  
spare a dime?"

2

Run the lot...  
Help a lot

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## Eat. Love. Pray.

It's only September, but we're already getting ready for the holidays.

We'll need more than 110 turkeys and 600 pounds of potatoes for our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner serving those in the greater Los Angeles area. In the days and weeks before Thanksgiving, we'll need hundreds of volunteers.

And, we need prayers.

Prayers that the food we need will be provided. Prayers that we'll have enough room for all the new folks coming our way.

Most of all, prayers that those who join us for a meal or shelter will stay on and enter the programs that can get them into a right relationship with God and back on their feet!

You can help by donating food, or making a gift to purchase it. Or, bring your family or church group to volunteer, especially **before** the holidays. Finally, please pray - for our staff and for

those in our community who need His help to find better lives.



Gratefully,

Ken Craft  
President/CEO

## Save the date

# Join our Great Thanksgiving Feast

**T**his year's 7th Annual Great Thanksgiving feast -- the largest Thanksgiving Banquet in the Valley -- will be held in Van Nuys off of Victory Blvd at the New Hope Center on Wednesday, November 25 at 1 p.m.

Turkey, dressing and all the trimmings will be served to all who join us.

Sports and entertainment celebrities will be on hand to join the festivities, lending their time and support to make sure homeless, hungry men, women and children from throughout the Valley have a great Thanksgiving!



## Attention Volunteers & Sponsors

**Y**our family, business or place of worship can sponsor an entire table at our Great Thanksgiving Banquet the day before Thanksgiving for \$250. Or, sponsor individual meals for just \$2.05 each.

Make your gift online at [www.hopeofthevalley.org](http://www.hopeofthevalley.org), or contact Laurie by calling (818) 392-0020 or e-mailing

[laurie@hopeofthevalley.org](mailto:laurie@hopeofthevalley.org).

**org.** Volunteers, please visit our website at [hopeofthevalley.org](http://hopeofthevalley.org). THANK YOU!



## "Brother, can you spare a dime?"

You're too young to remember this song that became the anthem of the great depression in the early 1930's.

Back then, 10¢ would buy a box of cereal, two loaves of bread, a pound of hamburger or two cups of coffee!

Today, a cup of coffee can set you back \$2 or more.

But here at Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission, you can still provide a hungry man with a full home-cooked meal for just \$2.05!

\$20.50 will feed 10 people. For

\$51.25, you can provide food and care for 25!

**Providing a meal is not our only goal.** Every donation you make helps provide food, shelter, education, job training, health care and access to all the other services that can put an individual -- or an entire family -- back on their feet!

So please, make a gift today. Use the enclosed envelope, or give online at [www.hopeofthevalley.org](http://www.hopeofthevalley.org). Thank you!





Dan continued >>>

Very quickly, Dan's drug use escalated to the point where he constantly craved a high and began using more drugs. This led to him losing his family, his business and his home. Soon, he found himself homeless and living in his truck, staying in different motels or sleeping on the street.

"I was in a constant state of confusion. Most of the time, you'd find me walking the streets with one shoe on – lost and hopeless."

Dan slowly realized that he had no one on his side. "I burnt and exploded every bridge I ever had," he says. "And I had a lot of resentment. I was hungry on the streets, calling people I'd done so much for in the past, and hoping they'd feed me a burger, and they didn't want to have anything to do with me."

#### "Going from light to dark."

When Dan went through a local detox center and a sober living house, it helped, but there was nowhere left to go after he was released. So he arrived at the Mission broken and mad.

Though he's taken his classes and done his work, Dan realizes that it's his own willingness to work and change that's making the biggest difference in his life.

#### "Nobody else can do this for me."

"It's really easy to stay sober in this program, because of the support and help," Dan says. "But my ultimate goal is to be a passionate Christ follower. And as a passionate Christ follower, drugs and alcohol have no part in that. I've been able to definitely rebuild my relationship with God, and take refuge in the fact that He's been faithful when I've been faithless."

Now, Dan looks forward to getting a Sunday pass so he can spend time with his wife and kids, slowly rebuilding his relationship with them.

"I'm completely grateful to Hope of the Valley because I have a place to be that's structured and God-centered. I'm grateful that I have a constant routine and people who care, because then I can work on me."



## Run the lot...help a lot!

Get out your running shoes and mark your calendar to join us Thanksgiving morning on the back lot of CBS Studios in Studio City for Hope of the Valley's 5K run!

Whether you're a fan of *Gunsmoke*, *Gilligan's Island* and *Get Smart*, or *Seinfeld* and *CSI:NY*, you'll love taking

part in this awesome run that explores the streets and sets that were made famous on TV!

For more information, visit our website at [hopeofthevalley.org](http://hopeofthevalley.org) and click on "News" and "Events." Or, e-mail Laurie Craft at [laurie@hopeofthevalley.org](mailto:laurie@hopeofthevalley.org).

## Building Hope... a Brand New Shelter

Work is well underway on the Mission's new 16,000 square foot shelter which will include a commercial kitchen that can prepare and serve more than 3,000 meals a day!

Located on Sepulveda Blvd. in Mission Hills, the new shelter will also house a Recuperative Care Center that will provide an alternative to returning to the streets for men and women released from local hospitals.



## 2015 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign

- 23,000 meals
- 4,500 nights of shelter

Our guests may not know your face, but they give thanks for your care and support each and every day!

### Get connected



Become a fan



Follow us

Visit us online:

[www.hopeofthevalley.org](http://www.hopeofthevalley.org)

During the week of November 14-22, the Mission is taking part in **National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week** – a nationwide effort to make more people aware of the problems of hunger and homelessness across America and right here in the greater Los Angeles area.

Join your friends and neighbors by skipping a meal or your morning cup of coffee and donating the money you would have spent to provide food and care for people here at the Mission.

This is also a great chance to



bring together your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, or your church, school or civic group to:

- Serve a meal here at the Mission
- Organize a drive and collect canned food, clothing (especially warm

coats and jackets), socks & underwear, hygiene items, and sheets & blankets.

For more information, contact Laurie Craft at **(818) 392-0020, ext. 107** or e-mail [laurie@hopeofthevalley.org](mailto:laurie@hopeofthevalley.org).

## THE place for holiday bargains!

Whatever you're shopping for - dinnerware, glassware, furniture, toys, jewelry, electronics, entertainment centers and TVs - you'll find a huge selection of new and nearly new items at any of the Mission's 3 thrift store locations listed on the right.

Getting ready for holiday guests? Clean out the closets and donate your gently used items to the Mission. Your donation will receive a tax deduction and will help provide food, shelter and resources for those experiencing homelessness to find new life.

Thrift store hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 12-5 p.m.

### Sun Valley Thrift Store Location:

8165 San Fernando Rd  
Sun Valley, CA 91352

### Granada Hills Thrift Store Location:

18167 Chatsworth St.  
Granada Hills, CA 91344

### Santa Clarita Thrift Store Location:

19379 Soledad Canyon Rd.  
(Canyon Center Shopping Center/  
TJMaxx)  
Canyon Country, CA 91351

## Here's my 2015 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign gift:

- ☐ \$20.50 to feed and care for 10 people
- ☐ \$51.25 to feed and care for 25 people
- ☐ \$75.85 to feed and care for 37 people
- ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as much as possible

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

E-MAIL

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Bill my credit card



CREDIT CARD #

EXP. DATE

PHONE #

Donate online at [www.hopeofthevalley.org](http://www.hopeofthevalley.org)  
or call **(818) 392-0020**.

Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission  
P.O. Box 248  
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