

Sharing Hope

HOPE OF THE VALLEY
RESCUE MISSION

Providing Life Essential Services to those in Need

“Grateful to God that we came here!”

Evelyn was collecting social security benefits and operating a produce truck to support herself and three of her children. Then the unthinkable happened. “I was trying to make the extra money we needed for food and laundry and to pay the bills,” she says. “But since I was self-employed, the IRS thought I was making more money than I was claiming. So they cut my benefits and I ended up losing my apartment.”

**What happened next was a tragedy!
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Candles.

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Reflections from the Executive Director

Where would our community's most vulnerable people be without you?

Homeless. Hungry. Struggling with an addiction. Maybe even facing time in prison.

As I reflect on the Mission's commitment to provide help and hope at Christmas, I also want to recognize your good work in making that possible.

Because of you, our most vulnerable people are nourished with food, sleeping in clean beds, and healing from the pain of their pasts - ready for the new beginning that's been promised to them through God's love.

Today, as we prepare our hearts for this season of gratitude, I celebrate you and the lives you've saved - for so many in need, **you are the Mission**. Thank you for joining together with other compassionate people who have helped us extend our hand to restore broken lives.



Gratefully,

Ken Craft
Ken Craft
President/CEO

Be a Secret Santa for a needy child

Hundreds of boys and girls from all over the greater Los Angeles area will join us Saturday, December 19 for the Mission's Annual Christmas Event.

Some are homeless, living temporarily at Genesis House. Others come from families who are struggling to make ends meet.

All invitees are welcomed with amazing food, music, toys and clothing that will create wonderful memories.

You can contribute to this great holiday event by purchasing one or more of these gifts:

Gifts can be dropped off at the Mission at **8165 N. San Fernando Rd., Sun Valley**, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



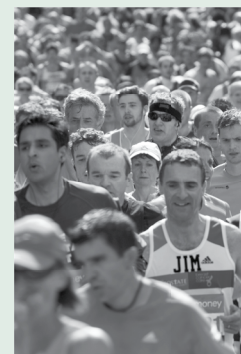
Don't miss an unforgettable day!

DRUMSTICK DASH 2015

Register now at HopeDrumstickDash.com. Run or walk the CBS Studios Backlot with thousands from our community on **Thurs., Nov. 26** - our Competitor's 5K starts at 8 a.m., followed by our Completer's 5K at 9 and our Kid's Fun Run at 10. But no matter when you run, move your feet so others can eat!



Good Run, Great Cause. Taking part in our 1st annual Dash is a great way to give back this holiday season. Every entry fee goes toward meals, shelter and so much more for homeless, hungry men, women and children! To volunteer, donate or run, visit **HopeDrumstickDash.com**.



“They gave us a place when we needed it most.”

Evelyn and her children wound up living on the streets for a month. “We’d rent a motel room every third day so we could shower and rest. But the other two nights, we were just outside, at the park or the library,” she says. “My youngest daughter was feeling the pressure and began cutting herself.”

Eventually, Evelyn’s older daughter found refuge at a Ventura shelter, her son moved in with friends, and she and her younger daughter moved into an L.A. shelter.

However, Evelyn’s health issues – fibromyalgia, high blood pressure, chronic fatigue, and depression – hindered her from complying with the shelter’s program requirements and she and her daughter had to leave. **“I was on the streets with my 13-year-old daughter for about a month,”** she says. “My other daughter came from Ventura to be with me...and my son came to the streets with me just to be supportive.”

Evelyn had put their names on shelter waiting lists and gone to interviews, but to no avail. Finally, L.A. Housing referred her to Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission’s Genesis House Emergency Shelter, which could bring in the entire family.

“I’m very grateful to God that we came here,” Evelyn says. “We have a beautiful place to come and sleep and cook, make a cup of coffee, shower.”

The Mission has also provided blankets, cleaning supplies, toiletries, coupons for new shoes, and referrals to schools and food banks. “They help us with everything we need,” Evelyn says.

Since coming here, Evelyn’s younger daughter has been able to go back to eighth grade. “She didn’t go to school for a couple of months and she fell behind,” Evelyn says. “She’s brought her grades up in two months, and she’s going to be able to graduate.”

Evelyn’s social security has been straightened out and she will be



getting her benefits again, meaning her family can move back into their own apartment. But she’ll never forget what Genesis House has done for them.

“I’m very grateful for all the love, support and opportunity they’ve given us,” she says. “They gave us a home when we needed it most.”



Wanted: Thanksgiving Angels

As many as 2,000 of the greater Los Angeles area’s neediest men, women and children will attend the Mission’s Annual Thanksgiving Feast in just a few days. To make this happen, we still need sponsors. \$2.05 will provide one meal. \$300 sponsors a table of ten for the entire day by providing 120 meals! Send a gift in the enclosed envelope or donate securely online at hopeofthevalley.org. THANK YOU!

Turn cars, RVs, trucks & boats into food & shelter!

Make room in your driveway or garage (and receive a great 2015 tax deduction) by donating your old car, truck or boat to the Mission.

Our vehicle donation program turns the vehicles you no longer want or need into food, shelter and life-changing services for our neediest men, women and children.

For more information, call **(818) 392-0020**.

***"Away in a manger,
no crib for a bed..."***

Shelter from the cold:

13,100 nights

Holiday meals: 45,000

For the next six weeks, the Mission will be both home and family to hundreds of men, women and children.

Your special holiday gift will provide "tidings of comfort and joy," including the food and shelter that can make eyes sparkle and hearts feel light!



Help take us over the top!

Just days from now, homeless men and women who've been discharged from our area's hospitals will have a place to go besides back to the streets!

Our Recuperative Care Shelter is nearing completion and will provide medical care for those recovering from

injury and illness, while helping them find permanent housing.

Your gift could be the one that takes us over the top!

To tour the facility, and learn more about making a gift in support, please email Mission CEO Ken Craft at ken.craft@hopeofthevalley.org.

Eat. Shop. GIVE.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

There's a day for giving thanks and a day for getting bargains.
Giving Tuesday, December 1, is the day for giving back!

In the midst of our busiest season of the year, we're scrambling to provide over 45,000 meals and nearly 13,100 nights of shelter for homeless, hungry men, women and children.

Your Giving Tuesday gift will go a long way toward providing the food, shelter and life-changing care our community's hungry and homeless people need most.

Please visit our website at www.hopeofthevalley.org on Dec. 1 and make your Giving Tuesday gift.

Thank you for being part of our Mission family!

Get connected



Become a fan



Follow us

Visit us online:

www.hopeofthevalley.org

Ken, use my gift to bless hungry, homeless people this Christmas.

- ☐ \$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
- ☐ \$300 to sponsor a table at the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

☐ **Check enclosed** ☐ **Bill my credit card**



CREDIT CARD #

EXP. DATE

PHONE #

**Donate online at www.hopeofthevalley.org
or call (818) 392-0020.**

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

E-MAIL

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