

# Sharing Hope

**HOPE OF THE VALLEY**  
RESCUE MISSION

*Providing Life Essential Services to those in Need*

## A difficult journey finally comes to an end.

**M**ark had done a lot of traveling before he ended up here at the Mission.

He's been places he never wants to be again. Like Skid Row in downtown LA. Or the woods around Big Sur where he had to watch out for bears and cougars. Or the drug-infested homeless areas of San Jose and Santa Cruz.

But his travels came to an end at Hope of the Valley, where God has really changed his life!

**Read on to learn more about Mark's incredible journey.**

Let your  
light shine!

2

Give a little.  
Help a lot.

2

Mark's getting his  
life "back on track"

3



## A Message from Ken Craft



### Let your light shine!

Easter is a special reminder of just how good God is to us.

He fills our lives with love, hope and the promise of life everlasting.

Through your work and sacrifice, you have made these blessings abundantly available to others here at Hope of the Valley!

You have brought hope into lives burdened by addictions. You have shown love for those who have been abandoned and abused. Your provision of food and shelter has made new lives possible for men, women and children in need.

**Thank you for letting  
your light shine!**

Ken Craft  
President/CEO

## Easter at the Mission

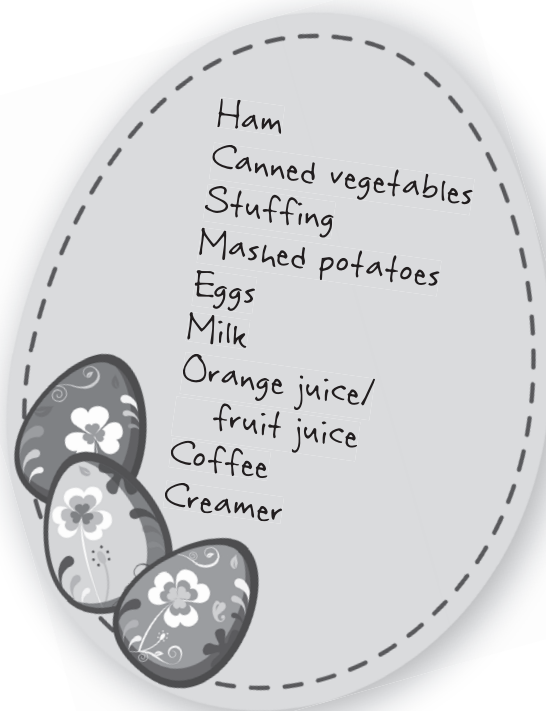
On Good Friday, March 25, hundreds of homeless men, women and children will join the Mission for an amazing holiday celebration, including a delicious ham dinner with all the fixings. Your support will provide these meals, plus the additional 13,806 meals we will provide this Easter season.

Donations can be dropped off at 8165 San Fernando Road, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat. from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun. from Noon to 5 p.m.

To volunteer, please call Laurie Craft at **(818) 392-0020 x 107** or e-mail **laurie@hopeofthevalley.org**.

You can help by volunteering your time, or by donating one or more of these items:

### Easter Dinner Shopping List



**Get  
connected**

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**Follow us**

Visit us online: [www.hopeofthevalley.org](http://www.hopeofthevalley.org)

## Give a little. Help a lot.



## Easter Dinner just \$2.05



# Mark's getting his life back on track.



Mark was raised in the central coast of California and worked for his father for over 20 years. But when the family business was taken over by his brother, there was suddenly no place for Mark.

"My brother just kind of said, 'get out of here,' and I was thrown on the streets."

For the next four years, Mark wandered from place to place...sometimes working, drinking, staying with friends he met along the way, but always on the verge of becoming homeless again.

"I've seen craziness, and I don't want to live like that!"

Mark will be the first to tell you, "being homeless is no fun." The drug users in Santa Cruz stole parts off of his bike. He saw a man stabbed in San Jose. He was unable to bathe for days or weeks on end.

Eventually, Mark decided he had to get himself together, maybe go back to school. So he made his way to the Valley and kept going until he saw the sign for the Mission!

"I decided I had to get on track with my life again."

At first, Mark was hesitant. For someone who's been

living on their own, the restrictions that come along with joining the program at our men's House of Hope can be difficult.

"The first 45 days, I wanted to go," Mark says. "I didn't want to be here. But now, **I'm starting to open up and learn who I am and how I can get sober.**"

House of Hope is a Bible-based Christian program, and that's made a difference to Mark. "You have to give your heart – your whole heart – to Jesus. Not put Him aside, but focus on Him every day."

Mark is also grateful for his brothers at House of Hope. "There are a lot of guys that will help you if you ask. Then there are AA meetings and church and relying on God – **I can get my strength from those places to keep going.**"

Mark has plans to go back to school and learn a new trade when he completes his time here at the Mission. But until then, he's still on a journey – and this one is in a much better direction!

Hope of the Valley would like to thank our sponsors for providing support for the 2015 Annual Great Thanksgiving Banquet and Resource Fair.

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## A COLD WEATHER QUIZ

- 1 What months do we offer cold weather emergency shelter for anyone who needs it?
- 2 How many beds total do we offer at our Pacoima & Sylmar cold weather shelters?
- 3 How can people in need find out more about our cold weather shelters?

### Answers:

- 1 Crisis Housing is offered from December 1 - March 15.
- 2 220 beds total (120 in Sylmar; 100 in Pacoima).
- 3 Hotline for both Cold Weather Shelters: **(818) 207-8776.**

**Please, spread the word:** Hope of the Valley offers cold weather emergency shelter to anyone in need!

## Opening Soon!

Have you noticed the changes at 11134 Sepulveda Blvd. in Mission Hills?

If not, you should drive over and take a look - because our new Recuperative Care Center is opening there soon!

When people are homeless, they're more frequently in need of medical care; but hospitals often must release them without anywhere to send them but back to the streets.



Our Recuperative Care Center is a 30-bed care facility where homeless patients can rest, take medications under supervision and most importantly, receive services to help them get off the streets.

Stop by and see this incredible facility that you've helped make possible. And if you want to learn more, please call **(818) 392-0020** or visit **hopeofthevalley.org**.

## Celebrating 2015

## ...Looking forward to 2016

Our thanks to the dedicated groups and individuals, churches, schools, companies and families who donated money, clothing and more than thousands of hours of their time to make life better for neighbors in need.

We hope these photos are reminders of the life-saving, life-changing work you made possible during the past year.



**Shopping to save lives!**

With 2 thrift stores in the San Fernando Valley and 1 in the Santa Clarita Valley, there are a lot of great deals to be found. But most importantly, every time you shop at one of our Thrift Stores, you're supporting work therapy for our long-term recovery program residents - and our programs that provide food, shelter and resources for men, women and children experiencing homelessness.



**Returning to useful, productive lives!**

For men, women and children who might otherwise have been sleeping in cars or on the streets of the greater Los Angeles area, the Mission provided 31,240 nights of safe shelter.



**31,240 nights of shelter**

Nearly 119,650 nutritious meals were served to hungry men, women and children.



**119,650 meals**

42 men began their road to recovery in our long-term program at the John E. White House of Hope. When they graduate, many will return to the community, reunite with their families and continue living changed lives.

## Yes, I'll help provide food, shelter and other life-saving care with my Easter 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

☐ 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 7609  
Mission Hills, CA 91346-7609



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